

# Resolutions and Decisions of the Economic and Social Council

2020 session

New York, 25 July 2019 – 22 July 2020

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## NOTE

The resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council are identified as follows:

### Resolutions

Until 1977 (up to and including the resumed sixty-third session), the resolutions of the Economic and Social Council were numbered consecutively and were identified by an arabic numeral followed by an indication of the session in parentheses (for example: resolution 1733 (LIV), resolution 1915 (ORG-75), resolution 2046 (S-III), adopted at the fifty-fourth session, the organizational session for 1975 and the third special session, respectively). When several resolutions were adopted under the same number, each of them was identified by a capital letter (for example: resolution 1926 B (LVIII), resolutions 1954 A to D (LIX)). The last resolution so numbered is resolution 2130 (LXIII), of 14 December 1977.

Since 1978, as part of the new system adopted for symbols of Council documents, the resolutions have been numbered on a yearly basis and identified by two arabic numerals separated by an oblique stroke, the first numeral indicating the year, the second the number of the resolution in the annual series (for example: resolution 1990/47).

### Decisions

Until 1973 (up to and including the resumed fifty-fifth session), the decisions of the Council were not numbered. From 1974 to 1977 (up to and including the resumed sixty-third session), the decisions were numbered consecutively and were identified by an arabic numeral followed by an indication of the session in parentheses (for example: decision 64 (ORG-75), decision 78 (LVIII), adopted at the organizational session for 1975 and the fifty-eighth session, respectively). The last decision so numbered is decision 293 (LXIII), of 2 December 1977.

Since 1978, as part of the new system adopted for symbols of Council documents, the decisions have been numbered on a yearly basis and identified by two arabic numerals separated by an oblique stroke, the first numeral indicating the year, the second the number of the decision in the annual series (for example: decision 1990/224).

E/2020/99

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## Agenda of the 2020 session

The 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council was held in New York from 25 July 2019 to 22 July 2020.

At its 1st plenary meeting, on 25 July 2019, the Council adopted the following agenda:

1. Election of the Bureau.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Basic programme of work of the Council.
4. Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments.
5. High-level segment:
  - (a) Ministerial meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council;
  - (b) High-level policy dialogue on future trends and scenarios and the long-term impact of current trends on the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
  - (c) Development Cooperation Forum.
6. High-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council.
7. Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation:
  - (a) Follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly and the Council;
  - (b) Reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund/United Nations Office for Project Services, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, and the World Food Programme;
  - (c) South-South cooperation for development.
8. Integration segment.
9. Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance.
10. The role of the United Nations system in the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development into the implementation of and follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
11. Implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits:
  - (a) Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development;
  - (b) Review and coordination of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020.
12. Coordination, programme and other questions:
  - (a) Reports of coordination bodies;
  - (b) Proposed programme budget for 2021;
  - (c) Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system;
  - (d) Long-term programme of support for Haiti;
  - (e) African countries emerging from conflict;
  - (f) Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases.
13. Implementation of General Assembly resolutions [50/227](#), [52/12 B](#), [57/270 B](#), [60/265](#), [61/16](#), [67/290](#), [68/1](#) and [72/305](#).

14. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations.
15. Regional cooperation.
16. Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan.
17. Non-governmental organizations.
18. Economic and environmental questions:
  - (a) Sustainable development;
  - (b) Science and technology for development;
  - (c) Statistics;
  - (d) Human settlements;
  - (e) Environment;
  - (f) Population and development;
  - (g) Public administration and development;
  - (h) International cooperation in tax matters;
  - (i) Geospatial information;
  - (j) Women and development;
  - (k) United Nations Forum on Forests;
  - (l) Assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions.
19. Social and human rights questions:
  - (a) Advancement of women;
  - (b) Social development;
  - (c) Crime prevention and criminal justice;
  - (d) Narcotic drugs;
  - (e) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;
  - (f) Human rights;
  - (g) Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues;
  - (h) Comprehensive implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

## Checklist of resolutions and decisions

### Resolutions

<i>Resolution number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>	<i>Page</i>
2020/1	Working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council ( <a href="#">E/2020/L.1</a> and <a href="#">E/2020/SR.1</a> )	2	25 July 2019	7
2020/2	Support to the Sahel region ( <a href="#">E/2020/L.3</a> and <a href="#">E/2020/SR.5</a> )	12	10 December 2019	8
2020/3	Revised working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council and sessions of its subsidiary bodies ( <a href="#">E/2020/L.6</a> )	2	14 April 2020	10
2020/4	Further revised working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council and sessions of its subsidiary bodies ( <a href="#">E/2020/L.8</a> )	2	4 June 2020	11
2020/5	Strengthening coordination of the statistical programmes in the United Nations system ( <a href="#">E/2020/24</a> , chap. I, sect. A)	18 (c)	18 June 2020	13
2020/6	Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development ( <a href="#">E/2020/26</a> , chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I)	19 (b)	18 June 2020	15
2020/7	Affordable housing and social protection systems for all to address homelessness ( <a href="#">E/2020/26</a> , chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution II)	19 (b)	18 June 2020	24
2020/8	Modalities for the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002 ( <a href="#">E/2020/26</a> , chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution III)	19 (b)	18 June 2020	30
2020/9	Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system ( <a href="#">E/2020/L.15</a> )	12 (c)	2 July 2020	32
2020/10	Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twenty-second session ( <a href="#">E/2020/L.17</a> )	18 (a)	2 July 2020	33
2020/11	Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti ( <a href="#">E/2020/L.19</a> )	12 (d)	17 July 2020	34
2020/12	Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society ( <a href="#">E/2020/31</a> , chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I)	18 (b)	17 July 2020	34
2020/13	Science, technology and innovation for development ( <a href="#">E/2020/31</a> , chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution II)	18 (b)	17 July 2020	43
2020/14	Outcome of the fifteenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests ( <a href="#">E/2020/42</a> , chap. I, sect. A)	18 (k)	17 July 2020	51
2020/15	Multi-year programme of work of the Commission on the Status of Women ( <a href="#">E/2020/27</a> , chap. I, sect. B)	19 (a)	17 July 2020	57
2020/16	Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 ( <a href="#">E/2020/L.21</a> )	11 (b)	22 July 2020	59
2020/17	Revised terms of reference of the Committee on Environmental Policy of the Economic Commission for Europe ( <a href="#">E/2019/15/Add.2</a> , sect. I, draft resolution I)	15	22 July 2020	62

## Checklist of resolutions and decisions

<i>Resolution number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>	<i>Page</i>
2020/18	Revised terms of reference of the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards of the Economic Commission for Europe (E/2019/15/Add.2, sect. I, draft resolution II)	15	22 July 2020	64
2020/19	Change of name and revised terms of reference of the Working Group on Ageing of the Economic Commission for Europe (E/2019/15/Add.2, sect. I, draft resolution IV)	15	22 July 2020	65
2020/20	Admission of Algeria and Somalia to membership in the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (E/2020/15/Add.1, sect. I)	15	22 July 2020	67
2020/21	Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its nineteenth session (E/2020/44, chap. I, sect. A)	18 (g)	22 July 2020	67
2020/22	United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases (E/2020/L.23)	12 (f)	22 July 2020	70
2020/23	Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (E/2020/L.28)	7	22 July 2020	73

## Decisions

<i>Decision number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>	<i>Page</i>
2020/200	Election of the Bureau of the Economic and Social Council for 2019–2020 (E/2020/SR.1)			
	Decision A (E/2020/SR.1)	1	25 July 2019	75
	Decision B (E/2020/SR.2)	1	15 October 2019	75
	Decision C (E/2020/SR.4)	1	3 December 2019	75
2020/201	Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments to subsidiary and related bodies of the Economic and Social Council			
	Decision A (E/2019/9/Add.9, E/2020/9, E/2020/9/Corr.1, E/2020/9/Add.2, E/2020/9/Add.8 and E/2020/SR.5)	4	10 December 2019	75
	Decision B (E/2019/9/Add.9 and E/2020/SR.6)	4	20 December 2019	77
	Decision C (E/2019/9/Add.9, E/2020/9, E/2020/9/Corr.1, E/2020/9/Add.7 and E/2020/9/Add.9)	4	21 April 2020	77
	Decision D (E/2020/26, chap. I, sect. C)	19 (b)	18 June 2020	79
	Decision E (E/2020/9, E/2020/9/Corr.1, E/2020/9/Add.3, E/2020/9/Add.4, E/2020/9/Add.5, E/2020/9/Add.7 and E/2020/9/Add.10)	4	21 July 2020	79
2020/202	Provisional agenda of the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council (E/2020/1 and E/2020/SR.1)	2	25 July 2019	80
2020/203	Special responsibilities of the Bureau of the Economic and Social Council for the 2020 session (E/2020/SR.2)	2	15 October 2019	80



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<i>Decision number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>	<i>Page</i>
2020/204	Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees ( <a href="#">E/2020/L.2</a> and <a href="#">E/2020/SR.2</a> )	19 (e)	15 October 2019	81
2020/205	Procedure for taking decisions of the Economic and Social Council during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic	2	3 April 2020	81
2020/206	Extension of the procedure for taking decisions of the Economic and Social Council during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic ( <a href="#">E/2020/L.7</a> )	2	22 May 2020	81
2020/207	Report on the main decisions, outcomes and policy recommendations of the Committee on World Food Security and report of the United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition ( <a href="#">A/75/77-E/2020/49</a> and <a href="#">E/2020/47</a> )	11	18 June 2020	81
2020/208	Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations ( <a href="#">E/2020/32 (Part I)</a> , sect. I, draft decision I)	17	18 June 2020	82
2020/209	Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2020 regular session ( <a href="#">E/2020/32 (Part I)</a> , sect. I, draft decision II)	17	18 June 2020	103
2020/210	Deadline for the submission of quadrennial reports by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council ( <a href="#">E/2020/L.9</a> )	17	18 June 2020	104
2020/211	Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session and provisional agenda and dates of its fifty-second session ( <a href="#">E/2020/24</a> , chap. I, sect. B)	18 (c)	18 June 2020	104
2020/212	Report of the Commission for Social Development on its fifty-eighth session and provisional agenda and documentation for its fifty-ninth session ( <a href="#">E/2020/26</a> , chap. I, sect. B)	19 (b)	18 June 2020	107
2020/213	Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened sixty-second session ( <a href="#">E/2019/28/Add.1</a> , chap. I, sect. A)	19 (d)	18 June 2020	109
2020/214	Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its sixty-third session and provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session ( <a href="#">E/2020/28</a> , chap. I, sect. A, draft decision I)	19 (d)	18 June 2020	109
2020/215	Report of the International Narcotics Control Board ( <a href="#">E/2020/28</a> , chap. I, sect. A, draft decision II, and <a href="#">E/INCB/2019/1</a> )	19 (d)	18 June 2020	110
2020/216	Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixty-fifth and sixty-sixth sessions ( <a href="#">E/2020/22</a> )	19 (f)	18 June 2020	110
2020/217	International expert group meeting on the theme “Indigenous peoples and pandemics” ( <a href="#">E/2020/L.11</a> )	19 (g)	18 June 2020	110
2020/218	Venue, dates and provisional agenda of the twentieth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues ( <a href="#">E/2020/L.12</a> )	19 (g)	18 June 2020	110
2020/219	Extension of the procedure for taking decisions of the Economic and Social Council during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic until the end of July 2020 ( <a href="#">E/2020/L.16</a> )	2	24 June 2020	111

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<i>Decision number</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Date of adoption</i>	<i>Page</i>
2020/220	Report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its twenty-third session and provisional agenda and documentation for its twenty-fourth session ( <a href="#">E/2020/31</a> , chap. I, sect. B)	18 (b)	17 July 2020	111
2020/221	Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its fifty-third session and provisional agenda and documentation for its fifty-fourth session ( <a href="#">E/2020/25</a> , chap. I, sect. A)	18 (f)	17 July 2020	112
2020/222	Report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its fifteenth session and provisional agenda of its sixteenth session ( <a href="#">E/2020/42</a> , chap. I, sect. B)	18 (k)	17 July 2020	113
2020/223	Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its sixty-fourth session and provisional agenda and documentation for its sixty-fifth session ( <a href="#">E/2020/27</a> , chap. I, sect. C)	19 (a)	17 July 2020	114
2020/224	Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its reconvened twenty-eighth session ( <a href="#">E/2019/30/Add.1</a> , chap. I, sect. A)	19 (c)	17 July 2020	115
2020/225	Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its sixtieth session ( <a href="#">A/75/16</a> )	12 (a)	22 July 2020	115
2020/226	Proposed programme budget for 2021 (relevant fascicles of <a href="#">A/75/6</a> )	12 (b)	22 July 2020	116
2020/227	Further deferral of the consideration of the draft resolution entitled “Revised terms of reference of the Inland Transport Committee” of the Economic Commission for Europe ( <a href="#">E/2019/15/Add.2</a> , draft resolution VI)	15	22 July 2020	116
2020/228	Dates and provisional agenda of the twentieth session of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration ( <a href="#">E/2020/44</a> , chap. I, sect. B)	18 (g)	22 July 2020	116
2020/229	Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its seventy-third, seventy-fourth and seventy-fifth sessions ( <a href="#">A/75/38</a> )	19 (a)	22 July 2020	117
2020/230	Revised provisional agenda of the twenty-ninth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice	19 (c)	22 July 2020	117
2020/231	Sustainable development in the Sahel ( <a href="#">E/2020/L.26</a> )	12	22 July 2020	118
2020/232	African countries emerging from conflict ( <a href="#">E/2020/L.27</a> )	12 (e)	22 July 2020	118
2020/233	Dates and provisional agenda of the twenty-first session of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters	18 (h)	22 July 2020	118

# Resolutions

## 2020/1. Working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* General Assembly resolutions [61/16](#) of 20 November 2006, [68/1](#) of 20 September 2013 and [72/305](#) of 23 July 2018 concerning the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council,

*Reiterating* that, as a principal organ of the United Nations, the Council is entitled to hold ad hoc meetings as and when needed, with full substantive support and conference services, to address urgent developments in the economic, social, environmental and related fields,

*Acknowledging* that, in scheduling its sessions, meetings and consultations, the Council should take into consideration meetings of other bodies dealing with economic, social and environmental issues to avoid unnecessary overlapping and overburdening of their agendas,

*Recalling* the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development<sup>1</sup> and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>2</sup>

*Recalling also* that it was decided at the 2019 forum on financing for development follow-up that the fifth forum would be held from Monday, 20 April, to Thursday, 23 April 2020,

*Recalling further* its resolution [2019/10](#) of 7 June 2019 on the proposed dates of the meetings and segments of the Council in 2020,

1. *Decides* on the following working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council, mindful that it may need to convene additional meetings as needed:

- (a) The youth forum will be held on Wednesday, 1 April, and Thursday, 2 April 2020;
- (b) The partnership forum will be held on Friday, 3 April 2020;
- (c) Dedicated management meetings will be held on Wednesday, 15 April 2020, to conduct elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary bodies of the Council and related bodies;
- (d) The one-day special meeting of the Council on international cooperation in tax matters will be held on Friday, 1 May 2020;
- (e) The multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals will be held on Tuesday, 12 May, and Wednesday, 13 May 2020;
- (f) The Development Cooperation Forum will be held on Thursday, 14 May, and Friday, 15 May 2020;
- (g) The operational activities for development segment will be held from Tuesday, 19 May, to Thursday, 21 May 2020;
- (h) The meetings of the management segment will be held on Tuesday, 2 June, and Wednesday, 3 June 2020; and on Tuesday, 21 July, and Wednesday, 22 July 2020;
- (i) The humanitarian affairs segment will be held from Tuesday, 9 June, to Thursday, 11 June 2020;
- (j) The integration segment will be held on Monday, 6 July 2020;
- (k) The high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, will be held from Tuesday, 7 July, to Monday, 13 July 2020;

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<sup>1</sup> General Assembly resolution [69/313](#), annex.

<sup>2</sup> General Assembly resolution [70/1](#).

(1) The high-level segment of the Council, including the three-day ministerial segment of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, will be held from Tuesday, 14 July, to Friday, 17 July 2020;

2. *Also decides* that the organizational session regarding the programme of work of the Council from July 2020 to July 2021 will be held on Thursday, 23 July 2020.

*1st plenary meeting  
25 July 2019*

### **2020/2. Support to the Sahel region**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 2009/32 of 31 July 2009, 2011/43 of 29 July 2011 and [2019/15](#) of 8 July 2019,

*Recognizing* that development, peace, security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing,

*Recalling* that the Sustainable Development Goals and targets are integrated and indivisible, global in nature and universally applicable, taking into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities,

*Recalling also* the joint meetings of the Economic and Social Council and the Peacebuilding Commission on the themes “Linkages between climate change and challenges to peacebuilding and sustaining peace in the Sahel” and “The situation in the Sahel”, held in New York on 13 November 2018 and 28 June 2017, respectively,

1. *Acknowledges* the serious humanitarian, security and development challenges facing the Sahel region;

2. *Stresses* the importance of adequately addressing the economic, social and environmental challenges and the humanitarian situation in the region, which is characterized by, inter alia, extreme poverty, food insecurity, forced displacement and social inequalities, and calls for humanitarian assistance, in line with General Assembly resolution [46/182](#) of 19 December 1991, and development assistance, in line with Assembly resolutions [71/243](#) of 21 December 2016 and [72/279](#) of 31 May 2018;

3. *Recognizes* the adverse effects of climate change, ecological changes and natural disasters, including through drought, desertification, land degradation and food insecurity, on the development of the Sahel region, and continues to stress the need for long-term strategies by Governments and the United Nations to build resilience, and encourages them to continue to integrate this information into their activities;

4. *Stresses* the importance of national and regional ownership, as well as good governance, and commends the growing leadership of the countries of the region and of regional and subregional organizations, including the African Union, the Economic Community of West African States and the Group of Five for the Sahel, in addressing the multidimensional challenges in the Sahel region;

5. *Takes note* of the collective efforts of the United Nations towards recalibrating the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel<sup>3</sup> and developing the United Nations Support Plan for the Sahel to expedite its impact, calls upon relevant entities of the United Nations system to support its effective implementation, in accordance with their respective mandates and in line with the needs of the people in the Sahel region and national and regional priorities, and encourages close collaboration with partners as well as countries of the region to ensure that the international response to the situation in the Sahel is aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>4</sup> Agenda 2063 of the African Union, the Paris Agreement,<sup>5</sup> the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030<sup>6</sup> and the security and development strategy of the Group of Five for the Sahel;

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<sup>3</sup> [S/2013/354](#), annex.

<sup>4</sup> General Assembly resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>5</sup> See [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21, annex.

<sup>6</sup> General Assembly resolution [69/283](#), annex II.

## Resolutions

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6. *Stresses* the need for strengthening collective and integrated engagement across the Sahel region, in line with existing frameworks, including the Group of Five for the Sahel Priority Investment Programme and the African Union Strategy for the Sahel Region, and in this regard welcomes the strengthened cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union, including under the African Union-United Nations Framework for the Implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

7. *Recognizes* that the multidimensional challenges in the Sahel have a disproportionate impact on women and youth, and encourages Member States, including the countries in the Sahel region, and entities of the United Nations system, in accordance with their mandates, to support as a matter of priority the empowerment of women, including effective participation and decision-making in political, social and economic life, and to create opportunities for women and youth, particularly those in rural, borderland and underserved regions, consistent with national and regional priorities;

8. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General, relevant organs and bodies of the United Nations, international financial institutions, the African Union and other regional and subregional organizations and other relevant actors, such as the Sahel Alliance, to continue to assist the countries of the Sahel region through better coordinated and effective support, including through continued effective development assistance, in conformity with national and regional priorities and policies, including the promotion of capacity-building and institution-building in order to lay a solid foundation for long-term sustainable development and peace;

9. *Recalls* the importance of close, strategic, coordinated and operational partnerships among Governments, the relevant organs and bodies of the United Nations, such as the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel, international financial institutions, regional and subregional actors, the private sector and civil society in implementing local, national, cross-border and regional initiatives to achieve sustainable development and peace in the Sahel region;

10. *Stresses* the importance of safeguarding core social expenditures in the Sahel, including for health, education, nutrition and access to clean water, as well as for basic infrastructure, such as energy, to strengthen social and economic development, in line with national priorities, despite the increasing burden on the national budgets of the countries in the region to address their security challenges;

11. *Also stresses* the importance of supporting the resident coordinators and the United Nations country teams in the Sahel region, in line with General Assembly resolution [72/279](#), to ensure the enhanced coordination and impact of United Nations development activities in supporting the national Governments in the Sahel to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals;

12. *Calls upon* the entities of the United Nations development system, in line with General Assembly resolution [72/279](#), to strengthen capacities, resources and skill sets to support national Governments, including in the Sahel region, in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and, where relevant, build their capacities and expertise to promote progress on those Goals lagging behind, in line with respective mandates and building on comparative advantages, and reducing gaps, overlaps and duplication across entities;

13. *Requests* United Nations funds and programmes, including the United Nations Development Programme, and specialized agencies to pay particular attention to the coordination and impact of their activities in the Sahel region, in line with General Assembly resolution [72/279](#);

14. *Welcomes* the use by the Peacebuilding Commission of its platform to sustain international attention on the Sahel region, and invites it, in its advisory role to the Economic and Social Council, to further continue such efforts by mobilizing deeper commitment and partnership among Member States, the United Nations system and regional and international partners, including international financial institutions and regional and subregional organizations, for the effective implementation of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel and the United Nations Support Plan for the Sahel;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include a section on the implementation of the present resolution, including on how the United Nations system is implementing integrated, coherent and coordinated support to achieve sustainable development in the Sahel region, consistent with national and regional priorities and in line with General Assembly resolution [72/279](#), within existing reporting obligations to the Economic and Social Council at its 2020 session under the agenda item entitled “Coordination, programme and other questions”, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its 2021 session, under the item entitled “Coordination, programme and other questions”, a sub-item entitled “Sustainable development in the Sahel”;

16. *Decides* to consider this matter at its 2020 session under the agenda item entitled “Coordination, programme and other questions”.

*5th plenary meeting  
10 December 2019*

**2020/3. Revised working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council and sessions of its subsidiary bodies**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Expressing solidarity* with Member States that are fighting the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19),

*Recalling* its resolution 2020/1 of 25 July 2019 on the working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Council and its resolution 2019/11 of 7 June 2019 on the provisional calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields for 2020 and 2021,

*Taking into account* the impact of COVID-19 on the working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Council and sessions of its subsidiary bodies,

*Recalling* its decision 2020/205 of 3 April 2020, by which the Council was authorized to adopt decisions through a silence procedure,

*Recalling also* decisions already taken, including in consultation with the President of the General Assembly, to postpone the youth plenary (scheduled for 31 March), the youth forum of the Council (scheduled for 1 and 2 April), the joint thematic event on the least developed countries (scheduled for 13 April) and the special meeting of the Council on the Sahel region (scheduled for 14 April),

*Noting* that the Council is expected to adopt the working arrangements for its 2021 session at the organizational meeting of the 2021 session, on 23 July 2020,

*Encouraging* Member States to make use of virtual platforms, where appropriate, to conduct preparatory meetings and informal consultations,

1. *Decides* to further adjust the working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council, for meetings scheduled to be held in April and May, as follows:

(a) The following meetings and forums of the Council will be postponed to a later date during the 2020 session and will be held, as applicable, in a scaled-down and abbreviated format, with final modalities to be decided by the Bureau of the Council, following consultations with Member States, taking into account the possibility of meeting at United Nations Headquarters and the availability of conference services:

- (i) Management meeting to conduct elections (scheduled for 15 April);
- (ii) Forum on financing for development follow-up (scheduled for 20 to 23 April);

(b) The following meetings and forums of the Council will be deferred to the 2021 session:<sup>7</sup>

- (i) Partnership forum (scheduled for 3 April);
- (ii) Special meeting of the Council on international cooperation in tax matters (scheduled for 1 May);
- (iii) Multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (scheduled for 12 and 13 May);
- (iv) Development Cooperation Forum (scheduled for 14 and 15 May);

(c) The planning of the operational activities for development segment (scheduled for 19 to 21 May) will proceed, taking into account the prevailing conditions relating to COVID-19 and available technological and

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<sup>7</sup> Subject to the decision of the Council on the working arrangements for its 2021 session.



## Resolutions

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procedural solutions in the interim period, with final modalities to be decided by the Bureau of the Council, following consultations with Member States, taking into account the possibility of meeting at United Nations Headquarters and the availability of conference services;

2. *Also decides*, following consultations with the Chairs of the bodies concerned, to adjust the working arrangements for subsidiary bodies of the Council meeting in New York, as follows:

(a) Short procedural meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women (session scheduled for 9 to 20 March), the Commission on Population and Development (session scheduled for 30 March to 3 April) and the United Nations Forum on Forests (session scheduled for 4 to 8 May) will be held, at a later date during the 2020 session of the Council, in order to adopt procedural and other decisions;

(b) The sessions of the following subsidiary bodies will be postponed to a later date to be decided and will be held, as applicable, in a scaled-down and abbreviated format, with final modalities to be decided by the Bureau of the Council, following consultations with elected officers and Member States, taking into account the possibility of meeting at United Nations Headquarters and the availability of conference services:

- (i) Committee of Experts on Public Administration (session scheduled for 30 March to 3 April);
- (ii) Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters (session scheduled for 27 to 30 April);
- (iii) Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (session scheduled for 18 to 28 May and 5 June);

3. *Encourages* the members of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (session scheduled for 13 to 24 April) to conduct informal consultations through virtual means with a view to reaching agreement on procedural recommendations to prepare for the 2021 session of the Forum;

4. *Decides* to keep the present working arrangements under review.

14 April 2020

### **2020/4. Further revised working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council and sessions of its subsidiary bodies**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Expressing solidarity* with Member States that are fighting the coronavirus disease (COVID-19),

*Recalling* its resolution 2020/3 of 14 April 2020 on the revised working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Council and sessions of its subsidiary bodies, its resolution 2020/1 of 25 July 2019 on the working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Council and its resolution 2019/11 of 7 June 2019 on the provisional calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic, social and related fields for 2020 and 2021,

*Taking into account* the continued impact of COVID-19 on the working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Council and sessions of its subsidiary bodies,

*Recalling* its decision 2020/205 of 3 April 2020, by which the Council was authorized to adopt decisions through a silence procedure, and its decision 2020/206 of 22 May 2020, by which the authorization was extended to the sessional bodies and subsidiary organs of the Council,

*Encouraging* Member States to continue to make use of virtual platforms, where appropriate, to conduct preparatory meetings and informal consultations,

*Noting* the informal meeting of the forum on financing for development follow-up held on 23 April 2020 and the informal meetings of the operational activities for development segment of the Council held from 19 to 22 and on 27 May 2020, using virtual platforms,

*Noting also* the informal meetings of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration held on 13, 15, 18, 21, 27 and 28 May 2020, using a virtual platform,

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1. *Decides* to further adjust the working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council, for meetings scheduled to be held in June and July, as follows:

(a) The following meetings of the Council will be held as informal meetings through the use of a virtual platform:

- (i) Informal meeting of the forum on financing for development follow-up on the theme “Financing a sustainable recovery from COVID-19” (Tuesday, 2 June 2020);
- (ii) Management segment meeting(s) (Wednesday, 3 June 2020);
- (iii) Council event to discuss the transition from relief to development (Monday, 8 June 2020);
- (iv) Humanitarian affairs segment (Tuesday, 9 June, to Thursday, 11 June 2020);

(b) The dedicated management meeting to fill remaining vacancies in subsidiary bodies of the Council and related bodies for which secret balloting is required will be held as soon as feasible when conditions allow for the convening of an in-person meeting of the Council at United Nations Headquarters;

(c) The following meetings and forums of the Council will be held on the dates decided in its resolution 2020/1, in an adjusted format, as applicable, with final modalities to be decided by the Bureau of the Council, following consultations with Member States, taking into account the possibility of meeting at United Nations Headquarters in July and the availability of conference services, as follows:

- (i) A further meeting of the operational activities for development segment will be held, with the timing and modalities to be decided by the Bureau of the Council;
- (ii) Integration segment (Monday, 6 July 2020);
- (iii) High-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council (Tuesday, 7 July, to Monday, 13 July 2020);
- (iv) High-level segment of the Council, including the three-day ministerial segment of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council (Tuesday, 14 July, to Friday, 17 July 2020);
- (v) Remaining meetings of the management segment (Tuesday, 21 July, and Wednesday, 22 July 2020);
- (vi) Organizational session regarding the programme of work of the Council from July 2020 to July 2021 (Thursday, 23 July 2020);
- (d) The youth forum will be deferred to the 2021 session of the Council;<sup>8</sup>

2. *Also decides*, following consultations with the Chairs of the bodies concerned, to adjust the working arrangements for subsidiary bodies of the Council meeting in New York, as follows:

(a) Should conditions allow for the convening of in-person meetings at United Nations Headquarters, and taking into account the availability of conference services, short procedural meetings of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Population and Development will be held on a date to be decided, before 21 July 2020, in order to adopt procedural and other decisions; should the convening of in-person meetings not be possible, these bodies may consider holding informal meetings using a virtual platform and should consider proposals for adoption through a silence procedure pursuant to Council decision 2020/206;

(b) The United Nations Forum on Forests will not hold a meeting of its fifteenth session during the 2020 session of the Council and will consider proposals through a silence procedure pursuant to Council decision 2020/206;

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<sup>8</sup> Subject to the decision of the Council on the working arrangements for its 2021 session.



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(c) Following consultations with the Chairs of the bodies concerned, the meetings of these subsidiary bodies of the Council will be held as follows:

(i) The Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters will hold informal meetings in June and July 2020 using a virtual platform and will take decisions remotely through a procedure to be agreed by the Committee;

(ii) Should conditions allow for the convening of in-person meetings at United Nations Headquarters, and taking into account the availability of conference services, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations will, on an exceptional basis, hold its 2020 resumed session in August 2020, during the 2021 session of the Council;

3. *Decides* to keep the present working arrangements under review.

4 June 2020

### 2020/5. Strengthening coordination of the statistical programmes in the United Nations system

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recognizing* the importance of reliable statistical information for monitoring progress towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>9</sup>

*Recalling* that, in its resolution 71/313 of 6 July 2017, the General Assembly urged that communication and coordination among international organizations be enhanced in order to avoid duplicate reports, ensure consistency of data and reduce response burdens on countries, and urged international organizations to provide the methodologies used to harmonize country data for international comparability and produce estimates through transparent mechanisms,

*Recalling also* that, in the same resolution, Member States urged United Nations funds and programmes, the specialized agencies and the Secretariat, including the regional commissions, to intensify their support for strengthening data collection and statistical capacity-building in a coordinated manner,

*Recalling further* General Assembly resolution 68/261 of 29 January 2014, in which the Assembly endorsed the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics and stressed that bilateral and multilateral cooperation in statistics contributed to the improvement of systems of official statistics in all countries,

*Recognizing* that the United Nations statistical system has grown significantly, reflecting the increasing complexity of the development phenomena with which the United Nations is concerned and demonstrating that solid and high-quality statistical information is an indispensable prerequisite for global and sustainable development,

*Taking note* of Statistical Commission decision 50/103 of 8 March 2019,<sup>10</sup> in which the Commission recognized the urgent need for a better coordinated and more efficient United Nations statistical system, to reduce the reporting burden and to raise the standing of official statistics within the United Nations system, and, to that end, supported the following recommendations: (a) to immediately strengthen the existing coordination mechanisms, (b) to then take the issue of official statistics to the higher political level, including the Economic and Social Council, and (c) to ensure the active involvement of the statistical community, as presented in the background document prepared by the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as appropriate,

1. *Recognizes* that coordination between the statistical programmes of the United Nations system requires streamlining and improving in order to better support the efficiency of the United Nations statistical system to provide harmonized, reliable statistical information for monitoring progress towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>9</sup> to minimize the reporting burden, support national ownership and improve coordination of capacity-building;

<sup>9</sup> General Assembly resolution 70/1.

<sup>10</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2019, Supplement No. 4 (E/2019/24)*, chap. I, sect. B.

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2. *Also recognizes* that the Statistical Commission remains the primary body for the coordination of the statistical programmes of the United Nations system;

3. *Requests* the Committee of the Chief Statisticians of the United Nations System to more effectively strengthen coordination of statistical programmes within the United Nations system, guided by and in support of the work of the Statistical Commission;

4. *Requests* the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, as the secretariat of the Committee of the Chief Statisticians of the United Nations System, to provide adequate support to the coordination function of the Statistical Commission as well as related activities of the Committee, by considering pursuing a range of activities that could include the following:

### **Improved functional coordination**

(a) Well-coordinated activities, including a road map and action plan for the United Nations statistical programme with target and performance indicators to monitor the development of United Nations statistical governance towards a strengthened and efficient United Nations statistical system, to be considered by the Statistical Commission;

(b) Improved coordination in the area of data collection, in collaboration with organizations at all levels, to avoid duplication in that area and thus reduce the response burden for Member States;

(c) Modernized statistical processes at the United Nations as well as in Member States, upon their request, to be achieved by improving the efficiency of data collection, implementing new methodologies and emphasizing the impact of statistics, under the leadership and coordination of the national statistical offices, as applicable;

(d) Improved dialogue with the statistical community and decision makers to review the relevance of the current data requests in relation to changing information needs in order to facilitate more optimal statistical services with a view to meeting the information demands;

(e) Improved coordination in the area of capacity-building (in line with the Cape Town Global Action Plan for Sustainable Development Data), especially in the capacity-building of developing countries, including through the facilitation of South-South cooperation;

### **Improved regional and national coordination**

(f) Support provided to United Nations regional commissions and country offices in facilitating the work of regional and national coordination structures in the field of statistics, as appropriate;

### **Improved coordination in thematic areas**

(g) Improved knowledge-sharing and the establishment of common practices in adopting new data sources through workshops, the development of technical material and a knowledge base;

(h) Established policies and standards for achieving open data, with required data protection for sensitive data, in conformity with the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics<sup>11</sup> and national laws and regulations;

(i) United Nations Statistical Quality Assurance Framework implemented by members of the Committee of the Chief Statisticians of the United Nations System, inter alia, by conducting or facilitating peer reviews of United Nations agencies, upon request;

### **Improved coordination with other professional networks**

(j) Collaboration and cooperation established and maintained between the Committee and the United Nations Geospatial Network in the area of statistical and geospatial integration;

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<sup>11</sup> General Assembly resolution 68/261.

(k) Improved knowledge-sharing among members of the Committee in the area of the use of geospatial information in the collection, processing and dissemination of data;

### Improved secretariat coordination

(l) Improved communication through the continued production and distribution of Committee documents and joint statements for the relevant bodies in the United Nations system, including the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination;

5. *Decides* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions.

18 June 2020

## 2020/6. Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995,<sup>12</sup> and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled “World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world”, held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,<sup>13</sup> the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>14</sup> and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>15</sup> and reaffirming the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development of 16 September 2002,<sup>16</sup>

*Recognizing* the commitments made at the 2005 World Summit with regard to meeting the special needs of Africa<sup>17</sup> and reaffirmed in the political declaration on Africa's development needs adopted at the high-level meeting held at United Nations Headquarters on 22 September 2008,<sup>18</sup> and noting the relevant decisions of African Union summits related to the New Partnership for Africa's Development,<sup>19</sup>

*Reaffirming* General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which the Assembly adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets and affirmed its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

*Reaffirming also* General Assembly resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015, containing the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Reaffirming further* Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union at its twenty-fourth ordinary session, held in Addis Ababa on 30 and 31 January 2015, and the first 10-year implementation plan (2014–2023) of Agenda 2063, in which flagship projects, priority areas and policy measures to support the implementation of the continental development framework were outlined

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<sup>12</sup> *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

<sup>13</sup> General Assembly resolution S-24/2, annex.

<sup>14</sup> General Assembly resolution 70/1.

<sup>15</sup> General Assembly resolution 69/313, annex.

<sup>16</sup> General Assembly resolution 57/2.

<sup>17</sup> General Assembly resolution 60/1, para. 68.

<sup>18</sup> General Assembly resolution 63/1.

<sup>19</sup> A/57/304, annex.

and form the strategic framework for Africa's inclusive growth and sustainable development and optimization of the use of the continent's resources for the benefit of all its people,

*Recalling* the fourth session of the African Union Conference of Ministers of Social Development, on the theme "Strengthening the African family for inclusive development in Africa", held in Addis Ababa from 26 to 30 May 2014, and the first session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Social Development, Labour and Employment, on the theme "Social protection for inclusive development", held in Addis Ababa from 20 to 24 April 2015, recalling in this regard the African Common Position on Social Integration and the Social Policy Framework for Africa, which were endorsed by the Heads of State and Government of the African Union in February 2009, as well as the African Common Position on Good Practices in Family Policy Development and Implementation for the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family (2014) and the renewed Continental Plan of Action on the African Decade of Persons with Disabilities (2010–2019), which were endorsed by the Heads of State and Government of the African Union in January 2013, and noting the adoption of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Older Persons in Africa in January 2016,

*Acknowledging* the importance of supporting Agenda 2063 and the programme of the New Partnership, both of which are integral to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to achieving an integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the international arena, and underscoring in this regard the importance of a coherent and coordinated implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda,

*Reaffirming* General Assembly resolution 71/254 of 23 December 2016, entitled "Framework for a Renewed United Nations-African Union Partnership on Africa's Integration and Development Agenda 2017–2027", and welcoming in this regard the signing on 27 January 2018 of the African Union-United Nations Framework for the Implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to promote the integrated and coordinated implementation and monitoring of and reporting on both Agendas through joint activities and programmes,

*Acknowledging* that the attainment of the seven aspirations of Agenda 2063 is critical to ensuring a high standard of living, quality of life and well-being for all citizens of Africa through income security, jobs and decent work, poverty and hunger eradication, inequality reduction, social security and protection floors, particularly for persons with disabilities, modern, affordable and liveable habitats and quality basic services, healthy and nourished citizens with access to health care, environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient economies and communities, full gender equality in all spheres of life and engaged and empowered youth and children,

*Recalling* the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa adopted by the African Union, which calls for the creation of an enabling environment for adequate investments and the adoption of the sector reforms aimed at promoting economic and social development and reducing poverty on the continent through the implementation of integrated regional infrastructure networks,

*Recalling also* the convening of the third session of the African Union Specialized Technical Committee on Social Development, Labour and Employment, in Addis Ababa from 1 to 5 April 2019, during which ministers tasked the African Union Commission with drafting a Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Citizens to Social Protection and Social Security, as well as a Social Agenda 2063,

*Noting with concern* the continued high prevalence of child, early and forced marriage, as well as violence and other harmful practices against children, including female genital mutilation, and reaffirming in this regard the Africa-wide campaign to end child marriage in Africa, launched at the fourth session of the African Union Conference of Ministers of Social Development, held in Addis Ababa from 26 to 30 May 2014, the Southern African Development Community Model Law on Eradicating Child Marriage and Protecting Children Already in Marriage and the endorsement by the Pan-African Parliament in August 2016 of a ban on female genital mutilation,

*Recognizing* that, after the latest global financial crisis, the global economy is still facing difficult macroeconomic conditions, low commodity prices, subdued trade growth and volatile capital flows, that, notwithstanding the impact of the financial crisis, financial flows and the share of developing countries in world trade have continued to increase, that these advances have contributed to a substantial reduction in the number of people living in extreme poverty, and that, despite these gains, many countries, particularly developing countries, still face considerable challenges and some have fallen further behind, emphasizing that the African Union and the regional economic communities have a critical role to play in the implementation of the New Partnership programme, and in

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this regard encouraging African countries, with the assistance of their development partners, to increase and coordinate effectively their support for enhancing the capacities of these institutions and to promote regional cooperation and social and economic integration in Africa,

*Recognizing also* that investments in people, especially in their social protection, health-inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong learning opportunities for all, are essential to enhancing productivity in all sectors, including agriculture, and thereby key to sustainable and equitable growth and poverty reduction, through increasing decent job creation and employability opportunities for all, especially for women and youth, improving food security and nutrition and building resilience,

*Recognizing further* that gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, and the enjoyment of all human rights, will make a crucial contribution to progress across all of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets and that the systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is crucial, and in this regard recalling the adoption, at the second ordinary session of the Assembly of the African Union, of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, in Maputo on 11 July 2003, and the African Women's Decade (2010–2020), and commending the adoption of the African Union Strategy for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment at the third session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, held in Addis Ababa from 7 to 11 May 2018,

*Recognizing* that the lack of access to safe drinking water and proper sanitation contributes to slow progress in reducing Africa's disease burden, particularly among the poorest populations, in both rural and urban areas, and conscious of the impact of the lack of sanitation on people's health, poverty reduction efforts, economic and social development and the environment, in particular water resources,

*Noting with appreciation* that the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative and its advancement, the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative, and bilateral donors have provided substantial full debt relief to 30 African countries that have reached the completion point under the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, which has considerably reduced their public debt, improved their debt management, boosted their social spending and reduced their poverty level,

*Bearing in mind* that African countries have primary responsibility for their own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, bearing in mind also the need for their development efforts to be supported by the international community and an enabling international economic environment, reiterating the need for the international community to implement all commitments regarding the economic and social development of Africa, and in this regard recalling the support given by the International Conferences on Financing for Development to the New Partnership,<sup>20</sup>

*Underscoring* that, for all countries, public policies and the mobilization and effective use of domestic resources, underscored by the principle of national ownership, are central to the common pursuit of sustainable development, including achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and recognizing that domestic resources are first and foremost generated by economic growth, supported by an enabling environment at all levels,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>21</sup>

2. *Welcomes* the progress made by African Governments in fulfilling their commitments in the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development<sup>19</sup> to deepen democracy, human rights, good governance and sound economic management, and encouraging them, with the participation of stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to intensify their efforts in this regard by developing and strengthening institutions for governance and creating an environment conducive to attracting foreign direct investment for the development of the region;

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<sup>20</sup> See *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex; and General Assembly resolution 63/239, annex, and resolution 69/313, annex.

<sup>21</sup> [E/CN.5/2020/2](#).

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3. *Takes note* of the strengthening of the African Peer Review Mechanism through the decision of the Assembly of the African Union to make the Mechanism an organ of the African Union in line with article 5, paragraph 2, of its Constitutive Act,<sup>22</sup> and welcomes the progress that has been achieved in implementing the Mechanism;

4. *Reaffirms* the importance of supporting Agenda 2063 of the African Union, as well as its first 10-year implementation plan, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa and its continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme;

5. *Takes note* of the development of the monitoring and evaluation framework for the first 10-year implementation plan of Agenda 2063 by Africa's regional economic communities, the Planning and Coordinating Agency of the New Partnership, the Economic Commission for Africa, the African Development Bank and the African Symposium on Statistical Development, as well as the Strategy for the Harmonization of Statistics in Africa, both of which have fostered convergence in the monitoring and evaluation of the first 10-year implementation plan and the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as a unified implementation and monitoring plan for Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>14</sup> and notes the incorporation of the first 10-year implementation plan into national planning frameworks by 35 countries;

6. *Welcomes* the adoption of the governance structures of the African Union Development Agency, the implementing mechanism for the African Union Agenda 2063 development strategy, during the thirty-fifth ordinary session of the Executive Council of the African Union, held in Niamey on 4 and 5 July 2019, and whose mission is to foster the development of the continent through effective and integrated planning, coordination and implementation of Agenda 2063 with Member States, regional economic communities and pan-African institutions by leveraging partnerships and technical cooperation;

7. *Also welcomes* the efforts made by African countries and regional and subregional organizations, including the African Union, to mainstream a gender perspective and the empowerment of all women and girls in the implementation of the New Partnership, including the implementation of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa;

8. *Takes note with appreciation* of the efforts of the African Union Commission, which have resulted in the launch of national campaigns to end child, early and forced marriage in 24 countries, the adoption of the African Common Position on the African Union Campaign to End Child Marriage in Africa and the endorsement by the Assembly of the African Union in Addis Ababa in February 2019 of the continental initiative to be known as "Saleema: African Union Initiative on Eliminating Female Genital Mutilation", in partnership with the United Nations;

9. *Also takes note with appreciation* of the launch, on 24 August 2018 in Addis Ababa, by the African Union Commission, in collaboration with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the International Telecommunication Union, of the African Girls Can Code Initiative (2018–2022), which is aimed at enhancing the mastering of information and communications technology for girls and women and, therefore, increasing their contribution to Africa's innovation in that sector;

10. *Recognizes* the progress that has been made in the implementation of the Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa in support of regional and continental integration with a focus on the movement of people and goods (the Move Africa initiative), through the "traffic light system", which has been operationalized at four pilot "one-stop border posts";

11. *Acknowledges* the progress made towards ensuring free movement of persons as well as goods and services in Africa, and in this regard welcomes with appreciation the entry into force on 30 May 2019 of the agreement on the African Continental Free Trade Area, which aims to boost intra-African trade and continental integration, and the launch of its operational phase on 7 July 2019;

12. *Recalls* the African Union Road Map on Harnessing the Demographic Dividend through Investments in Youth and the first five-year priority programme on employment, poverty eradication and inclusive development

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<sup>22</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2158, No. 37733.

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2017, and welcomes the declaration by the African Union of the period from 2018 to 2027 as the African Decade for Technical, Professional and Entrepreneurial Training and Youth Employment, with a focus on the creation of decent jobs for youth and women, aimed at achieving more inclusive growth and sustainable poverty eradication;

13. *Notes* the decision of the ministers of the Executive Council of the African Union, at its thirty-fifth ordinary session, to adopt as the theme for the year 2020 “Silencing the guns: creating conducive conditions for Africa’s development”;

14. *Urges* all countries that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,<sup>23</sup> encourages States parties to review its implementation, committing to making the Convention an effective instrument for deterring, detecting, preventing and countering corruption and bribery, prosecuting those involved in corrupt activities and recovering and returning stolen assets to their country of origin, as appropriate, encourages the international community to develop good practices on asset return, expresses support for the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative of the United Nations and the World Bank and other international initiatives that support the recovery of stolen assets, urges the updating and ratification of regional conventions against corruption, and strives to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for the transfer abroad of stolen assets and illicit financial flows;

15. *Calls upon* African Governments to ratify the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa and the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples’ Rights on the Rights of Older Persons in Africa, to demonstrate the commitment of Member States to the dignity, empowerment and rights of persons with disabilities and older persons across the continent;

16. *Notes* that health is a precondition, an indicator and an outcome of sustainable development and that, as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, robust efforts are needed to integrate additional health issues into a broad health and development agenda, and therefore takes note of the declaration of the Assembly of the Heads of State and Government of the African Union, at its thirty-second ordinary session, in which it committed to supporting and enhancing the reform of the health sector through adopting the health in all policies approach in order to achieve universal health coverage and curb the outbreak of major diseases in Africa and to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals;

17. *Takes note with appreciation* of the revised Africa Health Strategy for the period 2016–2030, which was endorsed by the Assembly of the African Union in 2016, with the main objectives of strengthening health systems, improving performance, increasing investments in health, improving equity, addressing social determinants of health to reduce priority disease burdens by 2030 and helping member States to more effectively manage the risks of disasters in a more systematic manner;

18. *Urges* African Governments to fast-track the implementation of the revised Africa Health Strategy, which provides umbrella guidance for the development of the African Regional Nutrition Strategy, the Maputo Plan of Action 2016–2030 for the Operationalization of the Continental Policy Framework for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa and the Catalytic Framework to End AIDS and Tuberculosis and Eliminate Malaria in Africa by 2030, welcomes the Declaration on Universal Access to Immunization as a Cornerstone for Health and Development in Africa adopted by African Ministers of Health in 2016, and the 2017 declaration on committing to accelerate implementation of the International Health Regulations (2005),<sup>24</sup> and also urges African Governments to achieve ambitious targets, a business case and strategic priorities to end the three diseases as a public health threat by 2030;

19. *Stresses* the importance of improving maternal and child health, and in this regard recalls the declaration of the African Union summit on maternal, infant and child health and development, welcomes the fact that 51 African countries have since integrated the objectives of the Campaign on Accelerated Reduction of Maternal, Newborn and Child Mortality in Africa into their national strategies, and urges the pursuit and implementation of commitments to improve maternal and child health;

20. *Takes note* of the declaration of the special summit of the African Union on HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria, held in Abuja from 12 to 16 July 2013, on the progress made in implementing the Abuja actions towards the

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<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

<sup>24</sup> World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1, resolution 58.3, annex.



elimination of HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in Africa by 2030, also takes note of the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: On the Fast Track to Accelerating the Fight against HIV and to Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030, adopted on 8 June 2016 at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS,<sup>25</sup> and reaffirms the resolve to provide assistance for prevention, treatment and care, with the aim of ensuring an Africa free of HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, by addressing the needs of all, in particular those of women, children and young people, and the urgent need to significantly scale up efforts towards achieving the goal of universal access to comprehensive HIV/AIDS prevention programmes, treatment, care and support in African countries, to accelerate and intensify efforts to expand access to affordable and quality medicines in Africa, including antiretroviral drugs, by encouraging pharmaceutical companies to make drugs available, and to ensure strengthened global partnership and increased bilateral and multilateral assistance, where possible on a grant basis, to combat HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases in Africa through the strengthening of health systems;

21. *Also takes note* of the decision of the African Union to extend the African Union Road Map on Shared Responsibility and Global Solidarity for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria Response in Africa from 2016 to 2020 so as to achieve full implementation, notes the revitalization of AIDS Watch Africa as an African high-level platform from which to advocate action, accountability and resource mobilization for the response to HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in Africa, and requests, as appropriate, and in line with relevant international obligations, development partners and the United Nations system to support the efforts of African countries and organizations to reach the main objectives put forward in the Road Map, including achieving diversified sustainable financing, strengthening regulatory harmonization and local pharmaceutical manufacturing capacity and enhancing leadership and governance of the responses;

22. *Invites* development partners to continue to assist African countries in their efforts to strengthen national health systems, including by providing skilled health personnel, reliable health information and data, research infrastructure and laboratory capacity, and to expand surveillance systems in the health sector, including by providing support for the efforts to prevent, protect against and combat outbreaks of disease, including outbreaks of neglected tropical diseases, and in this context reiterates its support for the Kampala Declaration and Agenda for Global Action and follow-up conferences to respond to the serious health workforce crisis in Africa;

23. *Encourages* Member States to continue to provide international cooperation and capacity-building support to developing countries, particularly African countries, in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, desalination, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies, and notes the strategy of the African Ministers' Council on Water for the period 2018–2030, launched for the achievement of the African Water Vision 2025, Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals;

24. *Emphasizes* that progress in the implementation of the New Partnership depends also on a favourable national and international environment for Africa's growth and development, including measures to promote a policy environment conducive to private sector development and entrepreneurship and to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

25. *Also emphasizes* that democracy, respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society and effective participation by civil society, including non-governmental and community-based organizations, and the private sector are among the indispensable foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development;

26. *Further emphasizes* that the poverty, inequality and social exclusion faced by most African countries require a comprehensive approach to the development and implementation of social and economic policies, inter alia, to reduce poverty, to promote economic activity, growth and sustainable development in order to ensure productive employment creation and decent work for all, to promote quality education, health and social protection and to enhance equality, social inclusion, political stability, democracy and good governance at all levels and the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

27. *Emphasizes* that identifying and removing barriers to opportunity, as well as ensuring access to basic social protection and social services, are necessary to break the cycle of poverty, inequality and social exclusion;

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<sup>25</sup> General Assembly resolution 70/266, annex.



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28. *Encourages* African countries to continue to prioritize structural transformation, modernize smallholder agriculture, add value to primary commodities, improve public and private institutions of economic and political governance and invest in major public infrastructure projects and in inclusive, equitable and quality education and health in order to promote inclusive growth, generate full and productive employment and decent work for all and reduce poverty;

29. *Emphasizes* that economic development, including employment-intensive resource-based industrial development, with due regard to the sustainable management and use of natural resources, infrastructural development and structural transformation, in particular in the rural economy, based on pragmatic and targeted policies to enhance productive capacities in Africa that are consistent with national development priorities and international commitments, can generate employment and income for all African men and women, including the poor, and therefore be an engine for poverty eradication and for achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals;

30. *Encourages* African countries to continue to foster political stability, promote peace and security and strengthen the governance, policy and institutional environment in order to enhance the prospects for inclusive and sustainable development, and to develop an enabling environment for the private sector to contribute to sustainable economic transformation and the creation of productive employment and decent work for all;

31. *Stresses* that the achievement of sustainable development and the eradication of poverty hinge on the ability and readiness of countries to effectively mobilize domestic resources, attract foreign direct investment, fulfil official development assistance commitments and use such assistance effectively and facilitate the transfer of technology, on mutually agreed terms, to developing countries, and also stresses that the resolution of unsustainable debt situations is critical for heavily indebted poor countries, while remittances have become a significant source of income and finance for receiving economies and their contribution to the achievement of sustainable development;

32. *Notes with concern* that the preliminary data indicate that the net bilateral aid flows to Africa decreased in 2018 compared with 2017 figures;

33. *Reiterates* that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments remains crucial, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries, is encouraged by those few countries that have met or surpassed their commitment to 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance and the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries, and urges all others to step up efforts to increase their official development assistance and to make additional concrete efforts towards official development assistance targets;

34. *Recognizes* that middle-income countries still face significant challenges in achieving sustainable development and that, in order to ensure that achievements made to date are sustained, efforts to address ongoing challenges should be strengthened through the exchange of experiences, improved coordination and better and focused support of the United Nations development system, the international financial institutions, regional organizations and other stakeholders, and therefore requests those stakeholders to ensure that the diverse and specific development needs of middle-income countries are appropriately considered and addressed, in a tailored fashion, in their relevant strategies and policies, with a view to promoting a coherent and comprehensive approach towards individual countries, while also acknowledging that official development assistance and other concessional finance is still important for a number of these countries and has a role to play for targeted results, taking into account the specific needs of these countries;

35. *Also recognizes* that, while social development is primarily the responsibility of Governments, international cooperation and assistance are essential for the full achievement of that goal, and calls upon the international community to continue to support the resolution of challenges faced by developing countries, especially the least developed countries, including in Africa, to independently achieving sustainable development;

36. *Further recognizes* the contribution made by Member States to the implementation of the New Partnership in the context of South-South cooperation, and encourages the international community, including the international financial institutions, to support the efforts of African countries, including through trilateral cooperation;

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37. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations and the African Union to realign the clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa to deal with the major themes of both Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and invites development partners, including the United Nations system, to continue to support the Mechanism in achieving its objectives, including through the allocation of the financing necessary to support the implementation of its activities;

38. *Encourages* African countries to intensify their efforts to strengthen the capacity of subnational and national statistical systems in order to produce reliable and timely statistics and indicators for the monitoring of national development policies and strategies and of the implementation of commitments for the achievement of all Sustainable Development Goals at the local, national, regional and international levels, and in this regard urges donor countries and organizations, including the United Nations system, and the international and regional statistical communities to support African countries in strengthening statistical capacity in support of development;

39. *Takes note* of the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa 2024, which aims to have an impact across critical sectors such as agriculture, energy, environment, health, infrastructure development, mining, security and water;

40. *Underlines* the importance for African Governments to build the productive capacity of sustainable agriculture, as a top priority, in order to increase rural incomes and ensure access to food for net food buyers, and stresses that greater efforts should be made to promote and implement sustainable agriculture, increase the access of smallholder farmers, in particular women, to necessary agricultural resources, including productive assets, and improve access to infrastructure, information and markets, and that, furthermore, efforts should be made to promote rural-urban linkages through small and medium-sized enterprises that contribute to job growth and increase incomes along the agricultural value stream;

41. *Urges* African Governments, within the framework of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme, to expand investment financing to agriculture to at least 10 per cent of the annual budget of the national public sector while at the same time ensuring necessary action in policy and institutional reforms for enhanced performance of the agriculture industry and systems;

42. *Recognizes* the need for Africa's development partners that are supporting agriculture, food security and nutrition in Africa to align their efforts more specifically towards supporting the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme, using the Programme's investment plans for the alignment of external funding;

43. *Welcomes* progress made in addressing issues such as food security through the adoption of a resolution on the development of a model law on food security and nutrition in Africa in October 2018 by the Pan-African Parliament, and the development of a technical cooperation project to incorporate indigenous crops into the African nutritious food basket for improved food security and nutrition, and notes the Initiative for Food and Nutrition Security in Africa;

44. *Reaffirms* that among the objectives of the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027), proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution [72/233](#) of 20 December 2017, are maintenance of the momentum generated by the implementation of the Second Decade and support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, for the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, including the Sustainable Development Goals and their objective of leaving no one behind;

45. *Urges* African countries to pay close attention to inclusive, equitable and sustainable growth capable of being employment-intensive, including through employment-intensive investment programmes, aimed at reducing inequalities, increasing productive employment, generating decent work for all, particularly those who are vulnerable, including women and young people, and improving real per capita incomes in both rural and urban areas;

46. *Emphasizes* the need, in particular for African countries, to enhance capacity-building for sustainable development, and in this regard calls for the strengthening of technical and scientific cooperation, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, and reiterates the importance of adequate human resources development, including through training, the exchange of experience and expertise, knowledge transfer and technical assistance for capacity-building, which involves strengthening institutional capacity, including policy coherence, coordination and implementation, as well as planning, management and monitoring capacities;

47. *Also emphasizes* the importance of increasing international cooperation to improve the quality of and access to education, including efforts to realize girls' right to education, in particular for African countries, including

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through building and strengthening education-related infrastructure and increasing investment in education, and takes note of continental initiatives such as the African Union International Centre for Girls' and Women's Education in Africa, which implemented activities in line with its strategic plan for the period 2018–2020;

48. *Urges* African countries and development partners to meet the needs of young people and empower them, in particular by tackling the high levels of youth unemployment through the development of quality education, skills training and entrepreneurship programmes that address illiteracy, enhance the employability and capabilities of young people, facilitate school-to-work transitions and expand guaranteed employment schemes, where appropriate, with particular attention to disadvantaged young people in both rural and urban areas, and in this regard takes note of the launch at the Pan African Youth Forum on the theme “Africa unite for youth: bridging the gap and reaching African youth”, held in Addis Ababa from 24 to 27 April 2019, of the African Union 1 million by 2021 initiative, which targets direct investments in millions of African youth on four key elements, namely employment, entrepreneurship, education and engagement, through leveraging partnerships and private sector opportunities;

49. *Reaffirms* the commitment of the General Assembly to bridging digital and knowledge divides, recognizes that its approach must be multidimensional and include an evolving understanding of what constitutes access, emphasizing the quality of that access, and acknowledges that speed, stability, affordability, language, local content and accessibility for persons with disabilities are now core elements of the quality of such access and that high-speed broadband is already an essential enabler of sustainable development;

50. *Recognizes* that improving access to school for all girls and boys, especially the poorest and most vulnerable and marginalized, and their ability to receive a quality education, and improving the quality of education beyond primary school can have a positive impact in terms of empowerment and on social, economic and political participation and thus on the fight against poverty and hunger and can contribute directly to achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Sustainable Development Goals;

51. *Also recognizes* that Africa's youthful population creates significant opportunities for the continent's development, and underlines in this regard the importance of African countries creating appropriate policy environments, in collaboration with the United Nations system, in order to realize a demographic dividend, while adopting an inclusive results-based approach to development planning and implementation in accordance with national priorities and legislation;

52. *Encourages* Governments, international organizations, other relevant institutions and stakeholders, as appropriate, to provide relevant skills training for youth, high-quality health-care services and dynamic labour markets to employ a growing population;

53. *Recognizes* the need for Governments and the international community to continue to make efforts to increase the flow of new and additional resources for financing for sustainable development from all sources, public and private, domestic and foreign, to support the development of African countries, and welcomes the various important initiatives established between African countries and their development partners in this regard;

54. *Acknowledges* the activities of the Bretton Woods institutions and the African Development Bank in African countries, and invites those institutions to continue their support for the implementation of the priorities and objectives of the New Partnership;

55. *Encourages* African countries and their development partners to place people at the centre of government development action, to secure core investment spending in health, education and social protection and to give particular consideration to universal access to basic social security systems, recognizing that social protection floors can provide a basis from which to address poverty and vulnerability, and in this regard takes note of the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202), adopted by the International Labour Conference at its 101st session, on 14 June 2012, which can serve as a guideline for social investment;

56. *Notes* the growing collaboration among the entities of the United Nations system in support of the African Union and its New Partnership, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to promote greater coherence in the work of the United Nations system in support of the New Partnership, on the basis of the agreed clusters of the Regional Coordination Mechanism for Africa;

57. *Emphasizes* the importance for the cluster working on advocacy and communication to continue to muster international support for the New Partnership, and urges the United Nations system to demonstrate more evidence of

cross-sectoral synergies to promote a comprehensive approach with regard to successive phases of planning and implementation of social development programmes in Africa;

58. *Requests* the Commission for Social Development to continue to discuss in its annual programme of work those regional programmes that promote social development so as to enable all regions to share experiences and best practices, with the agreement of concerned countries, and in this regard requests that the work programmes of the Commission include social dimensions of the New Partnership, as appropriate;

59. *Decides* that the Commission for Social Development should continue to give prominence to and raise awareness of the social dimensions of the New Partnership and give due consideration to Agenda 2063 of the African Union at its fifty-ninth session;

60. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and the Economic Commission for Africa, taking into consideration General Assembly resolution [73/335](#) of 10 September 2019, entitled “New Partnership for Africa’s Development: progress in implementation and international support”, to submit to the Commission for Social Development, for its consideration at its fifty-ninth session, an action-oriented report with recommendations on how to improve the effectiveness of the work of United Nations bodies in regard to the social dimensions of the New Partnership, Agenda 2063 and its links with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, taking into account current processes related to social development in Africa.

18 June 2020

### **2020/7. Affordable housing and social protection systems for all to address homelessness**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* its resolution [2019/4](#) of 6 June 2019, in which it decided that the priority theme of the 2020 session of the Commission for Social Development would be “Affordable housing and social protection systems for all to address homelessness”,

*Recalling also* the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly,

*Reaffirming* that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development<sup>26</sup> and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session<sup>27</sup> constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels, and encouraging the continued global dialogue on social development issues,

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which the Assembly adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets and affirmed its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, and its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development,

*Recognizing* the importance of implementing nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, and by 2030 achieving substantial coverage of the poor and the vulnerable, and ensuring access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services,

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution [69/313](#) of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

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<sup>26</sup> *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6–12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

<sup>27</sup> General Assembly resolution [S-24/2](#), annex.

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution [74/4](#) of 15 October 2019, entitled “Political declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly”,

*Recalling further* the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>28</sup> which, inter alia, recognizes the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living for himself or herself and his or her family, including adequate food, clothing and housing, and to the continuous improvement of living conditions, and noting the relevance of these provisions to the formulation of family-oriented housing and social protection policies and measures,

*Recalling* the New Urban Agenda,<sup>29</sup> which, inter alia, promotes cities and human settlements that fulfil their social function, including the social and ecological function of land, with a view to progressively achieving the full realization of the right to adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, without discrimination, and recalling also the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>30</sup> which promotes the mainstreaming of disaster risk assessments into land-use policy development and implementation, including urban planning, land degradation assessments and informal and non-permanent housing,

*Noting* the important work undertaken by the Statistical Commission pertaining to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which has led to the formulation of global indicators, including on social protection and access for all to adequate, safe and affordable housing,

*Noting also* the importance of aggregated and disaggregated data for formulating effective policies to address homelessness and the need to make concerted efforts to identify people experiencing homelessness, both temporarily and chronically,

*Reaffirming* the importance of supporting Agenda 2063 of the African Union, as well as its first 10-year implementation plan, as a strategic framework for ensuring a positive socioeconomic transformation in Africa within the next 50 years, and its continental programme embedded in the resolutions of the General Assembly on the New Partnership for Africa’s Development<sup>31</sup> and regional initiatives, such as the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme,

*Recognizing* that addressing homelessness, including through affordable housing policies and social protection systems and measures for all, including floors for all, assists Member States in realizing the right to an adequate standard of living, including housing, in implementing the New Urban Agenda and in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Noting* that homelessness can be an obstacle to the effective enjoyment of all human rights and it needs to be addressed through urgent national, multilateral and global responses,

*Noting with concern* that climate change is predicted to increase the frequency, irregularity and intensity of both sudden- and slow-onset natural disasters such as hurricanes and droughts, heightening the risk of homelessness, including for those who have been displaced owing to natural disasters,

*Noting with concern also* that humanitarian emergencies may also lead to homelessness, including among people who become refugees or internally displaced persons,

*Noting with concern further* that homelessness among adolescents and youth is a major concern in many countries and that youth have been identified as the population group most at risk of becoming homeless,

*Noting with concern* that homelessness among children is increasing and that abandoned children, children who are orphaned as a result of HIV/AIDS, children or youth with homeless parents, or children displaced by humanitarian emergencies, including armed conflicts and natural disasters, and unaccompanied migrant children often experience homelessness,

*Reaffirming* its resolutions [2016/7](#) and [2016/8](#) of 2 June 2016, in which Governments are encouraged to continue to develop, improve, extend and implement inclusive, effective, fiscally sustainable and nationally appropriate social

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<sup>28</sup> See General Assembly resolution [2200 A \(XXI\)](#), annex.

<sup>29</sup> General Assembly resolution [71/256](#), annex.

<sup>30</sup> General Assembly resolution [69/283](#), annex II.

<sup>31</sup> [A/57/304](#), annex.

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protection systems and measures and in which it is acknowledged that social protection floors can provide a basis from which to address poverty, vulnerability and homelessness, and are therefore essential to end the marginalization of the homeless and help them to integrate into society,

*Noting* that, increasingly, countries are expanding the fiscal space available for introducing various elements of social protection, and that a number of middle- and even low-income countries have already initiated components of national social protection systems and extended them successfully, with demonstrable positive impacts on poverty eradication,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>32</sup>

2. *Acknowledges* the urgent need to accelerate action on all levels and by all stakeholders to fulfil the vision and Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>33</sup> and emphasizes that the international community, through the outcome documents of the major United Nations conferences and summits adopted by the General Assembly, has reinforced, inter alia, the urgency of eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, combating inequality within and among countries, protecting the environment, creating sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth and fostering social inclusion within the United Nations development agenda, including the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development,<sup>26</sup> the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>34</sup> the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030<sup>30</sup> and the New Urban Agenda;<sup>29</sup>

3. *Reaffirms* the commitment to implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for all by ensuring that no one would be left behind and reaching the furthest behind first, and by recognizing human rights and that the dignity of the human person is fundamental;

4. *Calls upon* Member States to ensure the promotion and protection of all human rights, in accordance with their obligations under international human rights law, while recognizing that homelessness constitutes a violation of human dignity and may be an obstacle to the fulfilment of all human rights and that urgent national and international action is therefore required to address it;

5. *Reaffirms* that poverty has various forms and dimensions, including homelessness and living in inadequate housing, which is often linked to lack of income and productive resources sufficient to ensure sustainable livelihoods, hunger and malnutrition, ill health, limited or lack of access to education and other basic services, increased morbidity and mortality from illness, unsafe environments, and social discrimination and exclusion, and that these factors make individuals and their families vulnerable to homelessness;

6. *Also reaffirms* that urban and rural poverty should further be addressed by, inter alia, promoting public and private investments to improve, for deprived persons, the overall human environment and infrastructure, in particular housing, water and sanitation, and public transportation; and promoting social and other essential services, including, where necessary, assistance for people to move to areas that offer better employment opportunities, housing, education, health and other social services;

7. *Notes* that homelessness is not merely a lack of physical housing, but is often interrelated with poverty, lack of productive employment and access to infrastructure, as well as other social issues that may constitute a loss of family, community and a sense of belonging, and, depending on national context, can be described as a condition where a person or household lacks habitable space, which may compromise their ability to enjoy social relations, and includes people living on the streets, in other open spaces or in buildings not intended for human habitation, people living in temporary accommodation or shelters for the homeless, and, in accordance with national legislation, may include, among others, people living in severely inadequate accommodation without security of tenure and access to basic services;

8. *Notes with concern* that homelessness is a global problem, affecting people of different ages and with diverse economic, social and cultural backgrounds, in both developed and developing countries, and that, while homelessness is mainly driven by structural causes, including inequalities, poverty, a loss of housing and livelihood,

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<sup>32</sup> [E/CN.5/2020/3](#).

<sup>33</sup> General Assembly resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>34</sup> General Assembly resolution [69/313](#), annex.

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a lack of decent job opportunities, lack of access to affordable housing, including owing to negative impacts of the commodification of housing, lack of social protection, lack of access to land, credit or financing, and high costs of energy or health care, as well as lack of financial and legal literacy, it could be also related to a number of contributing factors, and social issues including drug and alcohol abuse and mental disorder and other mental conditions;

9. *Recognizes* that homelessness is a complex issue that requires a multisectoral approach and integrated responses, cutting across fiscal, economic, labour, housing, health, social protection, urban development, environmental and population policies, and emphasizes the need to take whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches to address and prevent homelessness, by adopting policies that are inclusive of and responsive to the needs and aspirations of individuals, especially those in disadvantaged or vulnerable situations;

10. *Also recognizes* that homelessness can be driven by family and personal circumstances and economic crises, including mental disorders and other mental health conditions, family breakdown, divorce, separation and abandonment, domestic violence and child abuse;

11. *Invites* Member States to develop comprehensive, intersectoral national strategies and specific policy interventions to address homelessness, taking into consideration existing frameworks and instruments related to homelessness;

12. *Calls upon* Member States to collect disaggregated data on demographics, such as by age, sex and disability, related to homelessness and establish categories of homelessness, accompanying the existing measurement tools, and encourages Member States to harmonize the measurement and collection of data on homelessness to enable national and global policymaking;

13. *Encourages* Member States to promote affordable and equitable access to basic services, in particular quality formal and non-formal education, at all levels, including programmes that promote equality and inclusion through the affirmation of the fundamental dignity of the human person, and health care, including through the acceleration of the transition towards equitable access to universal health coverage, as well as access to affordable housing, nutrition and food, and access to employment and decent work, information and communications technology and infrastructure, through advancing gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;

14. *Invites* Member States to consider adopting labour market policies that strengthen institutions and provide adequate labour protection to all workers, especially the most disadvantaged, including through minimum wage policies, while taking into account the role of workers' and employers' organizations, as applicable, as part of policies to boost income growth for the vast majority of workers, taking into consideration the specific circumstances of each country;

15. *Encourages* Member States to implement policies that support the full and productive participation of women in the labour market, including women with disabilities, and promote equal pay for equal work or work of equal value, access to childcare facilities, the reconciliation of family and professional life, and the sharing of responsibilities between parents, and that also promote meaningful participation in the economy and in decision-making processes at all levels;

16. *Encourages* national and local governments to improve access to affordable housing through integrated housing policies and social protection measures, including social protection on both the demand and the supply sides, including by addressing legal and policy barriers to equal and non-discriminatory access to adequate housing, including for women of all ages and women-headed households, and providing access to credit facilities, as well as through protection against unlawful forced eviction, the provision of adequate emergency and temporary shelter and services and security of tenancy and support for the development of affordable housing, which is especially important for low-income households;

17. *Invites* national and local governments, in collaboration with the private sector and local communities, to stimulate the supply of a variety of adequate housing options that are safe, affordable and accessible for members of different income groups of society, and to take positive measures to improve the living conditions of homeless people, with a view to facilitating their full participation in society, and to prevent and eliminate homelessness;

18. *Also invites* national and local governments to increase allocations of financial and human resources, as appropriate, for the upgrading and, to the extent possible, prevention of slums and informal settlements;



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19. *Recognizes* that an affordable housing policy, while essential, is not sufficient to end homelessness, that it should be accompanied by other measures such as social protection policies, and that nationally appropriate social protection systems for all address multiple, often interrelated and complex causes of homelessness by preventing poverty, easing the burden of certain expenditure during periods of unemployment, contributing to health-related goals, gender equality and decent work, and facilitating the inclusion of persons with disabilities;

20. *Also recognizes* that nationally appropriate social protection systems can make a critical contribution to the realization of human rights for all, in particular for those who are trapped in poverty and homelessness, and that promoting universal access to social services and providing nationally appropriate social protection floors can contribute to reducing inequality and poverty, addressing social exclusion and promoting inclusive economic growth;

21. *Urges* Member States, in accordance with national circumstances, to establish as quickly as possible and maintain the social protection floors that comprise basic social security, so that all those in need have access to essential health care, including maternity, newborn, child, long-term and palliative care, that meets the criteria of availability, accessibility, acceptability and quality, and to basic income security for children and basic income security for persons of active age who are unable to earn sufficient income, in particular in cases of sickness, unemployment, maternity and disability, inter alia, in the context of enabling employment, and basic income security for older persons, as set out in the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202) of the International Labour Organization;

22. *Recognizes* the important role that families can play in combating social exclusion, and highlights the importance of investing in inclusive and responsive family-oriented policies and programmes in areas such as education, training, decent work, work-family balance, health care, social services, intergenerational relationships and solidarity and targeted cash transfers for vulnerable families, in order to reduce inequality and promote the well-being of all persons of all ages, as well as to contribute to better outcomes for children and other vulnerable family members in vulnerable situations and help to break the intergenerational transfer of poverty;

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

24. *Emphasizes* the importance of continuing to strengthen national social protection policies and systems and expand the coverage of social protection floors to all, including people working in the informal sector and those experiencing homelessness, while also investing in quality basic social services to ensure equal access to quality education, universal health coverage, safe drinking water and sanitation;

25. *Recognizes* the importance of the practice of sport and physical activity for homeless people, including youth and students facing homelessness, and of access to sport infrastructure, and highlights that sport can provide important social benefits to homeless people as well as opportunities to overcome challenges linked to homelessness, social exclusion and lack of perspectives;

26. *Encourages* Member States to provide universal age-, disability- and gender-sensitive social protection systems, which are key to ensuring poverty reduction, including, as appropriate, targeted cash transfers for families in vulnerable situations, such as when headed by a single parent, in particular those headed by women, and which are most effective in reducing poverty when accompanied by other measures, such as providing access to basic services, high-quality education and health services;

27. *Stresses* the need to better coordinate social protection policies and measures with poverty reduction programmes and other social policies to avoid excluding people in informal or precarious jobs;

28. *Invites* Member States, in the context of their national sustainable development frameworks and the associated integrated financing frameworks, to formulate and implement national strategies to extend social security and essential social services to all, that are responsive to shocks, sustainable in the long run and with a focus on those furthest below the poverty line and negatively affected by climate change and natural and human-made disasters, within their economic and fiscal capacities;

29. *Recognizes* the importance of developing national and local disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020, in accordance with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, and of promoting their alignment and integration with sustainable development and climate change adaptation strategies, and also recognizes that the



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development of climate change adaptation and national disaster risk reduction strategies by 2020 is an opportunity to maximize synergies across the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Agreement<sup>35</sup> and the Sendai Framework;

30. *Also recognizes* that adequate temporary accommodations can be useful for those persons who have lost their homes because of humanitarian emergencies, including natural disasters, and that assistance for their transition to permanent housing should be provided in a timely manner, in accordance with national circumstances, to shorten the time spent homeless;

31. *Further recognizes* the need to address family homelessness, including through gender-sensitive policies and resource allocation and appropriate support services for families to break the cycle of intergenerational homelessness;

32. *Encourages* Member States to continue to enact inclusive and responsive family-oriented policies and to confront social exclusion, recognizing the multidimensional aspects of social exclusion, focusing on inclusive and quality education and lifelong learning for all, health and well-being for all at all ages, full and productive employment, decent work, social security, livelihoods and social cohesion, including through gender- and age-sensitive social protection systems and measures, such as child allowances for parents and pension benefits for older persons, and to ensure that the rights, capabilities and responsibilities of all family members are respected;

33. *Emphasizes* the importance of supporting countries in their efforts to address homelessness through combating inequalities and challenges to social inclusion, giving particular attention to those who are in vulnerable situations;

34. *Calls upon* Member States to combat discrimination and negative stereotypes against people experiencing homelessness, including by strengthening anti-discrimination laws, advocacy and awareness-raising;

35. *Recognizes* that Governments have the primary responsibility to end homelessness, while noting that civil society organizations play an important role in delivering services, and encourages all actors to build a broad-based partnership at all levels to prevent people from falling into homelessness, support those experiencing homelessness and develop long-term sustainable solutions to end homelessness;

36. *Also recognizes* that the private sector can also contribute to addressing deficits in affordable housing on both the supply (land and infrastructure, construction and materials) and demand sides;

37. *Encourages* national and local governments, the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations and other stakeholders, inter alia, academia and civil society organizations, including philanthropic organizations, to raise awareness of homelessness, including family homelessness, and address the specific needs of individuals and groups, in particular young people in vulnerable situations who are affected by homelessness, to support their empowerment and full participation in the societies in which they live;

38. *Recognizes* that domestic resources mobilization, underscored by the principle of national ownership and supplemented by international assistance, as appropriate, will be critical to realizing sustainable development and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals;

39. *Reaffirms* the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and recognizes the need to take steps to significantly increase investment to close resource gaps, including through the mobilization of financial resources from all sources, including public, private, domestic and international resource mobilization and allocation;

40. *Also reaffirms* that international cooperation has an essential role in assisting developing countries, including the least developed countries and small island developing States, in strengthening their human, institutional and technological capacity;

41. *Encourages* developed countries to implement their official development assistance commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries;

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<sup>35</sup> See [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21, annex.

42. *Welcomes* the contributions of South-South cooperation to poverty eradication and sustainable development, and reaffirms that South-South cooperation is an important element of international cooperation for development as a complement to, not a substitute for, North-South cooperation, and commits itself to strengthening South-South and triangular cooperation as a means of bringing relevant experience and expertise to bear in development cooperation;

43. *Stresses* the essential role that official development assistance plays in complementing, leveraging and sustaining financing for development efforts in developing countries and in facilitating the achievement of development objectives, including the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Sustainable Development Goals, and welcomes steps to improve the effectiveness and quality of aid based on the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization, managing for results and mutual accountability;

44. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders, including the United Nations system and civil society organizations, to continue to promote the exchange of information and good practices on programmes, policies and measures that successfully reduce inequality in all its dimensions, address challenges to social inclusion, and address homelessness through affordable housing and social protection policies, with the aim of achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

18 June 2020

### **2020/8. Modalities for the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* that, in the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, adopted by the Second World Assembly on Ageing, held in Madrid from 8 to 12 April 2002,<sup>36</sup> the systematic review of its implementation by Member States was requested as being essential for its success in improving the quality of life of older persons,

*Recalling also* that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution 2003/14 of 21 July 2003, invited Governments, the United Nations system and civil society, including organizations of older persons, to participate in a bottom-up approach to the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action,

*Bearing in mind* that the Commission for Social Development, in its resolution 42/1 of 13 February 2004, decided to undertake the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action every five years,<sup>37</sup>

*Noting* that the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action will take place in 2023, and recognizing that, with the fourth review and appraisal exercise, the Second World Assembly on Ageing approaches its 20-year anniversary,

*Noting also* the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing and its contribution to the implementation of and follow-up to the Madrid Plan of Action,

*Recalling* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>38</sup> and stressing the need to ensure that older persons are taken into account in its implementation in order to ensure that no one is left behind, including older persons,

*Recalling also* the establishment by the Statistical Commission of the Titchfield Group on Ageing-related Statistics and Age-disaggregated Data,

*Recalling further* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>39</sup> the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>40</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>40</sup> the Convention on the

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<sup>36</sup> *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

<sup>37</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2004, Supplement No. 6 (E/2004/26)*, chap. I, sect. E.

<sup>38</sup> General Assembly resolution 70/1.

<sup>39</sup> General Assembly resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>40</sup> See General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

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Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>41</sup> the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities<sup>42</sup> and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,<sup>43</sup>

*Noting* the work of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, appointed by the Human Rights Council, on the assessment of the human rights implications of the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>44</sup>

1. *Endorses* the timeline for carrying out the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,<sup>36</sup> as outlined in the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>44</sup> in which, *inter alia*, it is determined that the global review will take place in 2023;

2. *Decides* that the procedure for the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action will follow the set procedure of the third review and appraisal exercise;

3. *Invites* Member States to identify actions they have taken since the third review and appraisal exercise, with the aim of presenting this information to the regional commissions during 2022, and invites each Member State to decide for itself the actions or activities it intends to review, utilizing a bottom-up participatory approach;

4. *Encourages* Member States to establish or strengthen a national coordinating body or mechanism, as appropriate, in order to, *inter alia*, facilitate the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, including its review and appraisal;

5. *Also encourages* Member States to utilize more fully, within their specific national circumstances, a bottom-up participatory approach to the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action by inviting, *inter alia*, civil society, including organizations of older persons, to participate in the fourth review and appraisal cycle at the national and regional levels by submitting their views on the implementation of the Plan of Action and on regional plans of action, and further encourages Member States to consider providing adequate assistance for the participation of civil society in the review and appraisal;

6. *Invites* Member States to consider collecting and utilizing, in their national review and appraisal exercises, a combination of quantitative and participatory qualitative data gathering and analysis, disaggregated by age and also, when necessary, by other relevant factors, including sex and disability, and, where appropriate, sharing of best practices in such data collection;

7. *Requests* the regional commissions to continue to facilitate the review and appraisal exercise at the regional level, including through consultation with relevant regional bodies, as appropriate, by, *inter alia*:

(a) Providing assistance to Member States, upon request, in the organization of their national review and appraisal exercises;

(b) Organizing regional review meetings;

(c) Assisting Member States, upon request, in following up on analysis resulting from the regional reviews;

(d) Using an inclusive and coordinated approach in relation to the participation of civil society in the planning and evaluation processes of the review and appraisal exercise;

(e) Promoting networking and the sharing of information and experiences;

(f) Providing an analysis of the main findings, identifying key priority action areas and good practices and suggesting policy responses by 2022;

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<sup>41</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>42</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>43</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

<sup>44</sup> [E/CN.5/2020/4](#).

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(g) Assisting and providing advice to Governments, upon their request, within existing resources, in the gathering, synthesis and analysis of information, as well as in the presentation of the findings of national reviews and appraisals;

8. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue to support Member States in their national review and appraisal efforts by providing, upon their request, technical assistance for capacity-building;

9. *Encourages* Member States and United Nations organizations, where appropriate, to provide support to the regional commissions in facilitating the review and appraisal process and in organizing regional meetings to review national review and appraisal results in 2022;

10. *Invites* Member States and the United Nations system, including the agencies, funds and programmes of the system, to take concrete measures to mainstream ageing issues, including the views of older persons, into their own programming and existing United Nations mandates;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission for Social Development at its sixtieth session, in 2022, a report, including an analysis of the preliminary findings of the fourth review and appraisal exercise, together with an identification of prevalent and emerging issues and related policy options;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission at its sixty-first session, in 2023, a report, including the conclusions of the fourth review and appraisal exercise, together with the identification of prevalent and emerging issues and related policy options.

18 June 2020

### **2020/9. Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Reaffirming* its agreed conclusions 1997/2 of 18 July 1997 on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system,<sup>45</sup> and recalling its resolutions on the subject matter, including resolutions 2011/6 of 14 July 2011, [2012/24](#) of 27 July 2012, [2013/16](#) of 24 July 2013, [2014/2](#) of 12 June 2014, [2015/12](#) of 10 June 2015, [2016/2](#) of 2 June 2016, [2017/9](#) of 7 June 2017, [2018/7](#) of 12 June 2018 and [2019/2](#) of 6 June 2019,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General<sup>46</sup> and the recommendations contained therein, and appreciates that it continues to include comprehensive and systematic system-wide data collection and evidence-based analysis, allowing for comprehensive follow-up on progress made throughout the United Nations system in the implementation of resolutions of the Economic and Social Council on gender mainstreaming;

2. *Urges* the United Nations system, taking into consideration the extraordinary circumstances due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, to accelerate gender mainstreaming in policies and programmes, including in support of the gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>47</sup> at the global, regional and country levels;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Council at its 2021 session a report on the implementation of resolution [2019/2](#) and the present resolution, including on accountability of the United Nations system at the global, regional and country levels and on progress made in the implementation of the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women.

2 July 2020

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<sup>45</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/52/3/Rev.1)*, chap. IV, sect. A, para. 4.

<sup>46</sup> [E/2020/50](#).

<sup>47</sup> General Assembly resolution [70/1](#).

**2020/10. Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twenty-second session**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* General Assembly resolutions [59/209](#) of 20 December 2004 and [67/221](#) of 21 December 2012, both on a smooth transition strategy for countries graduating from the category of least developed countries,

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution [65/280](#) of 17 June 2011, by which the Assembly endorsed the Istanbul Declaration<sup>48</sup> and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,<sup>49</sup>

*Recalling further* General Assembly resolution [69/15](#) of 14 November 2014, by which the Assembly endorsed the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, entitled “SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway”, as well as Assembly resolution [74/3](#) of 10 October 2019, by which the Assembly adopted the political declaration of the high-level meeting to review progress made in addressing the priorities of small island developing States through the implementation of the Samoa Pathway,

*Recalling* its resolutions 1998/46 of 31 July 1998, 2007/34 of 27 July 2007, [2013/20](#) of 24 July 2013, [2016/15](#) of 26 July 2016 and [2019/8](#) of 6 June 2019,

*Reiterating its conviction* that no country graduating from the least developed country category should have its development progress disrupted or reversed,

*Bearing in mind* the importance of maintaining stability in the criteria and in the application of the established procedures for inclusion in and graduation from the least developed country category so as to ensure the credibility of the process and, consequently, of the category of least developed countries, while giving due consideration to the specific challenges and vulnerabilities and the development needs of countries potentially graduating or being considered for graduation from the least developed country category,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twenty-second session;<sup>50</sup>
2. *Notes* the work carried out by the Committee on (a) accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development; (b) the voluntary national reviews of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>51</sup> (c) the comprehensive review of the least developed country criteria; (d) monitoring of countries that are graduating or have graduated from the list of least developed countries; (e) improved assistance for graduating and graduated least developed countries; and (f) a proposal towards the framework for the programme of action for the least developed countries;
3. *Requests* the Committee, at its twenty-third session, to examine and make recommendations on the annual theme of the 2021 session of the Economic and Social Council;
4. *Also requests* the Committee to monitor the development progress of countries graduating and graduated from the category of least developed countries, in accordance with paragraph 21 of General Assembly resolution [67/221](#);
5. *Recognizes* that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) severely affects the least developed countries, including those graduating from this category, and is likely to impact their sustainable development trajectories; requests the Committee to undertake a comprehensive study, within existing resources, on the impact of COVID-19 on the least developed country category; and also requests the Committee to closely monitor and incorporate fully into its triennial reviews the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on least developed countries and countries graduating from the category of least developed countries;

<sup>48</sup> *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011 (A/CONF.219/7)*, chap. I.

<sup>49</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. II.

<sup>50</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2020, Supplement No. 13 (E/2020/33)*.

<sup>51</sup> General Assembly resolution [70/1](#).

6. *Requests* the United Nations development system to provide assistance to graduating countries in the formulation and implementation of their national transition strategies and to consider country-specific support for graduated countries for a fixed period of time and in a predictable manner;

7. *Acknowledges* with satisfaction the contributions made by the Committee to the various aspects of the programme of work of the Council, reiterates its invitation for increased interactions between the Council and the Committee, encourages the Chair and, as necessary, other members of the Committee to continue that practice, as specified in Council resolution 2011/20 of 27 July 2011, within existing resources and as appropriate, and calls upon the Committee to ensure a substantive exchange with Member States through a dedicated session during its twenty-third session in 2021, within existing resources.

2 July 2020

#### **2020/11. Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* its resolutions 2004/52 of 23 July 2004, 2005/46 of 27 July 2005, 2006/10 of 26 July 2006, 2007/13 of 25 July 2007, 2008/10 of 23 July 2008, 2009/4 of 23 July 2009, 2010/28 of 23 July 2010, [2012/21](#) of 26 July 2012, [2013/15](#) of 23 July 2013, [2014/37](#) of 18 November 2014, [2015/18](#) of 21 July 2015, [2016/28](#) of 27 July 2016, [2017/26](#) of 25 July 2017, [2018/19](#) of 24 July 2018 and [2019/32](#) of 24 July 2019 and its decisions 2004/322 of 11 November 2004, 2009/211 of 20 April 2009, 2009/267 of 15 December 2009, 2011/207 of 17 February 2011, 2011/211 of 26 April 2011, 2011/268 of 28 July 2011, 2013/209 of 15 February 2013, 2014/207 of 30 January 2014, 2014/210 of 23 April 2014, 2014/221 of 13 June 2014 and 2017/214 of 19 April 2017,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti<sup>52</sup> and its particular focus on the multifaceted impact of the ongoing coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on Haiti and on its humanitarian and socioeconomic situation;

2. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti until the conclusion of the 2021 session, with the purpose of following closely and providing advice on the long-term development strategy of Haiti to promote socioeconomic recovery, reconstruction and stability, with particular attention to the need to ensure coherence and sustainability in international support for Haiti, based on the long-term national development priorities, building upon the Strategic Plan for the Development of Haiti, and stressing the need to avoid overlap and duplication with respect to existing mechanisms;

3. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti to submit a report on its work, with recommendations, as appropriate, to the Economic and Social Council for its consideration at its 2021 session.

17 July 2020

#### **2020/12. Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society,<sup>53</sup>

*Recalling also* its resolution 2006/46 of 28 July 2006 on the follow-up to the World Summit and review of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the mandate that it gave to the Commission,

*Recalling further* its resolution [2019/24](#) of 23 July 2019 on the assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit,

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<sup>52</sup> [E/2020/66](#).

<sup>53</sup> See [A/C.2/59/3](#) and [A/60/687](#).



*Recalling* General Assembly resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution [70/125](#) of 16 December 2015, entitled “Outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society”, in which the Assembly reaffirmed the World Summit vision of a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society, where everyone can create, access, utilize and share information and knowledge, enabling individuals, communities and peoples to achieve their full potential in promoting their sustainable development and improving their quality of life, premised on the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and respecting fully and upholding the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>54</sup> and assessed progress made to date, identified gaps and challenges and made recommendations for the future,

*Recalling further* General Assembly resolution [74/197](#) of 19 December 2019 on information and communications technologies for sustainable development,

*Taking note with satisfaction* of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit at the regional and international levels,<sup>55</sup>

*Expressing its appreciation* to the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development for his role in helping to ensure completion of the aforementioned report in a timely manner,

### **Taking stock: reviewing the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society**

1. *Welcomes and urges* the full implementation of General Assembly resolution [70/125](#);
2. *Welcomes* the constructive and diverse inputs from all stakeholders in the overall review of progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society;<sup>53</sup>
3. *Reaffirms its commitment* to the full implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit and the vision of the 10-year review of the World Summit beyond 2015;
4. *Reaffirms* the commitment made in General Assembly resolution [70/125](#) to close the digital divides between and within countries, including the gender digital divide, through efforts to improve connectivity, affordability, access to information and knowledge, multilingual content, digital skills and digital literacy, acknowledging specific challenges facing persons with disabilities and specific needs, and groups in vulnerable situations;
5. *Encourages* close alignment between the World Summit process and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>56</sup> as called for in General Assembly resolution [70/125](#), highlighting the cross-cutting contribution of information and communications technology to the Sustainable Development Goals and poverty eradication, and noting that access to information and communications technologies has also become a development indicator and aspiration in and of itself;
6. *Reaffirms* its understanding that the success of the 2030 Agenda will depend on increasing access to information and communications technology;
7. *Recognizes* that information and communications technology infrastructure is fundamental to achieving the goal of digital inclusion and that digital divides persist across income groups, age groups, geography and gender, and therefore recalls its commitment to the 2030 Agenda, target 9.c, which aims to significantly increase access to information and communications technology and strives to provide universal and affordable access to the Internet in least developed countries by 2020, and in this regard notes the importance of the Connect 2030 Agenda for global telecommunication/information and communication technology, including broadband, for sustainable development;

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<sup>54</sup> General Assembly resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

<sup>55</sup> [A/75/62-E/2020/11](#).

<sup>56</sup> General Assembly resolution [70/1](#).

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8. *Welcomes* the remarkable evolution and diffusion of information and communications technologies, underpinned by the contributions of both public and private sectors, which have seen penetration into almost all corners of the globe, created new opportunities for social interaction, enabled new business models and contributed to economic growth and development in all other sectors, while noting the unique and emerging challenges related to their evolution and diffusion;

9. *Notes with concern* that there are still significant digital divides, such as between and within countries and between women and men, which need to be addressed through, among other actions, strengthened enabling policy environments and international cooperation to improve affordability, access, education, capacity-building, multilingualism, cultural preservation, investment and appropriate financing, acknowledges that a gender divide exists as part of the digital divides, and encourages all stakeholders to ensure the full participation of girls and women in the information society and women's access to new technologies, especially information and communications technologies for development;

10. *Encourages* the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to continue to give due consideration to the impact of key rapid technological changes on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals within the respective mandates and existing resources, in accordance with General Assembly resolution [74/197](#);

11. *Welcomes* the holding on 3 May 2020 of World Press Freedom Day, proclaimed by the General Assembly and led by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

12. *Also welcomes* the holding of World Telecommunication and Information Society Day, celebrated annually on 17 May and led by the International Telecommunication Union;

13. *Notes* the ongoing implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit, emphasizing, in particular, its multi-stakeholder nature, the roles played in this regard by leading agencies as action line facilitators and the roles of the regional commissions, regional World Summit review initiatives and the United Nations Group on the Information Society, and expresses its appreciation for the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in assisting the Economic and Social Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up to the World Summit;

14. *Recognizes* the value and principle of multi-stakeholder cooperation and engagement that have characterized the World Summit process since its inception and that are clearly recognized in the 2030 Agenda, and notes that many activities that support the objectives of the World Summit and the Sustainable Development Goals are being implemented by Governments, international organizations, the private sector, civil society, academic and technical communities and multi-stakeholder partnerships in their respective roles and responsibilities;

15. *Underscores* the importance of and encourages continued collaboration between the follow-up and review process of the World Summit and the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, including its multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals;

16. *Takes note* of the reports of many United Nations entities submitted as input for the elaboration of the annual report of the Secretary-General of the United Nations to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and published on the website of the Commission as mandated in Council resolution 2007/8 of 25 July 2007, and recalls the importance of close coordination among the leading action line facilitators and with the secretariat of the Commission;

17. *Notes* the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit at the regional level facilitated by the regional commissions, as observed in the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit at the regional and international levels,<sup>55</sup> including the steps taken in this respect, and emphasizes the need to continue to address issues of specific interest to each region, focusing on the challenges and obstacles that each may be facing with regard to the implementation of all goals and principles established by the World Summit, with particular attention to information and communications technology for development;

18. *Reiterates* the importance of maintaining a process of coordinating the multi-stakeholder implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit through effective tools, with the goal of encouraging collaboration and partnership among all stakeholders, including international organizations, exchanging information among action line facilitators and other stakeholders, identifying issues that need improvement and discussing the modalities of reporting on the overall implementation process;



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19. *Encourages* all stakeholders to continue to contribute information to the stocktaking database maintained by the International Telecommunication Union on the implementation of the goals established by the World Summit, and invites United Nations entities to update information on their initiatives in the database;

20. *Highlights* the urgent need for the incorporation of the recommendations contained in the outcome documents of the World Summit into the revised guidelines for United Nations country teams on preparing the common country assessments and United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks, including the addition of an information and communications technology for development component, for which the United Nations Group on the Information Society has offered its assistance;

21. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution [60/252](#) of 27 March 2006, in which the Assembly requested the Council to oversee the system-wide follow-up to the outcomes of the Geneva and Tunis phases of the World Summit;

22. *Also recalls* that, in its resolution [70/125](#), the General Assembly called for continuation of the annual reports on the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit, through the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, to the Council, and reaffirms the role of the Commission, as set forth in Council resolution 2006/46, in assisting the Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up, in particular the review and assessment of progress made in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit;

23. *Calls upon* all States, in building the information society, to take steps to avoid and to refrain from taking any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impedes the full achievement of economic and social development by the population of the affected countries and that hinders their well-being;

24. *Welcomes* the fact that the rapid growth in access to mobile telephony and broadband since 2005 has meant that almost two thirds of the world's inhabitants should have access to information and communications technologies within their reach, 97 per cent of the world's population lives within reach of a mobile cellular network, with 8.3 billion mobile-cellular subscriptions, and 53.6 per cent of the world's population uses the Internet, in line with the World Summit targets; the value of this progress is enhanced by the advent of new electronic and mobile services and applications for health, agriculture, education, business, development, financial and government services, civic participation and transactional services, which offer great potential for the development of the information society;

25. *Notes with great concern* that many developing countries lack affordable access to information and communications technologies and that, for the majority of the poor, the promise of science and technology, including information and communications technologies, remains unfulfilled, and emphasizes the need to effectively harness technology, including information and communications technologies, and promote digital literacy to bridge the digital and knowledge divides;

26. *Recognizes* that information and communications technologies present new opportunities and challenges and that there is a pressing need to address the major impediments that developing countries face in accessing the new technologies, such as an appropriate enabling environment, sufficient resources, infrastructure, education, capacity, investment and connectivity, as well as issues related to technology ownership, standards and flows, and in this regard calls upon all stakeholders to provide adequate resources, enhanced capacity-building and transfer of technology and knowledge to developing countries, particularly the least developed countries and landlocked countries, towards a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy;

27. *Also recognizes* the rapid growth in broadband access networks, especially in developed countries, and underscores the need to urgently address the growing digital divides in the availability, affordability, quality of access and use of broadband between and within high-, middle- and low-income countries and other regions, with special emphasis on supporting the least developed countries, small island developing States and Africa as a continent;

28. *Further recognizes* that the transition to a mobile-led communications environment is leading to significant changes in operators' business models and that it requires significant rethinking of the ways in which individuals and communities make use of networks and devices, of government strategies and of ways in which communications networks can be used to achieve development objectives;

29. *Recognizes* that, even with all the developments and the improvement observed in some respects, in numerous developing countries information and communications technologies and their applications are still not available to or affordable for the majority of people, particularly those living in rural areas;

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30. *Also recognizes* that the number of Internet users is growing and that, in some instances, the digital divide and the knowledge divide are also changing in character, from a divide based on whether access is available to one based on the quality of access, information and skills that users can obtain and the value that they can derive therefrom, and recognizes in this regard that there is a need to prioritize the use of information and communications technologies through innovative approaches, including multi-stakeholder approaches, within national and regional development strategies;

31. *Emphasizes*, in this regard, the vital importance of multilingualism and local content in the information society, and urges all stakeholders to encourage the creation of, and access to, educational, cultural and scientific content online so as to promote quality of access and ensure that all people and cultures can express themselves and have access to the Internet in all languages, including indigenous languages;

32. *Recognizes* the importance of human capacity-building, an enabling environment and resilient information and communications technology infrastructure, as well as fostering multi-stakeholder partnerships, and assistance to countries in their efforts to strengthen the enabling role of information and communications technology for the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals;

33. *Urges* a continued focus on maximizing development gains from e-commerce, through the eTrade for All initiative, which provides a new approach to trade development through electronic exchanges by allowing developing countries to more easily navigate the supply of technical assistance for building capacity in e-commerce readiness and by enabling donors to have a clear picture of the programmes that they could fund;

34. *Recognizes*, in this regard, that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development has initiated and implemented rapid e-trade readiness assessments of least developed countries in cooperation with other donors and organizations in order to raise awareness of opportunities and challenges related to leveraging e-commerce in the least developed countries;

35. *Notes* that the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on E-commerce and the Digital Economy will be held in the last quarter of 2020;

36. *Takes note* of the global report of the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development, entitled *The State of Broadband 2019: Broadband as a Foundation for Sustainable Development*, and notes with interest the continuous efforts of the Broadband Commission in promoting high-level advocacy for the establishment of an enabling environment for broadband connectivity, in particular through national broadband plans and public-private partnerships for ensuring that the development agenda challenges are met with appropriate impact and in conjunction with all stakeholders;

37. *Notes* the launching by the Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development of the 2025 targets to support “connecting the other half” and to help to bring online the 3.8 billion of the world’s people who are not connected to the Internet;

38. *Recognizes* that the digital economy and emerging technologies have enormous potential for social good, the implementation of World Summit outcomes and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

39. *Welcomes* the many initiatives of United Nations organizations that support the implementation of the World Summit action lines, and encourages all action line facilitators to continue to work towards implementation of the action lines;

40. *Also welcomes* the work of the Information for All Programme of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which aims to assist Member States in formulating policies to bridge the digital divide and ensure equitable knowledge societies, and further welcomes the holding of Global Media and Information Literacy Week, from 24 to 31 October each year;

41. *Recognizes* the work of the International Telecommunication Union, including the holding of its Plenipotentiary Conference in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from 29 October to 16 November 2018, at which the membership reaffirmed its commitment to the common vision of a connected world, and welcomes its work to support the deployment of broadband wireless networks in developing countries, including the training of local experts;

42. *Notes* that the seventeenth World Telecommunication/Information and Communications Technology Indicators Symposium will be held in Geneva from 1 to 3 December 2020;

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43. *Recognizes* the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to promote digital inclusion in Africa and other regions to support poverty reduction and food security;

44. *Also recognizes* the work of the International Labour Organization on the impact on jobs caused by technological change;

45. *Further recognizes* the work of the Global Observatory for eHealth of the World Health Organization, including its consideration of how m-health, telehealth, electronic health records and e-learning can contribute to the goals of universal health coverage;

46. *Recognizes* the work of the United Nations Development Programme, including the publication of its Digital Strategy, which is aimed at applying the potential of digital technology to support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

47. *Notes* the publication of the Secretary-General's strategy on new technologies on how the United Nations system will support the use of new technologies to accelerate the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and to facilitate their alignment with the values enshrined in the Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>54</sup> and the norms and standards of international law;

48. *Reiterates* the commitment to harnessing the potential of information and communications technologies to achieve the 2030 Agenda and other internationally agreed development goals, noting that they can accelerate progress across all 17 Sustainable Development Goals, accordingly urges all Governments, the private sector, civil society, international organizations, the technical and academic communities and all other relevant stakeholders to integrate information and communications technologies into their approaches to implementing the Goals, and requests United Nations system entities facilitating the World Summit action lines to review their reporting and workplans to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

49. *Notes with great concern* the fact that women are 17 per cent less likely than men to make use of the Internet, and 43 per cent less likely to do so in the least developed countries, draws attention to the gender digital divide, which persists in women's access to and use of information and communications technologies, including in education, employment and other areas of economic and social development, and, in line with Sustainable Development Goal 5 on achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls, calls upon Member States to adopt all appropriate measures, especially by significantly enhancing women's and girls' education and participation in information and communications technologies, as users, content creators, employees, entrepreneurs, innovators and leaders;

50. *Notes* the many initiatives targeted at closing the gender digital divide, including, among others, International Girls in ICT Day (International Telecommunication Union), the Global Partnership for Gender Equality in the Digital Age (the EQUALS initiative), the EQUALS in Tech Awards (International Telecommunication Union and United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women), the eTrade for Women Network (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development), Gender-Sensitive Indicators for Media (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), Women on the Homepage (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), the Global Survey on Gender and Media (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization), the Broadband Commission Working Group on Broadband and Gender, the Best Practice Forum on Gender and Access of the Internet Governance Forum, the work being done in the World Summit on the Information Society Forum on gender issues and the work of the World Bank in a number of countries promoting opportunities for women and girls in information and communications technologies, as well as the work of many other stakeholders on this issue;

51. *Reaffirms* the commitment to pay particular attention to the unique and emerging information and communications technology challenges facing all countries, in particular developing countries, as envisaged in the relevant paragraphs of General Assembly resolution [70/125](#);

52. *Notes* that, while a solid foundation for capacity-building in information and communications technology has been laid in many areas with regard to building the information society, there is still a need for continuing efforts to address the ongoing challenges, especially for developing countries and the least developed countries, and draws attention to the positive impact of broadened capacity development that involves institutions, organizations and entities dealing with information and communications technologies and Internet governance issues;

53. *Recognizes* the need to focus on capacity development policies and sustainable support to further enhance the impact of activities and initiatives at the national and local levels aimed at providing advice, services and support, with a view to building an inclusive, people-centred and development-oriented information society;

54. *Notes* that topics continue to emerge, such as e-environment applications and the contribution of information and communications technologies to early warning, mitigating climate change, social networking, cultural and linguistic diversity, virtualization and cloud computing and services, mobile Internet and mobile-based services, community networks, cybersecurity, the gender gap, the protection of privacy and freedom of expression as defined in articles 17 and 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>57</sup> and the empowerment and protection, especially against cyberexploitation and abuse, of vulnerable groups of society, in particular children and young people;

55. *Reaffirms* that, in the outcome document on the overall review of the implementation of the World Summit action lines, the General Assembly called for the World Summit on the Information Society Forum to be held annually,<sup>58</sup> and recognizes the value of the Forum in enhancing cooperation, partnership, innovation and the exchange of experiences and good practices by all stakeholders in information and communications technologies for sustainable development;

56. *Notes* the holding of the World Summit on the Information Society Forum 2019, hosted by the International Telecommunication Union and jointly organized by the Union, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in Geneva from 8 to 12 April 2019, under the theme “Information and communications technologies for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals”, also notes the holding of the World Summit on the Information Society Forum 2020 under the theme “Fostering digital transformation and global partnerships: World Summit on the Information Society action lines for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals” in Geneva from 31 August to 4 September 2020, and further notes the open consultation process, which aims to ensure wide participation in and broad ownership of the Forum;

57. *Encourages* action line facilitators to use the Geneva Plan of Action<sup>59</sup> as the framework for identifying practical measures to use information and communications technologies to help to achieve the 2030 Agenda, noting the World Summit on the Information Society-Sustainable Development Goals Matrix, developed by United Nations agencies;

58. *Encourages* World Summit action line facilitators to ensure close alignment with the 2030 Agenda when considering new work to implement the outcomes of the World Summit, according to their existing mandates and resources;

59. *Reiterates* the importance of the call by the General Assembly for all stakeholders to integrate information and communications technologies into approaches to implementing the Sustainable Development Goals and its request to United Nations entities facilitating the World Summit action lines to review their reporting and workplans to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

### Internet governance

60. *Reaffirms* that the outcomes of the World Summit related to Internet governance, namely, the process towards enhanced cooperation and the convening of the Internet Governance Forum, are to be pursued by the Secretary-General through two distinct processes, and recognizes that the two processes may be complementary;

61. *Also reaffirms* paragraphs 34 to 37 and 67 to 72 of the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society;<sup>60</sup>

62. *Further reaffirms* paragraphs 55 to 65 of General Assembly resolution [70/125](#);

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<sup>57</sup> See General Assembly resolution [2200 A \(XXI\)](#), annex.

<sup>58</sup> See General Assembly resolution [70/125](#).

<sup>59</sup> See [A/C.2/59/3](#), annex.

<sup>60</sup> See [A/60/687](#).

### Enhanced cooperation

63. *Recognizes* the importance of enhanced cooperation in the future, to enable Governments, on an equal footing, to carry out their roles and responsibilities in international public policy issues pertaining to the Internet, but not in the day-to-day technical and operational matters that do not have an impact on international public policy issues;

64. *Notes* the work of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation, established by the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development as requested by the General Assembly in its resolution [70/125](#), to develop recommendations on how to further implement enhanced cooperation as envisioned in the Tunis Agenda, and also notes that the Working Group ensured the full involvement of Governments and other relevant stakeholders, in particular from developing countries, taking into account all their diverse views and expertise;

65. *Also notes* that the Working Group held five meetings between September 2016 and January 2018, at which it discussed inputs from Member States and other stakeholders, as stipulated by the General Assembly in its resolution [70/125](#);

66. *Takes note* of the report of the Chair of the Working Group,<sup>61</sup> which includes references to the full texts of all proposals and contributions, and expresses its gratitude to the Chair and all participants who submitted inputs and contributed to the work of the Working Group;

67. *Welcomes* the good progress made by the Working Group in many areas and the fact that consensus seemed to emerge on some issues, while significant divergence of views on a number of other issues persisted, and in that regard regrets that the Working Group could not find agreement on recommendations on how to further implement enhanced cooperation as envisioned in the Tunis Agenda;

### Internet Governance Forum

68. *Recognizes* the importance of the Internet Governance Forum and its mandate as a forum for multi-stakeholder dialogue on various matters, as reflected in paragraph 72 of the Tunis Agenda, including discussion on public policy issues related to key elements of Internet governance;

69. *Recalls* the decision of the General Assembly, in its resolution [70/125](#), to extend the mandate of the Internet Governance Forum for a further 10 years, during which time the Forum should continue to show progress on working modalities and the participation of relevant stakeholders from developing countries;

70. *Recognizes* that national and regional Internet Governance Forum initiatives have emerged, taking place in all regions and addressing Internet governance issues of relevance and priority to the organizing country or region;

71. *Recalls* General Assembly resolution [70/125](#), in which the Assembly called upon the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, within its regular reporting, to give due consideration to fulfilment of the recommendations contained in the report of the Working Group on Improvements to the Internet Governance Forum of the Commission,<sup>62</sup>

72. *Notes* the holding of the fourteenth meeting of the Internet Governance Forum, hosted by the Government of Germany in Berlin from 25 to 29 November 2019, under the theme “One World. One Net. One Vision.”;

73. *Welcomes* the holding of the fifteenth meeting of the Internet Governance Forum, to be hosted by the Government of Poland in Katowice from 2 to 6 November 2020, and notes that, in the preparatory process for the meeting, recommendations contained in the report of the Working Group on Improvements to the Internet Governance Forum are being taken into consideration;

74. *Also welcomes*, in that context, the continuous progress made with regard to the intersessional work of the Internet Governance Forum in the different modalities of connecting and enabling the next billion online, dynamic coalitions and best practice forums, as well as the contributions being made by both national and regional Internet governance forums;

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<sup>61</sup> See E/CN.16/2018/CRP.3.

<sup>62</sup> [A/67/65-E/2012/48](#) and [A/67/65/Corr.1-E/2012/48/Corr.1](#).

### The road ahead

75. *Calls upon* United Nations entities to continue to actively cooperate in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit through the United Nations system, to take the necessary steps and commit to a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society and to catalyse the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the 2030 Agenda;

76. *Calls upon* all stakeholders to keep the goal of bridging the digital divides, in their different forms, an area of priority concern, to put into effect sound strategies that contribute to the development of e-government and to continue to focus on pro-poor information and communications technology policies and applications, including access to broadband at the grass-roots level, including through participative models, with a view to narrowing the digital divides among and within countries towards building information and knowledge societies;

77. *Urges* all stakeholders to prioritize the development of innovative approaches that will stimulate the provision of universal access to affordable broadband infrastructure for developing countries and the use of relevant broadband services in order to ensure the development of an inclusive, development-oriented and people-centred information society, and to minimize the digital divides;

78. *Calls upon* all stakeholders to promote an enabling policy environment for investment and to foster public-private cooperation and partnership for sustainable investment in information and communications technology infrastructure, applications and services, content and digital skills, with the aim of ensuring the meaningful connectivity needed to advance the Sustainable Development Goals;

79. *Calls upon* international and regional organizations to continue to assess and report on a regular basis on the universal accessibility of nations to information and communications technologies, with the aim of creating equitable opportunities for the growth of the information and communications technology sectors of developing countries;

80. *Urges* all countries to make concrete efforts to fulfil their commitments under the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development;<sup>63</sup>

81. *Reiterates* the importance of information and communications technology indicators in open data format as a monitoring and evaluation tool for measuring the digital divide among countries and within societies and in informing decision makers when formulating policies and strategies for social, cultural and economic development, emphasizes the importance of the standardization and harmonization of reliable and regularly updated indicators, and stresses the value of gender-disaggregated data to contribute to the bridging of the digital gender divide;

82. *Acknowledges* the importance of digital measurement and monitoring tools that support the deployment and measurement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

83. *Reiterates* the importance of sharing best practices at all levels, and, while recognizing excellence in the implementation of the projects and initiatives that further the goals of the World Summit, encourages all stakeholders to nominate their projects for the annual World Summit prizes as an integral part of the World Summit stocktaking process, while taking note of the report on the World Summit success stories;

84. *Calls upon* United Nations organizations and other relevant organizations and forums, in accordance with the outcomes of the World Summit, to periodically review the methodologies for information and communications technology indicators, taking into account different levels of development and national circumstances, and therefore:

(a) Encourages Member States to collect relevant data at the national level on information and communications technologies, to share information about country case studies and to collaborate with other countries in capacity-building exchange programmes;

(b) Encourages United Nations organizations and other relevant organizations and forums to promote assessment of the impact of information and communications technologies on sustainable development;

(c) Notes with appreciation the work of the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communications Technology for Development and the new *Measuring Digital Development* series, which provides information on

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<sup>63</sup> General Assembly resolution 69/313, annex.



recent trends and statistics on access to and the affordability of information and communications technologies and the evolution of the information and knowledge societies worldwide, including the Information and Communications Technology Development Index;

(d) Encourages the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communications Technology for Development to continue the follow-up on the relevant decisions of the Statistical Commission on information and communications technology statistics for the purposes of producing high-quality and timely information and communications technology statistics and of leveraging the potential benefits of using big data for official statistics;

85. *Invites* the international community to make voluntary contributions to the special trust fund established by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to support the review and assessment work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development regarding follow-up to the World Summit, while acknowledging with appreciation the financial support provided by the Governments of Finland, Switzerland and the United States of America to this fund;

86. *Recalls* the proposal in General Assembly resolution [70/125](#) that the Assembly hold a high-level meeting on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit in 2025;

87. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General and the related discussion of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its twenty-third session;

88. *Emphasizes* the importance of promoting an inclusive information society, with particular attention to bridging the digital and broadband divides, taking into account the considerations of developing countries, gender and culture, as well as youth and other underrepresented groups;

89. *Calls for* continued dialogue and work on the implementation of enhanced cooperation as envisaged in the Tunis Agenda;

90. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, on a yearly basis, a report on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the present resolution as well as in the other Council resolutions on the assessment of the quantitative and qualitative progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit.

17 July 2020

### **2020/13. Science, technology and innovation for development**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recognizing* the role of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development as the United Nations torch-bearer for science, technology and innovation for development, and as the United Nations focal point for science, technology and innovation for development, in analysing how science, technology and innovation, including information and communications technologies, serve as enablers of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>64</sup> by acting as a forum for strategic planning, sharing lessons learned and best practices, providing foresight about critical trends in science, technology and innovation in key sectors of the economy, the environment and society, and drawing attention to new and emerging technologies,

*Recognizing also* the critical role and contribution of science, technology and innovation in building and maintaining national competitiveness in the global economy, addressing global challenges and realizing sustainable development,

*Recognizing further* the seminal role that information and communications technologies play in promoting and empowering science, technology and innovation as enablers of development,

*Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome<sup>65</sup> and General Assembly resolution [70/125](#) of 16 December 2015, entitled “Outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society”, in which it was recognized that

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<sup>64</sup> General Assembly resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>65</sup> General Assembly resolution [60/1](#).



science and technology, including information and communications technologies, are vital for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, and reaffirming the commitments contained therein,

*Recalling also* the entry into force, on 4 November 2016, of the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,<sup>66</sup>

*Recalling further* that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is the secretariat of the Commission,

*Recognizing* that the General Assembly, in its resolution [74/229](#) of 19 December 2019 on science, technology and innovation for development, encouraged the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to continue to undertake science, technology and innovation policy reviews, with a view to assisting developing countries in identifying the measures that are needed to integrate science, technology and innovation policies into their national development strategies and ensuring that such policies and programmes are supportive of national development agendas,

*Recalling* Economic and Social Council decision 2015/242 of 22 July 2015 providing for the extension, until 2021, of the mandate of the Gender Advisory Board of the Commission, as well as General Assembly resolutions [70/132](#) of 17 December 2015 and [70/213](#) and [70/219](#) of 22 December 2015 addressing, respectively, the barriers to equal access for women and girls to science and technology and the integration of a gender perspective into development policies and programmes,

*Recalling also* the agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women on women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work, adopted by the Commission at its sixty-first session,<sup>67</sup> in which it, *inter alia*, highlighted the need for managing technological and digital change for women's economic empowerment, particularly to strengthen the capacities of developing countries, so as to enable women to leverage science and technology for economic empowerment in the changing world of work,

*Taking note* of the outcome document of the forum entitled "Investment in women and girls in science for inclusive green growth", held in New York on 11 and 12 February 2019 to commemorate the International Day of Women and Girls in Science,<sup>68</sup>

*Welcoming* the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at the workshop on applying a gender lens to science, technology and innovation, held in Vienna on 18 January 2019,

*Taking note* of the importance for science, technology and innovation development policies and programmes to address various aspects of the digital divides, particularly the digital gender divide, as addressed by the EQUALS global partnership and the #eSkills4Girls initiative of the Group of 20,

*Encouraging* initiatives that promote the role of women in science, technology and innovation in developing countries, including the L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science Awards, the Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World Early Career Fellowships for women and the African Union Kwame Nkrumah Awards for Scientific Excellence for women,

*Recognizing* that capabilities, such as basic education and science, technology, engineering and mathematics, design, management and entrepreneurial skills, are central for effective innovation, but are unevenly distributed across countries, and that the availability, accessibility and affordability of quality education in science, technology and mathematics at the primary, secondary and tertiary levels are essential and should be promoted, prioritized and coordinated, in order to create a social environment conducive to the promotion of science, technology and innovation,

*Taking note* of General Assembly resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which the Assembly adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets,

*Recognizing* the instrumental role of science, technology and innovation and information and communications technologies in the achievement of a number of Sustainable Development Goals, and highlighting the role of science,

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<sup>66</sup> See [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21, annex.

<sup>67</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2017, Supplement No. 7 (E/2017/27)*, chap. I, sect. A.

<sup>68</sup> [A/73/798](#), annex I.

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technology and innovation, along with information and communications technologies, as an enabler of the 2030 Agenda to continue to address global challenges,

*Taking note* of General Assembly resolution [69/313](#) of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, and noting the establishment of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism,

*Highlighting* the contribution that the Commission on Science and Technology for Development can make to the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, bearing in mind its mandate to foster multi-stakeholder collaboration and partnerships through the sharing of information, experiences, best practices and policy advice among Member States, civil society, the private sector, the scientific community, United Nations entities and other relevant stakeholders for achieving Sustainable Development Goals supported by science, technology and innovation,

*Recalling* that in its resolution [72/228](#) of 20 December 2017, the General Assembly encouraged the Commission to promote, in the spirit of the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, international cooperation in the field of science and technology for development,

*Recalling also* that in the same resolution, the General Assembly encouraged the Commission to discuss and explore innovative financing models as a means of attracting new stakeholders, innovators and sources of investment capital for science, technology, engineering and innovation-based solutions, in collaboration with other organizations, where appropriate,

*Noting* that rapid technological change can contribute to the faster achievement of the 2030 Agenda by improving real incomes, enabling faster and wider deployment of novel solutions to economic, social and environmental obstacles, supporting more inclusive forms of participation in social and economic life, replacing environmentally costly modes of production with more sustainable ones and giving policymakers powerful tools to design and plan development interventions,

*Noting also* that new technologies create new jobs and development opportunities, thus increasing the demand for digital skills and competencies, and underlining the importance of building digital skills and competencies so that societies can adapt to and benefit from technological changes,

*Taking note* of General Assembly resolutions [72/242](#) of 22 December 2017 and [73/17](#) of 26 November 2018, in which the Assembly requested the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and the Commission, through the Economic and Social Council, to give due consideration to the impact of key rapid technological changes on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals within their respective mandates and existing resources,

*Welcoming* the work of the Commission on its two current priority themes, “Harnessing rapid technological change for inclusive and sustainable development” and “Exploring space technologies for sustainable development and the benefits of international research collaboration in this context”,

*Welcoming also* the new framework for national science, technology and innovation policy reviews that has been developed by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to assist countries in better aligning science, technology and innovation policies with the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals,<sup>69</sup>

*Recognizing* the need for innovation approaches that respond to the needs of poor, grass-roots and marginalized communities in developing and developed countries, while protecting their personal data from misuse and respecting the ownership of personal data, that involve them in innovation processes and that embed capacity-building in the areas of science, technology and innovation as a crucial component of national development plans, inter alia, through collaboration between the relevant ministries and regulatory bodies,

*Recognizing also* the importance of data protection and privacy in the context of science and technology for development,

*Recognizing further* that technology foresight and assessment exercises, including gender-sensitive and environmentally sensitive technologies, could help policymakers and stakeholders in the implementation of the 2030

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<sup>69</sup> United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, document UNCTAD/DTL/STICT/2019/4.

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Agenda through the identification of challenges and opportunities that can be addressed strategically, and that technology trends should be analysed, keeping in view the wider socioeconomic context,

*Recognizing* that well-developed innovation and digital ecosystems<sup>70</sup> play a fundamental role in the effective digital development and facilitation of science, technology and innovation,

*Recognizing also* the increased regional integration efforts across the world and the associated regional dimension of science, technology and innovation issues,

*Recalling* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled “The future we want”,<sup>71</sup> including the principles referred to therein,

*Recognizing* the need to mobilize and scale up financing for innovation, especially in developing countries, in support of the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Recognizing also* that people around the world are affected by shocks, from economic crises to health emergencies, from social conflicts and war to disasters caused by natural hazards, and that these shocks have a severe impact on the progress towards achieving sustainable development,

*Recognizing further* the contribution of science, technology and innovation in building resilient communities by empowering and giving a voice to people, including those most vulnerable, through, among others, extending access to education and health, monitoring environmental and social risks, connecting people, enabling early warning systems, driving economic diversification, and economic development, while considering negative effects on the environment,

*Noting* the significant achievements and continuing potential contribution of science, technology and innovation and information and communications technologies to human welfare, economic prosperity and employment,

*Noting also* that science, technology and innovation policies must be aligned to address the three dimensions of sustainable development, specifically, economic development, social progress and environmental protection,

*Taking into consideration* that traditional knowledge can be a basis for technological development and the sustainable management and use of natural resources,

*Recognizing* that citizen science can enrich research, vastly expand data collection, encourage citizens to take an interest in and help to monitor the natural world around them, and encourage popular interest in science and scientific observation,

*Encouraging* the design and implementation of public policies that address the impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Noting* that the success of using technology and innovation policies at the national level is facilitated by, among other things, creating policy environments that enable education and research institutions, businesses and industry to innovate, invest in and transform science, technology and innovation into employment and economic growth, incorporating all interrelated elements, including knowledge transfer,

*Noting also* various ongoing and future initiatives related to science, technology and innovation to explore important issues associated with the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Recommends* the following for consideration by national Governments, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development:

(a) Governments, individually and collectively, are encouraged to take into account the findings of the Commission and to consider taking the following actions:

- (i) To closely link science, technology, innovation and strategies of sustainable development by prominently featuring capacity-building in information and communications technologies and science, technology and innovation in national development planning;

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<sup>70</sup> The digital ecosystem involves components such as technological infrastructure, data infrastructure, financial infrastructure, institutional infrastructure and human infrastructure.

<sup>71</sup> General Assembly resolution 66/288, annex.

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- (ii) To promote local innovation capabilities for inclusive and sustainable economic development by bringing together local scientific, vocational and engineering knowledge, mobilizing resources from multiple channels, improving core information and communications technology and supporting infrastructure development, including smart infrastructure, through collaboration with and among national programmes;
- (iii) To encourage and support the science, technology and innovation efforts leading to the development of infrastructure and policies that support the global expansion of information and communications technology infrastructure, products and services, including broadband Internet access, to all people, particularly women, girls and youth, and persons with special needs and from remote and rural communities, catalysing multi-stakeholder efforts to bring 1.5 billion new Internet users online by 2020 and endeavouring to improve the affordability of such products and services;
- (iv) To undertake systemic research, including gender-sensitive aspects, for foresight exercises, on new trends in science, technology and innovation, and information and communications technologies and their impact on development, particularly in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>64</sup>
- (v) To work, with input from a variety of stakeholders, including appropriate United Nations agencies and all relevant entities and forums, such as the Commission and the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, to formulate, adopt and implement science, technology and innovation policies aimed at contributing to the implementation of the Goals;
- (vi) To continue giving due consideration to the impact of key rapid technological changes on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals within their respective mandates and existent resources, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions [72/242](#) and [73/17](#);
- (vii) To use strategic foresight exercises to identify potential gaps in education for the medium and long terms and address such gaps with a policy mix, including the promotion of gender-responsive science, technology, engineering and mathematics education, vocational training and digital and data literacy;
- (viii) To use strategic foresight as a process to encourage structured debate among all stakeholders, including representatives of government, science, industry and civil society and the private sector, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises, towards creating a shared understanding of long-term issues, such as the changing nature of work and building consensus on future policies, and to help to meet current and emerging demands for competence and adaptation to change;
- (ix) To incorporate the provision of digital competencies, including, but not limited to, entrepreneurship and complementary soft skills, in formal education curricula and lifelong learning initiatives, while taking into consideration best practices, local contexts and needs, and ensuring that education is technology-neutral;
- (x) To address the implications of fundamental changes in the digital economy for labour markets;
- (xi) To undertake strategic foresight initiatives on global and regional challenges at regular intervals and cooperate towards the establishment of a mapping system to review and share technology foresight outcomes, including pilot projects, with other Member States, making use of existing regional mechanisms, and in collaboration with relevant stakeholders;
- (xii) To conduct technology assessment and foresight exercises as a process to encourage structured debate among all stakeholders towards creating a shared understanding of the implications of rapid technological change;
- (xiii) To encourage the review of progress on integrating science, technology and innovation into the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;
- (xiv) To conduct assessments, including of gender-sensitive aspects, of national innovation systems, including digital ecosystems, drawing from foresight exercises, at regular intervals, to identify weaknesses in the systems and make effective policy interventions to strengthen their weaker components, and share outcomes with other Member States, and, on a voluntary basis, to provide financial support and expertise towards the implementation of the new framework for national science, technology and innovation policy reviews<sup>69</sup> in interested developing countries;

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- (xv) To recognize the need to promote the functional dynamics of innovation systems and other relevant methodologies based on diversified policy instruments to support science, technology and innovation development priorities, in order to strengthen the coherence of such systems for sustainable development;
- (xvi) To encourage digital natives to play a key role in a community-based approach, including gender-responsive approaches, to science, technology and innovation capacity-building, and facilitate the use of information and communications technologies in the context of the 2030 Agenda;
- (xvii) To put in place policies that support the development of digital ecosystems, bearing in mind the potential of emerging digital technologies to leapfrog existing technologies for development, that are inclusive and take into account the socioeconomic and political context of countries and attract and support private investment and innovation, particularly encouraging the development of local content and entrepreneurship and making available disaggregated data sources for science, technology and innovation;
- (xviii) To implement initiatives and programmes that encourage and facilitate sustainable investment and participation in the digital economy;
- (xix) To collaborate with all relevant stakeholders, promote the application of information and communications technologies in all sectors, improve environmental sustainability, encourage the creation of suitable facilities to recycle and dispose of e-waste and promote sustainable consumption and production patterns;
- (xx) To promote science, technology, engineering and mathematics education and statistical literacy, particularly among female students, while also recognizing the importance of complementary soft skills, such as entrepreneurship, by encouraging mentoring and supporting other efforts to attract and retain women and girls in those fields, as well as applying a gender lens when developing and implementing policies that harness science, technology and innovation;
- (xxi) To support the policies and activities of developing countries in the fields of science and technology through North-South as well as South-South cooperation, as complementary to but not substituting for each other, by encouraging financial and technical assistance, capacity-building, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and conditions and technical training programmes or courses;
- (xxii) To encourage countries to progressively increase the rate of generation of high-quality skilled human resources at all levels by providing an environment for building a critical mass of human resource capacity, harnessing and effectively participating in the application of science, technology and innovation for value addition activities, solving problems and enhancing human welfare;
- (xxiii) To increase support for research and development activities on rapid technological change and ensure the coherence of science, technology and innovation policies and strategies on rapid technological change with the broader national development agenda;
- (xxiv) To consider engaging in an inclusive global discourse about all aspects of rapid technological change and its impact on sustainable development;
- (xxv) To design and implement science, technology and innovation policies and other relevant policies to make them responsive to building resilient communities;
- (xxvi) To support policies that increase financial inclusion and deepen the sources of financing and direct investments towards innovations that address the Sustainable Development Goals;
- (xxvii) To encourage the inclusiveness of innovation, especially with regard to local communities, women and youth, to ensure that the scaling and diffusion of new technologies are inclusive and do not create further divides;
- (xxviii) To support the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries as a mechanism to improve the scientific research and innovation base of least developed countries, promote networking among researchers and research institutions, help least developed countries to gain access to and utilize critical technologies, draw together bilateral initiatives and support by multilateral institutions and the private sector and implement projects that contribute to the use of science, technology and innovation for economic development in least developed countries;

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- (b) The Commission is encouraged:
- (i) To continue its role as a torch-bearer for science, technology and innovation and to provide high-level advice to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly on relevant science, technology, engineering and innovation issues, and in this regard to contribute to informing the high-level thematic debate on the topic of the impact of rapid technological change on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, to be convened by the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session, and to the discussion of progress made in the implementation of Assembly resolution [73/17](#) that will be held at its seventy-fifth session;
  - (ii) To help to articulate the important role of information and communications technologies and science, technology and innovation as enablers in the 2030 Agenda by acting as a forum for strategic planning, providing foresight about critical trends in science, technology and innovation in key sectors of the economy and drawing attention to new and emerging technologies;
  - (iii) To consider how its work aligns with, feeds into and complements other international forums on science, technology and innovation and efforts supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;
  - (iv) To raise awareness and facilitate networking and partnerships among various technology foresight organizations and networks, in collaboration with other stakeholders;
  - (v) To promote, in the spirit of the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>72</sup> international cooperation in the field of science and technology for development, including capacity-building and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms and conditions;
  - (vi) To raise awareness among policymakers about the process of innovation and to identify particular opportunities for developing countries to benefit from such innovation, with special attention being placed on new trends in innovation that can offer novel possibilities for developing countries;
  - (vii) To support multi-stakeholder collaboration in policy learning capacity-building and technology development;
  - (viii) To support efforts to build capacity to develop, use and deploy new and existing technologies in developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries;
  - (ix) To proactively strengthen and revitalize global science, technology and innovation partnerships for sustainable development, which would entail the engagement of the Commission in (a) translating technology foresight into elaborating the scope of specific international projects for targeted research, technology development and deployment and initiatives for building human resource capacity for science, technology and innovation; and (b) exploring innovative financing models and other resources contributing to enhancing the capacities of developing countries in collaborative projects and initiatives in science, technology and innovation;
  - (x) To explore ways and means of conducting international technology assessments and foresight exercises on existing, new and emerging technologies and their implications for sustainable development and building resilient communities, including discussions about models of governance for new areas of scientific and technological development;
  - (xi) To support countries in their efforts to identify future trends in terms of capacity-building needs, including through foresight exercises;
  - (xii) To discuss and explore innovative financing models, such as impact investment, as a means to attract new stakeholders, innovators and sources of investment capital for science, technology, engineering and innovation-based solutions, in collaboration with other organizations, where appropriate;
  - (xiii) To promote capacity-building and cooperation in research and development, in collaboration with relevant institutions, including appropriate United Nations agencies, working to facilitate the strengthening of

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<sup>72</sup> General Assembly resolution [69/313](#), annex.

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innovation systems that support innovators, particularly in developing countries, to boost their efforts to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development;

(xiv) To provide a forum for sharing not only success stories and best practices, but also failures and key challenges and learning from the results of foresight exercises, successful local innovation models, case studies and experience on the use of science, technology and engineering for innovation, including the application of new emerging technologies, in symbiotic relationship with information and communications technologies, for inclusive and sustainable development, and to share findings with all relevant United Nations entities, including through the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and its multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals;

(xv) To continue to play an active role in creating awareness of the potential contribution of science, technology and innovation to the 2030 Agenda through substantive inputs, as appropriate, to relevant processes and bodies of the United Nations, and to share findings and good practices on science, technology and innovation among Member States and beyond;

(xvi) To highlight the importance of the work of the Commission related to the implementation of and follow-up to the areas of information and communications technologies and science, technology and innovation related to the Sustainable Development Goals, with the Chair of the Commission to report at appropriate reviews and meetings of the Economic and Social Council, the high-level political forum on sustainable development and other relevant forums;

(xvii) To strengthen and deepen collaboration between the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the Commission on the Status of Women, including sharing good practices and lessons learned in integrating a gender perspective into science, technology and innovation policymaking and implementation, and, in this context, to follow up on the work done by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at the workshop on applying a gender lens to science, technology and innovation, held in Vienna on 18 January 2019;

(xviii) To play an active role in creating awareness of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries;

(c) The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is encouraged:

(i) To seek funding proactively for the expansion of science, technology and innovation policy reviews, with an emphasis on the critical role of information and communications technologies in empowering science, technology and innovation and engineering capacity-building and utilization, and the implementation of the recommendations on those reviews, as appropriate, in close cooperation with United Nations agencies and international organizations;

(ii) To look into the feasibility of including elements of strategic foresight and digital ecosystem assessment in policy reviews of science, technology and innovation and information and communications technologies, possibly by including a chapter dedicated to these themes;

(iii) To implement as widely as possible its new framework for national science, technology and innovation policy reviews in order to integrate the Sustainable Development Goals, including a specific focus on bottom-of-the-pyramid approaches to innovation, and on social inclusion;

(iv) To plan for periodic updates on progress made in countries for which science, technology and innovation policy reviews have been performed and to invite those countries to report to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on progress made, lessons learned and challenges encountered in implementing recommendations;

(v) To request the Gender Advisory Board of the Commission to provide inputs to the policy deliberations and documentation of the Commission, to report on progress at the annual sessions of the Commission and to better integrate gender perspectives into science, technology and innovation policy reviews;

(vi) To also request the Gender Advisory Board of the Commission to develop proposals for an updated work programme and report thereon at the twenty-fourth annual session of the Commission;



(vii) To encourage Governments to use the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries as a mechanism to support science, technology and innovation in least developed countries and to assist least developed countries to further develop their own technologies.

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### **2020/14. Outcome of the fifteenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

Recalling General Assembly resolutions [70/199](#) of 29 July 2016 and [71/285](#) and [71/286](#) of 27 April 2017, as well as Economic and Social Council resolutions [2015/33](#) of 22 July 2015 and [2017/4](#) of 20 April 2017 and Council decision 2018/239 of 2 July 2018,

#### **Quadrennial programme of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests for the period 2021–2024**

1. *Adopts* the programme of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests for its sixteenth session, in 2021, as contained in annex I to the present resolution, and requests the Forum at its sixteenth session to decide on its programme of work for the period 2022–2024, taking into account the proposal contained in annex II to the present resolution;<sup>73</sup>

2. *Invites* the Bureau of the Forum, in close consultation with members of the Forum, to decide on the thematic priorities for the biennium 2021–2022, consistent with the guidance contained in annex I;

3. *Requests* the Forum secretariat to organize a high-level round table during the sixteenth session of the Forum to discuss major forest-related developments;

#### **Voluntary national contributions**

4. *Welcomes* the announcements made to date by members of the Forum regarding their voluntary national contributions in support of the global forest goals and targets, and invites members that have not yet done so to announce their voluntary national contributions in support of the global forest goals and targets at the sixteenth session of the Forum and to communicate them to the Forum secretariat through diplomatic channels using the form contained in annex III to the present resolution;

#### **Monitoring, assessment and reporting**

5. *Welcomes* the voluntary national reports submitted by 51 members of the Forum on progress towards implementing the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030,<sup>74</sup> the United Nations forest instrument<sup>75</sup> and voluntary national contributions, as well as the reports submitted by regional and subregional organizations and processes;

6. *Requests* the Forum secretariat to continue to develop the Forum's concise flagship publication<sup>76</sup> on progress towards achieving the global forest goals and targets, in close consultation with and taking into account the advice of the informal advisory group, as well as in consultation with members of the Collaborative Partnership on

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<sup>73</sup> The draft proposal for the programme of work for the period 2022–2024, contained in annex II to the present resolution, is based on the co-chairs' summary of the expert group meeting on the quadrennial programme of work of the Forum for the period 2021–2024, held in Geneva in November 2019.

<sup>74</sup> See General Assembly resolution [71/285](#).

<sup>75</sup> See General Assembly resolutions [62/98](#) and [70/199](#).

<sup>76</sup> The mandate for the preparation of the "flagship publication" is established in paragraph 11 of resolution 13/1 of the Forum, as follows: "Emphasizes the value of making effective use of the information provided by members through their voluntary national reporting, and to that end requests the Forum secretariat to prepare, on the basis of the initial round of reporting and in consultation with members of the Forum, member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and relevant stakeholders, a concise 'flagship' publication on progress towards achieving the global forest goals and targets for release by the end of 2021, using existing resources, suitable for a range of audiences within and outside the forest sector, and also requests the secretariat to report on planning in that regard to the Forum at its fifteenth session" (see *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2018, Supplement No. 22 (E/2018/42)*, chap. I, sect. B).

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Forests, and to launch the publication at the sixteenth session of the Forum and at the World Forestry Congress, to be held in May 2021, and invites the Forum at its sixteenth session to provide guidance on the next steps;

7. *Also requests* the Forum secretariat, within existing resources and in consultation with members of the Forum, to propose refinements to the format for voluntary national reporting on the basis of lessons learned during the current reporting cycle and in developing the flagship publication, for consideration by the Forum at its seventeenth session;

8. *Invites* the Forum to synchronize future voluntary national reporting with the five-year global forest resources assessment process, beginning with the next forest resources assessment cycle, taking into account other forest-related reporting cycles and the need to reduce reporting burdens, promote data collection efficiencies and enhance national reporting capacities;

9. *Invites* the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to advance further its work on the global core set of forest-related indicators and to report to the Forum at its sixteenth session on the progress achieved in that regard;

### Means of implementation

10. *Welcomes* the assistance provided through the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network<sup>77</sup> in supporting eligible countries in mobilizing financial resources from all sources for sustainable forest management, as well as the support to the Network provided by members of the Forum through their voluntary contributions to the Forum trust fund, and underscores the importance of conducting the work of the Network, consistent with its mandate, and enhancing the effectiveness of its activities;

11. *Notes* the progress achieved in developing the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network clearing house, consistent with the guidelines for the operation of the Network, and requests the Forum secretariat to continue to work closely with member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and other data providers in designing the initial phase of the clearing house, with a view to avoiding duplication and increasing synergies and efficiencies, and to report to the Forum at its sixteenth session on the progress achieved in that regard, including on the possible budget implications;

12. *Invites* the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to strengthen its joint initiative on forest finance facilitation, in particular in support of the clearing house in the context of the workplans of the Partnership;

13. *Requests* the Forum secretariat to provide regular updates with regard to the proposed United Nations Forum on Forests secretariat office for the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network in Beijing, and to provide a progress report to the Forum at its sixteenth session;

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<sup>77</sup> Paragraph 13 of Economic and Social Council resolution 2015/33 and paragraph 62 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 state that the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network of the United Nations Forum on Forests, in close cooperation with members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, contributes to the scaling-up of sustainable forest management by facilitating access by countries to resources to implement the strategic plan and to achieve its global forest goals and targets. To this end, the priorities for the Network are:

(a) To promote and assist members in designing national forest financing strategies to mobilize resources for sustainable forest management, including existing national initiatives, within the framework of national forest programmes or other appropriate national frameworks;

(b) To assist countries in mobilizing, accessing and enhancing the effective use of existing financial resources from all sources for sustainable forest management, taking into account national policies and strategies;

(c) To serve as a clearing house and database on existing, new and emerging financing opportunities and as a tool for sharing lessons learned and best practices from successful projects, building on the Collaborative Partnership on Forests online sourcebook for forest financing;

(d) To contribute to the achievement of the global forest goals and targets, as well as priorities contained in the quadrennial programmes of work.

Paragraph 63 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests further states that special consideration should be given to the special needs and circumstances of Africa, the least developed countries, countries with low forest cover, countries with high forest cover, countries with medium forest cover and low deforestation, and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, in gaining access to funds.

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14. *Also requests* the Forum secretariat, in consultation with other members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, and with input from members of the Forum, to compile an initial assessment of the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on sustainable forest management, the forest sector, forest-dependent people, indigenous peoples and local communities, forest financing and international cooperation, and to present the assessment to the Forum at its sixteenth session;

### Engagement and contributions of partners

15. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Collaborative Partnership on Forests of its strategic vision towards 2030,<sup>78</sup> and invites the Partnership to develop its workplan for the period 2021–2024 in line with the quadrennial programme of work of the Forum for the period 2021–2024 and to report to the Forum at its annual sessions on the progress achieved in implementing the workplan;

16. *Invites* members of the Forum and the governing bodies of member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests to support the workplan of the Partnership, in particular its joint initiatives, as appropriate, consistent with their respective mandates, objectives and work programmes;

17. *Emphasizes* the importance of multi-stakeholder and cross-sectoral involvement in the activities of the Forum, and requests the Forum secretariat to engage major groups<sup>79</sup> and other relevant stakeholders actively, including at the sixteenth session of the Forum;

18. *Takes note* of the workshop held in Nairobi from 3 to 5 March 2020, organized by major groups in cooperation with the Forum secretariat, on “Cross-sectoral collaboration for inclusive forest landscapes” in support of the fifteenth session of the Forum;

19. *Emphasizes* the importance of involving relevant regional and subregional organizations and processes in the activities of the Forum, including at its sixteenth session, to share lessons learned and best practices;

### High-level political forum on sustainable development and major conferences

20. *Stresses* the significance of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 as a global framework for forest-related actions at all levels to facilitate progress in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals<sup>80</sup> and associated targets, and invites the Forum to provide concise targeted inputs to annual sessions of the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

21. *Also stresses* that implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 contributes to achieving the goals and objectives of the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,<sup>81</sup> the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>82</sup> the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa<sup>83</sup> and other relevant multilateral environmental agreements, and that the United Nations strategic plan for forests can contribute to the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, to be adopted at the fifteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity;

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<sup>78</sup> [E/CN.18/2020/3](#), annex.

<sup>79</sup> Chapters 23 to 32 of Agenda 21 identify the following as “major groups”: business and industry; children and young people; farmers; indigenous people; non-governmental organizations; local authorities; the scientific and technological community; women; and workers and trade unions. Representatives of several major groups related to forests are regularly engaged in the work of the Forum. In paragraph 49 of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, it is also stated that the effective implementation of sustainable forest management depends on the contributions of all relevant stakeholders, including forest owners, indigenous peoples, local communities, local authorities, the private sector (including small, medium and large forest-based enterprises), non-governmental organizations, women, children, youth, and scientific, academic and philanthropic organizations at all levels.

<sup>80</sup> See General Assembly resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>81</sup> See [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21, annex.

<sup>82</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>83</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

### **Information on reforms of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs pertaining to the Forum**

22. *Welcomes* the outcome of the consideration of the General Assembly pertaining to the Forum, by which the Assembly retained subprogramme 8, Sustainable forest management, of programme 7, Economic and social affairs, and maintained the D-2 classification of the post of Director of the Forum secretariat;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to expedite the recruitment and appointment processes for the post of Director of the Forum secretariat.

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### **Annex I**

#### **Programme of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests for its sixteenth session**

##### **Introduction**

1. The quadrennial programmes of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests represent its contribution to implementing the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 and achieving the global forest goals and associated targets and provide a framework for setting the agendas for annual sessions within the quadrennium.

2. The quadrennial programme of work of the Forum for the period 2021–2024 includes two thematically linked bienniums: 2021–2022 (sixteenth and seventeenth sessions of the Forum) and 2023–2024 (eighteenth and nineteenth sessions). Thematic priorities for each biennium will be based on the global forest goals and targets, taking into account the post-2020 programme of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and relevant international forest-related developments. The Bureau will decide the thematic priorities for each biennium in consultation with members of the Forum.

##### **General guidance for the sixteenth session**

3. The sixteenth session of the Forum in 2021 will be a technical session that will include an interactive exchange of experiences and lessons learned on thematic priorities among members of the Forum, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and its member organizations, regional and subregional organizations and processes, and major groups and other relevant stakeholders. The interactive exchange will include consideration of the science-policy interface and cross-sectoral and emerging issues and will take into account youth, gender and regions perspectives.

4. The output of the sixteenth session will be a concise Chair's summary that may include proposals for consideration at the Forum's policy session in 2022. The Chair's summary will also include a summary of discussions of the high-level round table. The table below outlines the work programme for the sixteenth session, which includes the consideration and adoption of the programme of work of the Forum for the period 2022–2024 by means of a resolution. In consideration of its programme of work for the period 2022–2024 at its sixteenth session, the Forum will take into account the discussions of the high-level round table.

#### **Programme of work for the sixteenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests, 2021 (technical session)**

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*Priorities in support of implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030*

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1. Thematic priorities for the biennium 2021–2022: selected global forest goals and associated targets
2. Other technical session items
  - (a) Contributions of members of the Forum to implementing the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030: new announcements of voluntary national contributions; updates on voluntary national contributions and their follow-up related to the thematic priorities
  - (b) Contributions of and enhanced cooperation with partners to achieving the thematic priorities
    - (i) Contributions of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, its member organizations and the United Nations system to achieving the thematic priorities; progress on the workplan of the Partnership
    - (ii) Contributions of regional and subregional organizations and processes to achieving the thematic priorities

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*Priorities in support of implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030*

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- (iii) Contributions of major groups and other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and philanthropic community, to achieving the thematic priorities; progress on major group workplans
  - (c) Interlinkages between the global forest goals and targets and the Sustainable Development Goals under review by the high-level political forum on sustainable development in 2021, the work towards a post-2020 global biodiversity framework and other international forest-related developments
  - (d) Implementation of the communication and outreach strategy of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, including activities regarding the International Day of Forests 2021
  - (e) Means of implementation, including operations and resources of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network
  - (f) Monitoring, assessment and reporting: Forum flagship publication; global core set of forest-related indicators; Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020
3. Forum trust fund
  4. Emerging issues: impacts of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on forests and the forest sector
  5. Adoption of the programme of work of the Forum for the period 2022–2024
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## Annex II

### **Proposed draft programme of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests for its seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth sessions**

Table 1

#### **Seventeenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests, 2022 (policy session)**

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*Priorities in support of implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030*

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1. Thematic priorities for the biennium 2021–2022: selected global forest goals and associated targets in accordance with the sixteenth session of the Forum and consideration of relevant proposals contained in the Chair’s summary from the sixteenth session
  2. Other policy session items and consideration of relevant proposals contained in the Chair’s summary from the sixteenth session
    - (a) New announcements of voluntary national contributions
    - (b) Updates by stakeholders and partners on activities in support of the thematic priorities
      - (i) Collaborative Partnership on Forests and its workplan
      - (ii) Regional and subregional organizations and processes
      - (iii) Major groups and other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and philanthropic community
    - (c) Interlinkages between the global forest goals and targets and the Sustainable Development Goals under review by the high-level political forum on sustainable development in 2022 and international forest-related developments
    - (d) Implementation of the communication and outreach strategy of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, including activities regarding the International Day of Forests 2022
    - (e) Means of implementation, including operations and resources of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network
    - (f) Monitoring, assessment and reporting: consideration of the proposed refinements to the format for the next round of voluntary national reporting on progress in implementing the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, the United Nations forest instrument and voluntary national contributions
    - (g) Preparations for the midterm review in 2024 of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests in achieving its objectives, including the communication and outreach strategy of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030
  3. Forum trust fund
  4. Emerging issues
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Table 2

**Eighteenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests, 2023 (technical session)**

*Priorities in support of implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030*

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1. Thematic priorities for the biennium 2023–2024: selected global forest goals and associated targets
  2. Other technical session items
    - (a) Contributions of members of the Forum to implementing the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030: new announcements of voluntary national contributions; updates on voluntary national contributions and their follow-up related to the thematic priorities
    - (b) Contributions of and enhanced cooperation with partners to achieving the thematic priorities
      - (i) Contributions of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, its member organizations and the United Nations system to achieving the thematic priorities; progress on the workplan of the Partnership
      - (ii) Contributions of regional and subregional organizations and processes to achieving the thematic priorities
      - (iii) Contributions of major groups and other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and philanthropic community, to achieving the thematic priorities; progress on major group workplans
    - (c) Interlinkages between the global forest goals and targets and the Sustainable Development Goals under review by the high-level political forum on sustainable development in 2023 and international forest-related developments
    - (d) Implementation of the communication and outreach strategy of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, including activities regarding the International Day of Forests 2023
    - (e) Means of implementation, including operations and resources of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network
    - (f) Monitoring, assessment and reporting: voluntary national reporting; global core set of forest-related indicators; preparations for the Global Forest Resources Assessment 2025
    - (g) Preparations for the midterm review of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests, including the communication and outreach strategy of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030
  3. Forum trust fund
  4. Emerging issues
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Table 3

**Nineteenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests, 2024 (policy session)**

*Priorities in support of implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030*

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1. Thematic priorities for the biennium 2023–2024: selected global forest goals and associated targets in accordance with the eighteenth session of the Forum and consideration of relevant proposals contained in the Chair’s summary from the eighteenth session
  2. Other policy session items and consideration of relevant proposals contained in the Chair’s summary from the eighteenth session
    - (a) New announcements of voluntary national contributions
    - (b) Interlinkages between the global forest goals and targets and the Sustainable Development Goals under review by the high-level political forum on sustainable development in 2024 and international forest-related developments
    - (c) Midterm review of the effectiveness of the international arrangement on forests<sup>84</sup>
  3. High-level segment
  4. Adoption of the quadrennial programme of work of the Forum for the period 2025–2028
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<sup>84</sup> In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2015/33, the components of the international arrangement on forests are the Forum, the secretariat, the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and the Forum trust fund. Accordingly, the midterm review of the arrangement will encompass a review of the work of all the components, including the secretariat, the Facilitation Network, monitoring, assessment and reporting, the trust fund, the communication and outreach strategy and stakeholders’ involvement.

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### Annex III

Simple format for members of the Forum to communicate voluntary national contributions to the secretariat

**Member State:**

**Date/Forum session that voluntary national contributions were announced:**

**Date voluntary national contributions transmitted to secretariat through Permanent Mission to the United Nations:**

#### List of voluntary national contributions<sup>85</sup>

Time frame <sup>86</sup>	Concise description of each contribution and any associated activities	Supports the global forest goals and targets	Contribution included in nationally determined contributions <sup>87</sup>	Contribution also contributes to:			
				Sustainable Development Goals targets (list)	Post-2020 biodiversity framework (list) <sup>88</sup>	Other	
By 2030	Contribution 1: plant 500,000 hectares of trees on degraded land	1.1	Yes	15.1	5 7 14	Land degradation neutrality	
				15.2			Bonn Challenge
				15.3			
By 20__	Contribution 2						
By 20__	Contribution 3						

#### 2020/15. Multi-year programme of work of the Commission on the Status of Women

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* that, in its resolutions 1987/24 of 26 May 1987, 1990/15 of 24 May 1990, 1996/6 of 22 July 1996, 2001/4 of 24 July 2001, 2006/9 of 25 July 2006, 2009/15 of 28 July 2009, [2013/18](#) of 24 July 2013 and [2016/3](#) of 2 June 2016, the Council adopted multi-year programmes of work for a focused and thematic approach for the Commission on the Status of Women,

*Recalling also* that, in its resolution [2018/8](#) of 12 June 2018, the Council requested the Commission at its sixty-fourth session to decide on its future multi-year programme of work,

*Recalling further* its resolution [2015/6](#) of 8 June 2015, in which the Council requested the Commission to continue to apply a thematic approach to its work and to adopt a multi-year programme of work to allow for predictability and adequate time for preparation; and, in selecting its priority theme, to take into consideration, in addition to the Beijing Platform for Action<sup>89</sup> and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General

<sup>85</sup> Information listed is illustrative only.

<sup>86</sup> 2030 or earlier.

<sup>87</sup> Under the Paris Agreement.

<sup>88</sup> Placeholder for the outcome of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

<sup>89</sup> *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.



Assembly,<sup>90</sup> the programme of work of the Council, as well as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>91</sup> so as to build synergies and contribute to the work of the Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development, according to the modalities established by the Assembly and the Council in the context of the high-level political forum,

*Recalling* that the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Commission on the Status of Women, in accordance with their respective mandates and with Assembly resolution 48/162 of 20 December 1993 and other relevant resolutions, should constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental mechanism that would play the primary role in overall policymaking and follow-up and in coordinating the implementation and monitoring of the Beijing Platform for Action, and reaffirming the catalytic role of the Commission in mainstreaming a gender perspective in policies and programmes,

*Acknowledging* the centrality of the Beijing Platform for Action to the work of the Commission, and recognizing that a robust, voluntary, effective, participatory, transparent and integrated follow-up and review framework of the 2030 Agenda will make a vital contribution to the implementation of the Platform for Action and help countries to maximize and track progress in order to ensure that no one is left behind,

### A. Themes for the period 2021–2024

1. *Decides* that the multi-year programme of work of the Commission on the Status of Women for the sixty-fifth, sixty-sixth, sixty-seventh and sixty-eighth sessions will be as follows:

(a) Sixty-fifth session (2021):

- (i) Priority theme: Women's full and effective participation and decision-making in public life, as well as the elimination of violence, for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;
- (ii) Review theme: Women's empowerment and the link to sustainable development (agreed conclusions of the sixtieth session);

(b) Sixty-sixth session (2022):

- (i) Priority theme: Achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programmes;
- (ii) Review theme: Women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work (agreed conclusions of the sixty-first session);

(c) Sixty-seventh session (2023):

- (i) Priority theme: Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls;
- (ii) Review theme: Challenges and opportunities in achieving gender equality and the empowerment of rural women and girls (agreed conclusions of the sixty-second session);

(d) Sixty-eighth session (2024):

- (i) Priority theme: Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective;
- (ii) Review theme: Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls (agreed conclusions of the sixty-third session);

2. *Requests* the Commission, in order to achieve concrete results in each review cycle, to consider and make a recommendation at its sixty-sixth session, in 2022, on how best to utilize the year 2025, on the occasion of the

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<sup>90</sup> General Assembly resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

<sup>91</sup> General Assembly resolution 70/1.

thirtieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, so as to accelerate the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the full realization of their human rights;

3. *Affirms* that the Commission will contribute to the thematic reviews of progress on the Sustainable Development Goals taking place at the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

### **B. Methods of work**

4. *Decides* that at its sixty-sixth session, in 2022, the Commission should review, as appropriate, its methods of work, adopted by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution [2015/6](#), taking into consideration the outcome of the process of alignment of the agendas of the General Assembly and the Council and its subsidiary bodies, with a view to further enhancing the impact of the work of the Commission;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission at its sixty-sixth session, taking into consideration the outcome of the process of alignment of the agendas of the General Assembly and the Council and its subsidiary bodies, a report on ways and means to further enhance the impact of the work of the Commission.

17 July 2020

### **2020/16. Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* the Istanbul Declaration<sup>92</sup> and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,<sup>93</sup> adopted by the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011, and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution [65/280](#) of 17 June 2011, in which the Assembly called upon all the relevant stakeholders to commit to implementing the Programme of Action, and recalling also the Political Declaration adopted by the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, held in Antalya, Turkey, from 27 to 29 May 2016, and endorsed by the Assembly in its resolution [70/294](#) of 25 July 2016,

*Reaffirming* the overarching goal of the Istanbul Programme of Action of overcoming the structural challenges faced by the least developed countries in order to eradicate poverty, achieve the internationally agreed development goals and enable graduation from the least developed country category,

*Recalling* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>94</sup> the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,<sup>95</sup> the Paris Agreement,<sup>96</sup> the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030<sup>97</sup> and the New Urban Agenda adopted in Quito by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III),<sup>98</sup>

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution [74/232](#) of 19 December 2019,

*Recalling further* its resolution [2019/3](#) of 6 June 2019 on the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,

*Recalling* General Assembly resolutions [59/209](#) of 20 December 2004 and [67/221](#) of 21 December 2012 on a smooth transition for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries,

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<sup>92</sup> *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011 (A/CONF.219/7)*, chap. I.

<sup>93</sup> *Ibid.*, chap. II.

<sup>94</sup> General Assembly resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>95</sup> General Assembly resolution [69/313](#), annex.

<sup>96</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>97</sup> General Assembly resolution [69/283](#), annex II.

<sup>98</sup> General Assembly resolution [71/256](#), annex.

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolutions [74/270](#) of 2 April 2020 on global solidarity to fight the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and [74/274](#) of 20 April 2020 on international cooperation to ensure global access to medicines, vaccines and medical equipment to face COVID-19,

*Recognizing* that the least developed countries will be severely hit in the long term owing to the fragility of their health systems, limited coverage of their social protection systems, limited financial and other resources, and vulnerability to external shocks,

*Recognizing also* the contributions of migrants in mitigating the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in both their countries of origin and destination, noting with concern the significant socioeconomic consequences that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on migrant workers and refugees from least developed countries, including those in the low-wage informal economy, and noting with concern also the effects that the projected significant decline in remittances will have on the millions of people that depend heavily on them,

*Taking note* of the 2019 Ministerial Declaration of the Least Developed Countries,<sup>99</sup>

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020,<sup>100</sup>

2. *Notes with concern* that, with only half a year left, significant gaps persist between the goals and targets set out in the Istanbul Programme of Action<sup>93</sup> and the achievements made on the ground, and in this regard calls upon the least developed countries, their development partners, the United Nations system and all other actors to further intensify their efforts to fully and effectively implement, in a coordinated, coherent and expeditious manner, the commitments that have been made in the Programme of Action in its eight priority areas, namely, (a) productive capacity, (b) agriculture, food security and rural development, (c) trade, (d) commodities, (e) human and social development, (f) multiple crises and other emerging challenges, (g) mobilizing financial resources for development and capacity-building and (h) good governance at all levels;

3. *Calls for* intensified international cooperation, including by fully implementing the International Health Regulations (2005),<sup>101</sup> to contain, mitigate and defeat the COVID-19 pandemic, including by exchanging information, scientific knowledge and best practices and by applying the relevant guidelines recommended by the World Health Organization;

4. *Notes with concern* that estimates show that 80 per cent of the world's poor will live in fragile contexts by 2030, with a majority of them living in least developed countries, which poses a major global threat to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>94</sup> stresses the need for global support for the least developed countries to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as ensuring that no one is left behind, and further recalls the objectives of the Istanbul Programme of Action of enhancing good governance at all levels, by strengthening democratic processes, institutions and the rule of law; increasing efficiency, coherence, transparency and participation; advancing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls; protecting and promoting human rights; and reducing corruption, and strengthening least developed country Governments' capacity to play an effective role in their economic and social development;

5. *Reaffirms* that the least developed countries, as the most vulnerable group of countries, need enhanced global support to overcome the structural challenges, as well as recent devastating impacts of COVID-19, that they face in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in this regard calls upon the international community to prioritize and strengthen support from all sources to facilitate the coordinated implementation and coherent follow-up to and monitoring of the Istanbul Programme of Action, the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development<sup>95</sup> in the least developed countries;

6. *Recognizes* that significant additional domestic public resources, including at the subnational level, supplemented by international assistance as appropriate, will be critical to realizing sustainable development and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Addis

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<sup>99</sup> [A/74/475](#), annex.

<sup>100</sup> [A/75/72-E/2020/14](#).

<sup>101</sup> World Health Organization, document WHA58/2005/REC/1, resolution 58.3, annex.

Ababa Action Agenda acknowledge the centrality of domestic resource mobilization underscored by the principle of national ownership, also recognizes that, while the least developed countries have made considerable efforts to mobilize domestic resources and attract private investment, further progress is needed, and underlines the importance of strengthening domestic enabling environments, including the rule of law and combating corruption at all levels and in all its forms;

7. *Welcomes* the increase in official development assistance to the least developed countries by 2.6 per cent between 2018 and 2019 according to preliminary data from the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, while expressing its concern that bilateral official development assistance to the least developed countries remains far from the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income committed to by many developed countries, as set out in the Istanbul Programme of Action and reaffirmed in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and, expressing its appreciation to those few countries that have met or surpassed their commitments to 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to developing countries and the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries, calls upon official development assistance providers to fulfil their respective official development assistance commitments to the least developed countries, and encourages official development assistance providers to consider setting a target to provide at least 0.2 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance to the least developed countries, while reiterating that an important use of international public finance, including official development assistance, is to catalyse additional resource mobilization from other sources, public and private;

8. *Expresses its concern* that the adverse effects of COVID-19 on trade will be severe, as the World Trade Organization projects that world merchandise trade is set to plummet by between 13 and 32 per cent in 2020; and that export earnings of least developed countries from external sources, which are primarily dependent on garments and apparel, commodities and tourism, are seriously affected, risking the livelihood of millions of people working in these sectors and their families, including a significant decline in remittances and owing to serious impacts on the balance of payments and revenue generation, further constraining the fiscal space of Governments; notes that immediate and comprehensive measures are needed to enable the least developed countries to overcome these challenges and to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal target of doubling the share of global least developed countries' exports by 2020 from 2011 levels; and encourages donors to leverage the global Aid for Trade agenda to enable least developed countries to benefit from the opportunities afforded by global value chains and foreign investment as well as from trade facilitation, also with a view towards implementation of the World Trade Organization Trade Facilitation Agreement in their sustainable recovery efforts;

9. *Emphasizes* that the acute energy gap faced by the least developed countries is a severe constraint on their structural transformation and economic development, and stresses that special attention should be given to the least developed countries, focusing on the specific sustainable energy challenges of the least developed countries with specific programmes and multi-stakeholder partnerships tailored to meet the needs of those countries, throughout the United Nations Decade of Sustainable Energy for All (2014–2024) and beyond, with a view to ensuring the realization of the objective of access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all by 2030 and to addressing the infrastructure needs of the least developed countries;

10. *Reaffirms* that the promotion of gender equality and empowerment of all women and girls, in accordance with the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action<sup>102</sup> and the outcomes of relevant United Nations conferences and resolutions of the General Assembly, including through investing in the development of women and girls and promoting their economic and political participation and equal access to economic and productive resources and education, is of fundamental importance and has a multiplier effect for achieving sustained and inclusive economic growth, poverty eradication and sustainable development;

11. *Calls upon* Member States to integrate efforts required by new challenges relating to COVID-19 into efforts towards eliminating, preventing and responding to all forms of violence and harmful practices against all women and girls, in the public and private spheres, including in digital contexts, as well as human trafficking and

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<sup>102</sup> *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

modern slavery and other forms of exploitation and ensuring access to justice, and the provision of support services, including legal, health and social, to all women victims of violence;

12. *Welcomes* the increase in the share of expenditure for operational activities for development of the United Nations system in the least developed countries in 2018, which reached 48 per cent of total expenditure at the country level, urges the United Nations development system to continue to prioritize allocations to the least developed countries by developing operational guidelines, while reaffirming that the least developed countries, as the most vulnerable group of countries, need enhanced support to overcome structural challenges that they face in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, requests the United Nations development system to provide assistance to graduating countries in the formulation and implementation of their national transition strategies and to consider country-specific support for graduated countries for a fixed period of time and in a predictable manner, and in this regard invites the United Nations development system to prioritize allocations to the least developed countries by developing operational guidelines with clear budget targets, as appropriate;

13. *Recalls* that, pursuant to General Assembly resolution [73/242](#) of 20 December 2018, the meetings of the preparatory committee for the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries will be preceded by two regional preparatory meetings, each no longer than three days, one in collaboration with the Economic Commission for Africa and the other in collaboration with the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, in the context of the regular annual session of each Commission, with those regional meetings to be supported by broad-based and inclusive country-level preparations;

14. *Calls upon* Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, major groups and other donors to contribute in a timely manner to the trust fund in support of activities undertaken by the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States to support the implementation, follow-up and monitoring of the Istanbul Programme of Action and the participation of the representatives from the least developed countries in the high-level political forum on sustainable development of the Economic and Social Council as well as in other relevant forums and the preparatory process of the Conference, and in this regard expresses its appreciation to those countries that have made voluntary contributions to the trust fund;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Council at its 2021 session, under the sub-item entitled “Review and coordination of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020” of the item entitled “Implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits”, a progress report on the implementation of the Programme of Action.

*22 July 2020*

**2020/17. Revised terms of reference of the Committee on Environmental Policy of the Economic Commission for Europe**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Taking note* of Economic Commission for Europe decision C (68) of 10 April 2019, by which the Commission approved the revised terms of reference of the Committee on Environmental Policy,

*Endorses* the revised terms of reference of the Committee on Environmental Policy of the Economic Commission for Europe, as set out in the annex to the present resolution.

*22 July 2020*

**Annex**

**Revised terms of reference of the Committee on Environmental Policy of the Economic Commission for Europe**

1. The Committee on Environmental Policy concentrates its efforts on preventing environmental damage, including from climate change, promoting sustainable management of environmental resources and contributing towards the development of cooperation in the field of the environment among countries of the Economic Commission for Europe region, thereby leading to improvements in the region’s environment.

## Resolutions

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2. In particular, the Committee, as a multilateral forum for cooperation in the area of the environment in the Commission region, will:

(a) Serve as an instrument for member States to provide policy direction in the region and to launch international initiatives, including the preparation of ministerial meetings in the region to review environmental priorities and adopt a strategic environmental policy;

(b) Act as the convening body for the preparatory processes for the Environment for Europe ministerial conferences and implement relevant outcomes of the ministerial conferences;

(c) Promote and define the modalities of environmental performance reviews in interested countries, using a country needs-based approach, adopt the conclusions and recommendations of the reviews and assist member States in their implementation;

(d) Oversee the development and implementation of the Shared Environmental Information System in support of a regular process of environmental assessment in the region;

(e) Promote and strengthen environmental information and observation capacity and the use of indicators to assess progress, particularly in countries of the Caucasus, Central Asia and Eastern and South-Eastern Europe and other member countries of the Commission, as appropriate, in order to provide reliable and relevant information on the state of the environment as a basis for improved policymaking and public awareness;

(f) Consider the need for and develop, as appropriate, legally binding instruments, recommendations, methodologies and guidelines with a view to improving environmental management in member countries;

(g) Conduct and support international activities that:

(i) Promote environmental protection and sustainable development in the region at the subregional and transboundary levels;

(ii) Facilitate the contribution of the work of the Committee to the United Nations Environment Assembly at the global level;

(iii) Promote effective and cost-efficient cooperation among all parties concerned in the areas of its mandate;

(iv) Encourage public participation in environmental decision-making with the involvement of civil society, including the private sector, in accordance with the United Nations procedures and the national practice of Commission member States;

(h) Promote cooperation and share experience among the environmental conventions of the Commission, supporting effective implementation of these instruments;

(i) Promote implementation of policy instruments and tools and the legally binding instruments of the Commission with a view to strengthening the capabilities of countries in the Caucasus, Central Asia and Eastern and South-Eastern Europe, through technical assistance, advisory missions and capacity-building upon the request of a member State;

(j) Assist member States, as necessary, to integrate environmental considerations into other policies, to promote cross-sectoral approaches and to use indicators to assess progress, as appropriate;

(k) Contribute to the Commission region's implementation of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>103</sup> and support the regional meetings, such as the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the region, organized in preparation for meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development;

(l) Regularly review its programme of work to ensure the coherence of its activities with the overall objectives of the Commission, develop synergies and propose to the Commission modalities for cooperation with other sectoral committees on issues of common concern;

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<sup>103</sup> General Assembly resolution 70/1.

(m) Facilitate the achievement of synergies in the implementation of regional environmental programmes, including those developed through regional economic integration organizations, and cooperate with other United Nations regional commissions, international organizations and other relevant bodies, including financing institutions, to avoid duplication of work and enhance synergies;

(n) Promote and support member States' efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

**2020/18. Revised terms of reference of the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards of the Economic Commission for Europe**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Taking note* of Economic Commission for Europe decision D (68) of 10 April 2019, by which the Commission approved the revised terms of reference of the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards,

*Endorses* the revised terms of reference of the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards of the Economic Commission for Europe, as set out in the annex to the present resolution.

22 July 2020

**Annex**

**Revised terms of reference of the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards of the Economic Commission for Europe**

The Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards is an intergovernmental body that oversees and guides the development of international norms and standards, procedures and best practices that reduce the costs associated with export and import processes and increase the efficiency, predictability and transparency of trade regulations and procedures and the movement of goods and services.

The Steering Committee shall:

1. Review and endorse standards and recommendations developed by the Working Party on Regulatory Cooperation and Standardization Policies (Working Party 6) and the Working Party on Agricultural Quality Standards (Working Party 7).
2. Draft the programme of work on trade capacity and standards and review and endorse the workplans of Working Party 6 and Working Party 7, and recommend these to the Executive Committee of the Economic Commission for Europe for approval.
3. Review the results of demand-driven studies (financed by extrabudgetary resources) that identify procedural and regulatory barriers to trade in member States in coordination and cooperation with other relevant international organizations. Capacity-building and technical assistance activities to help countries in the region to implement standards developed under the subprogramme may be decided in accordance with paragraph 18 (a) of Commission decision A (65) of 11 April 2013. Support the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals 8 and 9<sup>104</sup> by reviewing the systemic issues emerging from the studies and the regulatory work of Working Party 6 and Working Party 7.
4. Liaise and coordinate its work with other committees and relevant subsidiary bodies of the Commission, in particular the Committee on Innovation, Competitiveness and Public-Private Partnerships, and coordinate its work with other relevant United Nations programmes and agencies, as well as other relevant organizations and stakeholders and international standards-setting organizations in order to achieve synergies and to avoid possible overlap and duplication.
5. Meet once a year for a maximum of one and a half days in a session that is open to all relevant international organizations and other stakeholders and held, as feasible, back-to-back with the annual session of either Working Party 6 or Working Party 7.

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<sup>104</sup> See General Assembly resolution 70/1.



6. Elect its own Bureau, which includes the Chairs of Working Party 6 and Working Party 7 as ex officio members.
7. Report to the Executive Committee.
8. Operate under the rules of procedure of the Commission and the guidelines on procedures and practices for Commission bodies, as agreed in Commission decision A (65).

### **2020/19. Change of name and revised terms of reference of the Working Group on Ageing of the Economic Commission for Europe**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Taking note* of Economic Commission for Europe decision F (68) of 10 April 2019, by which the Commission decided to change the name of the Working Group on Ageing to “Standing Working Group on Ageing” and approved the revised terms of reference of the Standing Working Group,

*Endorses* the change of name and the revised terms of reference of the Standing Working Group on Ageing of the Economic Commission for Europe, as set out in the annex to the present resolution.

22 July 2020

### **Annex**

#### **Revised terms of reference of the Standing Working Group on Ageing of the Economic Commission for Europe**

##### **A. Mandate**

1. The Standing Working Group on Ageing is an intergovernmental body which is subsidiary to the Executive Committee and reports regularly to the Executive Committee on its work programme and achievements. The Standing Working Group builds on the 10-year effective and fruitful experience of the Working Group on Ageing instituted in December 2008.
2. The mandate of the Standing Working Group emanates from the following recent resolutions and global agendas: General Assembly resolution 72/144 of 19 December 2017 on the follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>105</sup> the World Health Organization global strategy and action plan on ageing and health 2016–2020<sup>106</sup> and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development<sup>107</sup> beyond 2014.

##### **B. Objectives**

3. The Standing Working Group aims to help all countries in the region of the Economic Commission for Europe to mainstream population ageing into their policy and regulatory framework in order to adjust to demographic changes and create an environment conducive to the full realization of the individual and societal potential of living longer. The Working Group supports the realization of the policy principles set out in the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002<sup>108</sup> and its Regional Implementation Strategy and the subsequent ministerial declarations on ageing among the Commission member States. It strives for synergies in the activities related to the implementation and monitoring of the Madrid Plan of Action/Regional Implementation Strategy and those related to the regional/national follow-up of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other population-related

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<sup>105</sup> General Assembly resolution 70/1.

<sup>106</sup> See World Health organization, document WHA69/2016/REC/1.

<sup>107</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5–13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>108</sup> *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8–12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

international frameworks such as the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014 and the World Health Organization global strategy and action plan on ageing and health 2016–2020.

### C. Membership

4. The membership of the Standing Working Group consists of national focal points on ageing representing the member States of the Commission region. National focal points are expected to be appointed for a longer period, if possible, and be able to inform all related ministries and agencies about initiatives and activities of the Working Group. In addition, representatives of relevant international organizations, non-governmental organizations, the private sector and academia can also be invited as observers, in compliance with the rules and practices of the United Nations in this respect.

### D. Activities

5. The Standing Working Group, acting within the framework of the policies of the United Nations, is entrusted with the implementation of the population component of the Housing, land management and population subprogramme of the Commission. The work of the Working Group is demand-driven, focuses on issues of population ageing and intergenerational relations, and aims to contribute to the effective implementation of commitments made by member States at international summits on population issues, in particular the commitments of the Madrid Plan of Action/Regional Implementation Strategy and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, by:

(a) Promoting international cooperation, exchange of experience and policy discussion on ageing and intergenerational relations taking into account the situation and different needs of individual countries;

(b) Developing guidelines and policy recommendations for Governments on population ageing issues;

(c) Supporting monitoring activities and coordinating the five-year review and appraisal exercises of implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action/Regional Implementation Strategy;

(d) Providing demand-driven policy advisory services and other capacity-building activities;

(e) Raising awareness of population ageing and its implications throughout the Commission region;

(f) Creating synergies with related policy agendas and collaboration within and outside the Commission.

6. The Standing Working Group operates in accordance with a multi-year programme of work anchored in the periodic review and appraisal of implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action/Regional Implementation Strategy as well as the implementation of and follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

7. The Standing Working Group cooperates and determines its activities in close contact with other United Nations agencies and international governmental and non-governmental organizations active in the field of ageing to avoid duplication and to focus on challenges of specific interest to Commission member States. It promotes cooperation with international organizations and encourages partnership among the public and private sectors in addressing the implications of population ageing.

### E. Officers

8. The Standing Working Group elects a Bureau and a Chair in accordance with section V of the guidelines on procedures and practices for Commission bodies.<sup>109</sup>

### F. Meetings

9. The Standing Working Group meets annually. In between sessions, its work is guided by the Bureau as provided in section VI of the guidelines on procedures and practices for Commission bodies. The Working Group and its Bureau are serviced by the Commission secretariat.

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<sup>109</sup> Resolution 2013/1, appendix III.

**2020/20. Admission of Algeria and Somalia to membership in the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Taking note* of Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia resolution 336 (S-VI) of 21 December 2019, adopted by the Commission at its sixth special session, held in Amman on 21 and 22 December 2019, and annexed to the present resolution,

*Approves* the admission of Algeria and Somalia to membership in the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.

22 July 2020

**Annex**

**Resolution 336 (S-VI)**

**Requests by Algeria and Somalia for membership of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia**

*The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia,*

*Taking note* of the communication dated 14 September 2019 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Somalia addressed to the secretariat of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, in which Somalia requested to join the Commission as a full member,

*Taking note also* of the communication dated 21 October 2019 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Algeria addressed to the secretariat of the Commission, in which Algeria requested to join the Commission as a full member,

*Recalling* the admission of the Sudan to the Commission in 2008 pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/8 of 22 July 2008, the accession of Libya, Morocco and Tunisia pursuant to Council resolution [2012/1](#) of 10 July 2012, and the admission of Mauritania pursuant to Council resolution [2015/32](#) of 22 July 2015,

*Recalling also* its resolution 302 (XXVII) of 10 May 2012, in which it invited all Arab countries to join the Commission,

1. *Welcomes* the requests by Algeria and Somalia to join the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia;
2. *Recommends* that the Economic and Social Council accept the two requests;
3. *Requests* the Executive Secretary of the Commission to follow up on the implementation of the present resolution.

**2020/21. Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its nineteenth session**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [2018/12](#) of 2 July 2018, [2019/26](#) of 23 July 2019 and other related resolutions on public administration and development, in which it affirmed that service to citizens should be at the centre of transforming public administration and that the foundations of sustainable development at all levels include transparent, participatory and accountable governance and a professional, ethical, responsive and information and communications technology-enabled public administration,

*Reaffirming* General Assembly resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,

*Reaffirming also* General Assembly resolution [69/313](#) of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,

*Reaffirming further* the outcome document, entitled “New Urban Agenda”, adopted by the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,<sup>110</sup>

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution [69/327](#) of 14 September 2015, in which the Assembly reaffirmed the importance of freedom, human rights, national sovereignty, good governance, the rule of law, peace and security, combating corruption at all levels and in all its forms, and effective, accountable and inclusive democratic institutions at the subnational, national and international levels as central to enabling inclusive and accountable public services for sustainable development,

*Referring* to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,<sup>111</sup> which entered into force on 14 December 2005,

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution [74/197](#) of 19 December 2019, in which the Assembly recognized the need to harness the potential of information and communications technologies as critical enablers of sustainable development and to overcome digital divides, and stressing that capacity-building for the productive use of such technologies should be given due consideration in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda,

*Recalling also* General Assembly resolution [69/228](#) of 19 December 2014 on promoting and fostering the efficiency, accountability, effectiveness and transparency of public administration by strengthening supreme audit institutions, in which the Assembly emphasized that efficient, accountable, effective and transparent public administration has a key role to play in the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals,

*Recalling further* General Assembly resolution [74/236](#) of 19 December 2019 on human resources development,

*Referring* to General Assembly resolution [74/270](#) of 2 April 2020, in which the Assembly recognized the unprecedented effects of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, including the severe disruption to societies and economies, as well as to global travel and commerce, and the devastating impact on the livelihood of people, and reaffirmed its full commitment to the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development,

*Recognizing* the role of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration in providing policy advice and programmatic guidance to the Economic and Social Council on issues related to governance and public administration, and the relevance of the work of the Committee to the implementation of and follow-up to the 2030 Agenda,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its nineteenth session,<sup>112</sup> and expresses its appreciation for the work done by the Committee on building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions, including the promotion of effective governance and institutional reform to accelerate the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals in accordance with the 2020 theme of the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development;
2. *Invites* the Committee to continue to place the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>113</sup> at the centre of its work and to continue to advise the Council on how public administrations can support the implementation and progress reviews of the Sustainable Development Goals;
3. *Welcomes* the contribution of the Committee to the high-level political forum, and reaffirms that the principle of leaving no one behind should be a core principle of public administration;

### **Promoting effective governance and institutional reform to accelerate delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals**

4. *Reiterates* the critical role of institutions in the achievement of all the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, calls for institutions to develop more creative, flexible and integrated ways of working to this end, and notes that implementing the Goals does not necessarily require the creation of new institutions;

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<sup>110</sup> General Assembly resolution [71/256](#), annex.

<sup>111</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

<sup>112</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2020, Supplement No. 24 (E/2020/44)*.

<sup>113</sup> General Assembly resolution [70/1](#).

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5. *Recalls* the importance of a timely implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and urges Governments to address the structural and procedural weaknesses in institutions at all levels that may be hindering the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets and pursue bold policy reforms to accelerate achievement of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development;

6. *Underscores* that realizing the Sustainable Development Goals, leaving no one behind and mitigating the adverse social, economic and financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on all societies require addressing the deep inequalities that exist in many countries, which may require institutions at all levels to play a greater role in promoting and enforcing non-discriminatory laws and policies, inter alia, through more effective redistribution and social protection programmes, effective taxation systems and administration, and special measures to eliminate all forms of discrimination and their compounded negative impacts, particularly on the poorest and most vulnerable;

7. *Welcomes* the expanded use of digital technologies in public service delivery in response to the pandemic, and calls for greatly accelerated efforts to address digital divides in access to affordable high-speed broadband and improve digital literacy and knowledge-sharing enabled by Governments, including among disadvantaged groups and in rural and remote areas, to ensure access to public services on general terms of equality, build resilience to crises and leave no one behind, while respecting the right to privacy;

8. *Reaffirms* the need for pragmatic ongoing improvements in national and local governance capabilities to achieve the 2030 Agenda and other international agreements, and encourages Governments at all levels to apply the principles of effective governance for sustainable development,<sup>114</sup> endorsed by the Council in its resolution [2018/12](#), to all public institutions and in support of the implementation of all Sustainable Development Goals, taking into account different governance structures, national realities, capacities and levels of development and respecting national policies and priorities;

9. *Encourages* the Committee to continue to identify and review related technical guidelines to operationalize the principles, including from sectoral perspectives, and to further engage the relevant United Nations organizations, regional organizations and professional and academic communities in this regard, in an inclusive manner, together with all relevant stakeholders;

10. *Takes note* of the initiative of the Committee to associate a set of indicators with each of the principles, with a view to contributing to strengthening the analytical basis for assessing the impact of reform policies on building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and to engage with regional organizations in putting the principles into practice;

11. *Encourages* Governments to accelerate action to increase transparency and equal participation in the budgeting process, establish transparent public procurement frameworks as a strategic tool to reinforce sustainable development, and strengthen national control mechanisms, such as supreme audit institutions, along with other independent oversight institutions, as appropriate, in auditing budget performance, and to embed commitments to the Sustainable Development Goals in budgetary and financial processes at the national and subnational levels by adopting practices to monitor and report on the use of public financial resources in support of the Goals, such as mapping and tracking budgetary contributions to each Goal;

12. *Welcomes* the continuing work of the Committee on strengthening the capacity of State institutions and re-establishing credible governance and public administration institutions and systems in countries affected by conflict, and looks forward to the Committee's further engagement in promoting effective governance for sustainable development in such situations and its contribution to the work of the Peacebuilding Commission;

13. *Stresses* that building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels calls for a comprehensive understanding of the scope and capabilities of the public sector workforce, and encourages countries to address public sector workforce capability gaps, including gaps in digital skills, within the context of human resources and national development strategies, including policies and strategies to eradicate poverty and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, inter alia, by strengthening related training programmes, peer-to-peer learning and exchange of good practices within and across countries, and provide basic training on the Goals for all public sector workers;

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<sup>114</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2018, Supplement No. 24 (E/2018/44)*, chap. III, sect. B, para. 31.

### Follow-up

14. *Requests* the Committee, at its twentieth session, to be held from 12 to 16 April 2021, to examine and make recommendations on the theme of the 2021 session of the Council and the 2021 high-level political forum and to contribute to the review of the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 16, giving particular attention to the cross-cutting nature of all the Goals;

15. *Invites* the Committee to continue to advise on approaches and practices related to the institutions, policies and arrangements being established to promote the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, bearing in mind that the specific contexts and situations of countries differ widely, as well as to advise on making institutions effective, accountable and inclusive;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the present resolution fully into account in the work of the Organization, inter alia, in addressing gaps in research and analysis and in responding to the capacity development needs of Member States for building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels in pursuit of the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

17. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to promote and support innovation and excellence in public services for sustainable development through the United Nations Public Service Awards;

18. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of and follow-up to the present resolution through the established working methods of the Committee.

22 July 2020

### 2020/22. United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [2013/12](#) of 22 July 2013, [2014/10](#) of 13 June 2014, [2015/8](#) of 9 June 2015, [2016/5](#) of 2 June 2016, [2017/8](#) of 7 June 2017, [2018/13](#) of 2 July 2018 and [2019/9](#) of 7 June 2019 on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases,

*Recalling also* the commitments included in the 2011 political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,<sup>115</sup> the 2014 outcome document of the high-level meeting of the Assembly on the comprehensive review and assessment of the progress achieved in the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases<sup>116</sup> and the 2018 political declaration of the third high-level meeting of the Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,<sup>117</sup> and recalling further the proposed actions set out in the World Health Organization Global Action Plan for the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases 2013–2020,<sup>118</sup>

*Recognizing* that many countries still face significant challenges in the implementation of their commitments related to non-communicable diseases, remaining deeply concerned that the burden of non-communicable diseases continues to rise in developing countries, and expressing grave concern that the huge human and economic cost of non-communicable diseases contributes to poverty and inequities and threatens the health of peoples and the development of countries,

*Reaffirming* General Assembly resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, which includes non-communicable disease-related targets, including reducing by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases by 2030 through prevention and treatment, and promoting mental health and well-being, as well as support for research and development of vaccines and medicines, and recalling the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for

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<sup>115</sup> General Assembly resolution [66/2](#), annex.

<sup>116</sup> General Assembly resolution [68/300](#).

<sup>117</sup> General Assembly resolution [73/2](#).

<sup>118</sup> World Health Organization, document WHA66/2013/REC/1, annex 4.



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Development,<sup>119</sup> which noted the enormous burden that non-communicable diseases place on developed and developing countries, and that these costs are particularly challenging for developing countries,

*Recalling* the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on universal health coverage, held in New York on 23 September 2019, and reaffirming its political declaration, entitled “Universal health coverage: moving together to build a healthier world”,<sup>120</sup> which called for the further strengthening of efforts to address non-communicable diseases, including cardiovascular diseases, cancer, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes, as well as mental disorders, other mental health conditions and neurological disorders, as part of universal health coverage,

*Underscoring* the fact that global health is a long-term objective which is national, regional and international in scope and requires sustained high-level commitment and closer international cooperation to support the efforts of Member States to achieve health goals, including those related to non-communicable diseases,

*Acknowledging* that the global burden and threat of non-communicable diseases, principally cardiovascular diseases, cancer, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes, which are linked to one or more of the modifiable risk factors, namely, tobacco use, harmful use of alcohol, unhealthy diet and physical inactivity, as well as air pollution, as the largest environmental risk factor, and other risk factors contributing to non-communicable diseases, but also the considerable burden of mental health conditions and neurological disorders, constitutes one of the major challenges for development in the twenty-first century, which undermines social and economic development throughout the world and threatens the achievement of internationally agreed development goals,

*Noting* that the non-communicable disease-related targets included in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are linked to the impact of social, economic and environmental determinants, including air, soil and water pollution, exposure to chemicals, efforts to ensure road safety, promoting healthy diets and improving nutrition, as well as to broader determinants of health,

*Recalling* the World Health Organization global action plan on physical activity 2018–2030,<sup>121</sup> and acknowledging that increasing physical activity and reducing sedentary behaviour can contribute to broader efforts to prevent and control non-communicable diseases and improve mental health,

*Noting* the progress made by the Task Force in the execution of its mandate, including joint programming missions to an increasing number of countries and global joint programmes and thematic working groups that contribute to 30 targets of 12 Sustainable Development Goals, and that its work has a significant positive impact on national multisectoral non-communicable disease responses and development plans and policies, strengthening health systems and the empowerment of individuals, including for better health literacy,

*Noting also* the 2019 World Health Assembly decision that requests the identification of innovative voluntary funding mechanisms, such as a multi-donor trust fund, to support Member States, upon their request, in order to strengthen their national efforts for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,<sup>122</sup> and acknowledging the progress by the Task Force in processing that decision,

*Noting further* the progress achieved by the Task Force in supporting Member States in the provision of access to safe, effective, quality and affordable essential medicines, diagnostics and other health technologies for non-communicable diseases, as well as in supporting countries in providing digital health programmes,

*Welcoming* the progress the Task Force makes through joint inter-agency efforts to promote public health and foster the achievement of non-communicable disease-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as through partnerships and alliances, when applicable, for the prevention and treatment of non-communicable diseases,

*Welcoming also* the financial and in-kind support provided by Member States and international development partners for the work of the Task Force,

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<sup>119</sup> General Assembly resolution 69/313, annex.

<sup>120</sup> General Assembly resolution 74/2.

<sup>121</sup> See World Health Organization, document WHA71/2018/REC/1, resolution 71.6.

<sup>122</sup> World Health Organization, document WHA72/2019/REC/1, decision 72(11).



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*Noting with concern* the continued shortage of resources available for the Task Force and, in particular, the global joint programmes developed by the Task Force that remain mostly unfunded to date, and the need for a significant increase in financing in order for the Task Force to reach its full potential in providing timely and effective specialized technical assistance to Member States,

*Taking note* of the final report of the Independent High-level Commission on Non-communicable Diseases of the World Health Organization,<sup>123</sup>

*Noting with great concern* the threat to human health caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, which continues to spread globally, and recognizing that people living with non-communicable diseases are more susceptible to the risk of developing severe COVID-19 symptoms and are among the hardest hit by the pandemic,

*Acknowledging* that the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic risks reversing hard-won development gains and hampering progress towards achieving all the Sustainable Development Goals, including target 3.4 on reducing by one third premature mortality from non-communicable diseases,

*Recalling* World Health Assembly resolution 73.1 of 19 May 2020, entitled “COVID-19 response”,<sup>124</sup> which also addressed the issue of non-communicable diseases in the context of an effective public health response to the COVID-19 pandemic,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Director General of the World Health Organization on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases<sup>125</sup> and the recommendations contained therein, including to report to the Economic and Social Council in 2021 on progress made in implementing Council resolution 2013/12;

2. *Commends* the Task Force for its activities aimed at supporting Member States in the achievement of the non-communicable disease-related targets of the Sustainable Development Goals as part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>126</sup>

3. *Calls upon* bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as other stakeholders, including philanthropic foundations, civil society and the private sector, as appropriate, to mobilize human and financial resources for the programmatic work of the Task Force, inter alia, in order to deliver activities under its strategy for 2019–2021;

4. *Encourages* bilateral and multilateral donors, as well as other relevant stakeholders, to mobilize resources to support, upon request, Member States, including the least developed countries, to catalyse sustainable domestic responses to non-communicable diseases, as well as mental disorders and other mental health conditions, inter alia, through innovative voluntary funding mechanisms, such as a multi-partner trust fund, upon its establishment;

5. *Calls upon* the members of the Task Force to continue to work together to identify additional technical resources to enhance their support to Member States in line with the Task Force strategy for 2019–2021, paying particular attention to the needs of Member States during their COVID-19 response and recovery;

6. *Requests* the Task Force to further support Member States in their efforts to address the burden of non-communicable diseases, including maintaining essential health-care services and their timely delivery, providing evidence-based digital health programmes, promoting research and development of and access to safe, effective, quality and affordable diagnostics, therapeutics, essential medicines, vaccines and other health technologies, inter alia, through various related initiatives, as well as through strengthening health systems, including regulatory frameworks and good supply chain management, and through primary health care, as appropriate, paying particular attention to the needs of people living with or at risk of developing non-communicable diseases, in particular those in vulnerable situations;

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<sup>123</sup> World Health Organization, *It's Time to Walk the Talk: WHO Independent High-level Commission on Non-communicable Diseases – Final Report* (Geneva, 2019).

<sup>124</sup> World Health Organization, document WHA73.1.

<sup>125</sup> [E/2020/51](#).

<sup>126</sup> General Assembly resolution 70/1.

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7. *Also requests* the Task Force to continue strengthening inter-agency work and communication, including by engaging with relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, to achieve public health goals;
8. *Calls upon* the Task Force and its members to strengthen its capacity to provide technical and policy advice to Governments, upon request, in order to implement multisectoral strategies and enhance multi-stakeholder action, including with the private sector, with a view to strengthening their contribution to the implementation of national responses to non-communicable diseases, and to achieving universal health coverage;
9. *Encourages* members of the Task Force, within their respective mandates, to continue collaboration among each other and to support Member States, upon their request, in promoting improved nutrition, healthy diets and lifestyles;
10. *Calls upon* the Task Force and its members, within its mandate, to support, upon request, the capacity of Member States for improved regulatory and legal frameworks that promote favourable health outcomes for non-communicable diseases;
11. *Encourages* members of the Task Force, as appropriate and in line with their respective mandates, to continue to develop and implement their own policies on preventing tobacco industry interference, including those related to novel and emerging tobacco products, bearing in mind the model policy for agencies of the United Nations system on preventing tobacco industry interference, in order to ensure consistent and effective separation between the activities of the United Nations system and those of the tobacco industry;
12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its 2021 session on progress achieved in implementing resolution [2013/12](#), under the sub-item entitled “Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases” of the item entitled “Coordination, programme and other questions”.

22 July 2020

### **2020/23. Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution [71/243](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Reaffirming* General Assembly resolution [71/243](#) of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including its general guidelines,

*Reaffirming also* General Assembly resolution [72/279](#) of 31 May 2018 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

*Reaffirming further* General Assembly resolutions [73/248](#) of 20 December 2018 and [74/238](#) of 19 December 2019 on the operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

*Recognizing* the unprecedented effects of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, including the severe disruption to societies and economies, and recognizing further the central role of the United Nations system in catalysing and coordinating the global response to control and contain the spread of COVID-19,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution [71/243](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;<sup>127</sup>
2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group on the work of the Development Coordination Office,<sup>128</sup> including on the operational, administrative and financing aspects of the activities of the Office;

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<sup>127</sup> [A/75/79-E/2020/55](#) and [A/75/79/Add.1-E/2020/55/Add.1](#).

<sup>128</sup> [E/2020/54](#).

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3. *Encourages* a continued comprehensive, evidence-based and analytical approach to the reporting to the operational activities for development segment of ECOSOC and also encourages the continued use of data and examples from the work of resident coordinators on the ground in all future reporting on the implementation of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system;

4. *Welcomes* the progress achieved by the United Nations development system and takes note of the challenges on the repositioning of the United Nations development system, and looks forward to the full and timely implementation of all reform mandates as contained in General Assembly resolutions [71/243](#), [72/279](#), [73/248](#) and [74/238](#);

5. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Secretary-General in formulating the recommendations to harness the regional assets of the United Nations development system and requests the Secretary-General to continue to conduct and rely on, in the course of the implementation process, transparent and inclusive United Nations consultations with all countries concerned at all levels, in particular the countries of the region through further deliberations of ECOSOC with input from existing processes within regional economic commissions and other United Nations regional assets, to ensure that the longer-term reprofiling and restructuring of the regional assets of the United Nations is addressed on a region-by-region basis and in accordance with the region's specific needs and priorities, and reaffirms that the regional repositioning be conducted with the support of the regional economic commissions, specialized agencies, funds, programmes and regional offices of the Development Coordination Office while preserving and reaffirming their respective roles and mandates, and looks forward to further deliberations in the ECOSOC operational activities for development segment and requests the Secretary-General to continue regular follow-up, monitoring and reporting, including to the ECOSOC operational activities for development segment;

6. *Further welcomes* the recommendations of the Secretary-General on reinforcing support in multi-country office settings,<sup>129</sup> and takes note of the information contained in the multi-country office review update dated 25 March 2020 circulated to Member States,<sup>130</sup> and calls upon the Secretary-General to proceed with the implementation of the recommendations, while continuing transparent and inclusive consultations with all countries concerned throughout and after the implementation phase, and to conduct regular monitoring, reporting and follow-up, including to the Council at its annual operational activities for development segment, with a view to considering the adjustments necessary to ensure the delivery of sustainable and effective development resources and services to enable countries served by multi-country offices to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>131</sup>

7. *Recommends* the present resolution to the General Assembly for adoption.

22 July 2020

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<sup>129</sup> See [A/75/79-E/2020/55](#), sect. V.

<sup>130</sup> Circulated in the context of the third plenary briefing convened by the Deputy Secretary-General on the remaining mandates of the repositioning of the United Nations development system, held virtually on 27 March 2020.

<sup>131</sup> General Assembly resolution [70/1](#).

## Decisions

### 2020/200. Election of the Bureau of the Economic and Social Council for 2019–2020

#### A

At its 1st plenary meeting, on 25 July 2019, the Economic and Social Council elected, by acclamation, Mona JUUL (Norway) as President of the Council for 2019–2020, and Maleeha LODHI (Pakistan), Mher MARGARYAN (Armenia) and Juan SANDOVAL MENDIOLEA (Mexico) as Vice-Presidents of the Council for 2019–2020, all for a term of office beginning on the date of election and expiring when their successors were elected at the beginning of the next cycle, in July 2020, on the understanding that they remained representatives of members of the Council.

#### B

At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 15 October 2019, the Economic and Social Council elected, by acclamation, Omar HILALE (Morocco) as a Vice-President of the Council for 2019–2020, for a term of office beginning on the date of election and expiring when his successor was elected at the beginning of the next cycle, in July 2020, on the understanding that he remained a representative of a member of the Council.

#### C

At its 4th plenary meeting, on 3 December 2019, the Economic and Social Council elected, by acclamation, Munir AKRAM (Pakistan) as a Vice-President of the Council for 2019–2020, to complete the term of office of Maleeha LODHI (Pakistan).

### 2020/201. Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments to subsidiary and related bodies of the Economic and Social Council

#### A

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 10 December 2019, the Economic and Social Council took the following action with regard to vacancies in its subsidiary and related bodies:

#### Elections

##### EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENTITY FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

The Council, in accordance with paragraph 61 (a) of General Assembly resolution [64/289](#) of 2 July 2010 and Council resolution 2010/35 of 25 October 2010, elected FINLAND, SWEDEN, the UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND and the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, by acclamation, to the Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2020 and expiring on 31 December 2022.

#### Outstanding vacancies

##### COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Council elected TURKEY, by acclamation, to the Commission on Population and Development for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting of the fifty-fourth session of the Commission, in 2020,<sup>1</sup> and expiring at the close of its fifty-seventh session, in 2024.

The Council further postponed the election to fill the following outstanding vacancies on the Commission: one from Asia-Pacific States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the fifty-fourth session

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<sup>1</sup> The fifty-fourth session of the Commission on Population and Development was considered opened as of 17 July 2020, upon the election of its Bureau by correspondence.

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of the Commission, in 2021; one from African States and one from Asia-Pacific States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the fifty-fifth session of the Commission, in 2022; and one from African States, one from Latin American and Caribbean States and one from Western European and other States for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting of the fifty-fourth session of the Commission, in 2020, and expiring at the close of its fifty-seventh session, in 2024.

### COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Council elected QATAR, by acclamation, to the Commission for Social Development for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the sixty-first session of the Commission, in 2023, and PARAGUAY and TURKEY for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission, in 2020, and expiring at the close of its sixty-second session, in 2024.

The Council further postponed the election of one member from Eastern European States, one member from Latin American and Caribbean States and two members from Western European and other States for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission in 2020, and expiring at the close of its sixty-second session, in 2024.

The Council also further postponed the election to fill three outstanding vacancies from Western European and other States, all for a term beginning on the date of election, one for a term expiring at the close of the fifty-eighth session of the Commission, in 2020, and two for a term expiring at the close of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission, in 2021; as well as one outstanding vacancy from Asia-Pacific States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the sixty-first session of the Commission. in 2023.

### COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

The Council elected EGYPT and NIGERIA, by acclamation, to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2020 and expiring on 31 December 2023.

### COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

The Council elected PANAMA, by acclamation, to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2022.

### INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS ON INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING

The Council elected SAUDI ARABIA and ZIMBABWE, by acclamation, to the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2020.

The Council further postponed the election of one member from Asia-Pacific States, two members from Latin American and Caribbean States and seven members from Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2020; and one member from African States and one member from Latin American and Caribbean States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2021.

### PROGRAMME COORDINATING BOARD OF THE JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS

The Council elected INDIA and THAILAND, by acclamation, to the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2020 and expiring on 31 December 2022.

The Council also elected the following Member States, by acclamation, for a term beginning on 1 January 2020 and expiring on 31 December 2020. to replace members of the Programme Coordinating Board which were resigning from their seats effective 31 December 2019: CANADA and DENMARK, to complete the terms of office of AUSTRALIA and FINLAND, respectively.

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### B

At its 6th plenary meeting, on 20 December 2019, the Economic and Social Council took the following action with regard to vacancies in its subsidiary and related bodies:

#### Elections

##### EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENTITY FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

The Council, in accordance with paragraph 61 (b) of General Assembly resolution [64/289](#) of 2 July 2010 and Council resolution 2010/35 of 25 October 2010,<sup>2</sup> elected SENEGAL and TURKEY, by secret ballot, to the Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2020 and expiring on 31 December 2022.

##### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE PROGRAMME OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES

The Council elected BURKINA FASO, ICELAND, MALI and MALTA to fill the four new seats on the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in accordance with General Assembly resolution [74/129](#) of 18 December 2019.

### C

Pursuant to Economic and Social Council decision 2020/205 of 3 April 2020, by which the Council was authorized to adopt decisions through silence procedure, the Council took the following action with regard to vacancies in its subsidiary and related bodies, effective 21 April 2020:<sup>2</sup>

#### Elections and outstanding vacancies

##### COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Council elected AFGHANISTAN, BRAZIL, CHINA, COSTA RICA, ECUADOR, GUINEA, TAJIKISTAN, TURKMENISTAN, UGANDA and ZAMBIA, by acclamation, to the Commission for Social Development for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting of the sixtieth session of the Commission, in 2021, and expiring at the close of its sixty-third session, in 2025.

The Council postponed the election of one member from African States, two members from Eastern European States and four members from Western European and other States for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting of the sixtieth session of the Commission, in 2021, and expiring at the close of its sixty-third session, in 2025.

The Council elected, by acclamation, the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA to fill a vacancy for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the sixty-second session of the Commission, in 2024, and LUXEMBOURG to fill a vacancy for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission, in 2021.

The Council further postponed the election of one member from Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission, in 2021; one member from Asia-Pacific States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the sixty-first session of the Commission, in 2023; and one member from Eastern European States, one member from Latin American and Caribbean States and one member from Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the sixty-second session of the Commission, in 2024.

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<sup>2</sup> The proposals detailing the candidatures and terms for the election of members, under a two-step silence procedure in April 2020, to each subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council for which the number of candidatures was equal to or less than the number of vacancies to be filled for all the regional categories, and for which no objection was raised pursuant to rule 68 of the rules of procedure of the Council, were before the Council in conference room papers E/2020/CRP.1–6, available on Candiweb.

## Decisions

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### COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The Council elected ARMENIA, CHINA, COLOMBIA, CÔTE D'IVOIRE, EL SALVADOR, ERITREA, GERMANY, ITALY, JAPAN, KENYA, MAURITIUS, PERU, the REPUBLIC OF KOREA, the RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SAUDI ARABIA and the UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, by acclamation, to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2021 and expiring on 31 December 2023.

The Council postponed the election of four members from African States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2021 and expiring on 31 December 2023.

### COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

The Council elected AUSTRIA, BELARUS, BURUNDI, FINLAND, the GAMBIA, GUATEMALA, GUINEA, JAPAN, PARAGUAY, PERU, the PHILIPPINES, PORTUGAL, the RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SAUDI ARABIA, SOUTH AFRICA, SWITZERLAND and TURKMENISTAN, by acclamation, to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2021 and expiring on 31 December 2024.

The Council postponed the election of one member from African States, one member from Latin American and Caribbean States and one member from Western European and other States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2021 and expiring on 31 December 2024.

### EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

The Council elected CHINA, JAPAN, LESOTHO, MEXICO and the UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, by acclamation, to the Executive Board of the World Food Programme for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2021 and expiring on 31 December 2023.

The Council also elected ITALY, by acclamation, for a term beginning on 1 January 2021 and expiring on 31 December 2021, to complete the term of office of AUSTRIA, which was resigning from its seat effective 31 December 2020.

The Council postponed the election of one member from the States included in List E<sup>3</sup> for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2021 and expiring on 31 December 2023.

### EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS ENTITY FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN

The Council, in accordance with its resolution 2010/35 of 25 October 2010, elected ESWATINI, by acclamation, to the Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2022, to fill a vacancy arising from the resignation of the DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO.

## Appointments

### COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

The Council appointed Devon ROWE (Jamaica) and Henry SARDARYAN (Russian Federation), nominated by the Secretary-General to the Committee of Experts on Public Administration, for a term beginning on the date of appointment and expiring on 31 July 2021, to fill the vacancies arising from the resignations of Joan MENDEZ (Trinidad and Tobago) and Andrei SOROKO (Russian Federation).

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<sup>3</sup> Reproduced in E/2020/9/Add.7, annex III.



## Decisions

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### D

Pursuant to Economic and Social Council decisions 2020/205 of 3 April 2020 and 2020/206 of 22 May 2020, by which the Council was authorized to adopt decisions through silence procedure, the Council took the following action with regard to vacancies in its subsidiary and related bodies, effective 18 June 2020:

### Confirmations

#### BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Council confirmed the nomination of Godwin Rapando MURUNGA (Kenya) for membership on the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development for a four-year term beginning on 1 July 2020 and expiring on 30 June 2024.<sup>4</sup>

### E

Pursuant to Economic and Social Council decisions 2020/205 of 3 April 2020 and 2020/219 of 24 June 2020, by which the Council was authorized to adopt decisions through silence procedure, the Council took the following action with regard to vacancies in its subsidiary and related bodies, effective 21 July 2020:

### Elections and outstanding vacancies

#### COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Council elected NEPAL, by acclamation, to the Commission on Population and Development for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the fifty-fifth session of the Commission, in 2022.

The Council also elected CANADA, by acclamation, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission, in 2024.

The Council further postponed the election of one member from Asia-Pacific States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the fifty-fourth session of the Commission, in 2021; one member from African States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the fifty-fifth session of the Commission, in 2022; and one member from African States and one member from Latin American and Caribbean States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the fifty-seventh session of the Commission, in 2024.

#### COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Council elected NORTH MACEDONIA, by acclamation, to the Commission for Social Development for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the sixty-second session of the Commission, in 2024.

The Council further postponed the election of one member from Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission, in 2021; one member from Asia-Pacific States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the sixty-first session of the Commission, in 2023; one member from Latin American and Caribbean States and one member from Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the sixty-second session of the Commission, in 2024; and one member from African States, two members from Eastern European States and four members from Western European and other States for a term beginning at the first meeting of the sixtieth session of the Commission, in 2021, and expiring at the close of the sixty-third session of the Commission, in 2025.

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<sup>4</sup> As recommended by the Commission for Social Development at its fifty-eighth session in its decision 58/101.

## Decisions

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### COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

The Council elected BRAZIL, by acclamation, to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2021 and expiring on 31 December 2024.

The Council further postponed the election of one member from African States and one member from Western European and other States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2021 and expiring on 31 December 2024.

### COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

The Council elected Ludovic HENNEBEL (Belgium), by acclamation, to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2022, to fill a vacancy arising from the resignation of Olivier DE SCHUTTER.

The Council further postponed the election of a member from Asia-Pacific States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2020.

### EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND

The Council elected ARGENTINA, BELGIUM, COSTA RICA, ETHIOPIA, KAZAKHSTAN, LIBERIA, the NETHERLANDS, NEW ZEALAND, the REPUBLIC OF KOREA, SLOVAKIA and the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, by acclamation, to the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2021 and expiring on 31 December 2023.

The Council also elected FINLAND and AUSTRALIA, by acclamation, for a term beginning on 1 January 2021 and expiring on 31 December 2021, to replace CANADA and SPAIN, respectively, which were resigning from their seats effective 31 December 2020.

The Council further elected ITALY, by acclamation, for a term beginning on 1 January 2021 and expiring on 31 December 2022, to replace IRELAND, which was resigning from its seat effective 31 December 2020.

### EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

The Council elected POLAND, by acclamation, to the Executive Board of the World Food Programme for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2021 and expiring on 31 December 2023.

### **2020/202. Provisional agenda of the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council**

At its 1st plenary meeting, on 25 July 2019, the Economic and Social Council adopted the provisional agenda of its 2020 session.<sup>5</sup>

### **2020/203. Special responsibilities of the Bureau of the Economic and Social Council for the 2020 session**

At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 15 October 2019, the Economic and Social Council decided that the special responsibilities in the Bureau for the 2020 session would be as follows: the President, Mona JUUL (Norway), would be responsible for the high-level segment, the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, the forum on financing for development follow-up, the Development Cooperation Forum, the special meeting of the Council on international cooperation in tax matters, as well as any joint meetings and other special meetings that may be convened should the need arise; the Vice-President, Juan SANDOVAL MENDIOLEA (Mexico), would be responsible for the operational activities for development segment; the Vice-President, Omar HILAIE (Morocco), would be responsible for the humanitarian affairs segment; the Vice-President, Mher MARGARYAN (Armenia), would be responsible for the integration segment; and the Vice-

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<sup>5</sup> E/2020/1.

President, Maleeha LODHI (Pakistan),<sup>6</sup> would be responsible for the management meetings, including the elections to fill the vacancies in the subsidiary and related bodies of the Council.

**2020/204. Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**

At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 15 October 2019, the Economic and Social Council, recalling General Assembly resolution 1166 (XII) of 26 November 1957, in which the Assembly requested the Council to establish the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as subsequent Assembly resolutions by which the membership of the Executive Committee was increased:

(a) Took note of the request to enlarge the membership of the Executive Committee, contained in the note verbale dated 26 July 2019 from the Permanent Mission of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General;<sup>7</sup>

(b) Recommended that the General Assembly, at its seventy-fourth session, decide on the question of enlarging the membership of the Executive Committee from 105 to 106 States.

**2020/205. Procedure for taking decisions of the Economic and Social Council during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic**

On 3 April 2020, the Economic and Social Council, noting with concern the situation concerning the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the limitations recommended on meetings within the United Nations premises as precautionary measures aimed at containing the spread of COVID-19:

(a) Authorized the President of the Economic and Social Council, where, in her view, a plenary meeting of the Council was not practicable owing to the coronavirus pandemic, to circulate, after consultation with the Bureau of the Council, draft decisions of the Council to all members of the Council, with copy to all other Member States for their information, under a silence procedure of at least 72 hours;

(b) Decided that, if the silence was not broken, the decision would be considered adopted and the Council would take note of the decision at its first plenary meeting held after the cessation of the precautionary measures as soon as the circumstances allowed, and that the present decision on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council would be in effect until the end of May 2020 unless extended through this procedure.

**2020/206. Extension of the procedure for taking decisions of the Economic and Social Council during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic**

On 22 May 2020, the Economic and Social Council decided that its decision 2020/205 of 3 April 2020, entitled "Procedure for taking decisions of the Economic and Social Council during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic", would continue to be in effect until the end of June 2020 and that the sessional bodies and the subsidiary organs of the Council, as well as the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, might apply the procedure set out in decision 2020/205.

**2020/207. Report on the main decisions, outcomes and policy recommendations of the Committee on World Food Security and report of the United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition**

On 18 June 2020, the Economic and Social Council, on the proposal of the Vice-President (Pakistan), took note of the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the main decisions, outcomes and policy

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<sup>6</sup> Subsequently succeeded by Munir AKRAM (Pakistan) (see decision 2020/200 C).

<sup>7</sup> E/2020/3.

recommendations of the Committee on World Food Security<sup>8</sup> and the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition.<sup>9</sup>

**2020/208. Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations**

On 18 June 2020, the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Decided to grant consultative status to the following 274 non-governmental organizations:

*Special consultative status*

3Strands Global Foundation

A11 – Initiative for Economic and Social Rights

‘Aha Pūnana Leo

A Leg to Stand On

Aalem for Orphan and Vulnerable Children, Inc.

Action for Pune Development

Action Lab for Development

Aden Center to Raise Awareness of the Risk of Drugs

Advocates for the Environment, Inc.

Afghanistan Democracy and Development Organization

African Radio Drama Association (ARDA)

African Youth Employment Initiatives (AYEI)

Africans in America for Restitution and Repatriation, Inc.

Africomunity Technology Development Centre, Abia State

Afrikaanse Forum vir Burgerregte

Afrique Espérance

Agence internationale pour les formations et le développement

Agência Piaget para o Desenvolvimento

Agir contre les maladies non transmissibles au Niger

AID Foundation

All India Senior Citizen’s Confederation (AISCCON)

Alliance des femmes pour l’égalité et le genre en Guinée

Al-Najat Charity Society

Anderson Center International

Angel Support Foundation

Apostle Padi Ologo Traditional Birth Centre

Asian Dignity Initiative

Asian Venture Philanthropy Network, Limited

Asociación Forjando Futuro para Todos

Associação de Aposentados, Pensionistas e Reformados (APRE)

Associação Provedores de Respostas Sociais para o Desenvolvimento (PRSD)

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<sup>8</sup> [A/75/77-E/2020/49](#).

<sup>9</sup> [E/2020/47](#).

## Decisions

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Association Aicha pour le développement de proximité et l'environnement  
Association APEDDUB  
Association avocats sans frontières humanitaires du Cameroun  
Association d'études et de recherches pour le développement  
Association de développement agricole, éducatif et sanitaire de Manono  
Association de protection et de promotion des intérêts des familles en périls (APPIFAPE)  
Association des femmes du secteur des industries extractives du Niger (AFSIEN)  
Association européenne des véhicules électriques à batteries, hybrides et à piles à combustible  
Association féminine la Lumière  
Association for Community Awareness (ASCOA)  
Association François-Xavier Bagnoud (FXB International)  
Association of Community Social Volunteers International, Lagos  
Association santé-éducation-démocratie (ASED)  
Associazione Gruppo Arteam Jobel Teatro  
Associazione La Società della Ragione  
Banjara Seva Samithi  
Bridgers Association  
Cameroon Development and Education Foundation (CADEF)  
Cameroon Gender and Environment Watch  
Campaign for Human Rights and Social Transformation, Nepal  
Campaign for the Fair Sentencing of Youth  
Carefound – Liberia  
Caribbean Natural Resources Institute  
Catholic Youth Network for Environmental Sustainability in Africa  
Center for Integrated Rural and Child Development  
Centre d'étude et de prospective stratégique  
Centre de recherche et d'ingénierie sociales du Togo  
Centre for Social Awareness, Advocacy and Ethics, Incorporated  
Centre international d'investissement  
Centro de Apoio aos Direitos Humanos "Valdício Barbosa dos Santos"  
Chaplain Ambassadors Peace Mission  
Charity Society for Supporting Patients Suffering from Cancer  
Children and Youth International  
Children's HeartLink  
China Foundation for Human Rights Development  
Chunhui Children's Foundation  
CLEEN Foundation  
Club Ohada Thies  
Coalition digitale  
Cœur d'Afrique – Fondation Roger Milla  
Community Center for Integrated Development  
Conflict Armament Research, Ltd.  
Coordinadora Latinoamericana de Cine y Comunicación de los Pueblos Indígenas, México  
Coptic Orphans Support Association

Corporación Kimirina  
Council for International Cooperation – Ontario  
CTECO – Kizota  
Dalit Welfare Association  
Defensores do Planeta  
Dementia Alliance International  
Deutsche Gesellschaft für die Vereinten Nationen, e.V.  
Edunet Foundation  
Elizabeth Foundation  
Energy Vision  
Entraide et action sans frontière  
Environmental Compliance Institute  
Erasmus Student Network  
Escuela del Estudio de la Intuición Enseñanza de Valores, Asociación Civil sin Fines de Lucro  
Ethel Amawhe Charity Foundation  
Ethio-Africa Diaspora Union Millennium Council, Limited  
Eurasia Partnership Foundation  
European Centre for Development Policy Management  
European Coalition for Just and Effective Drug Policies (ENCOD)  
European Society for Medical Oncology (ESMO)  
Family Planning NSW  
Family Policy Institute  
Federación Mexicana de Universitarias  
Federal Bar Association  
Fédération internationale d'astronautique (IAF)  
Fitilla  
Fondation Jérôme Lejeune  
Fondazione Giacomo Brodolini  
Foundation for International Development/Relief  
Fundación Charles Darwin para las Islas Galápagos  
Fundación de Música y Artes Naiot  
Fundación Latinoamérica Reforma  
Fundación Sustentabilidad, Educación, Solidaridad (Fundación SES)  
Gerakan Nasional Anti Narkotika  
Geriatric Care and Vulnerable Support Initiative  
Global Appreciation and Skills Training Network  
Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria  
Global GLOW  
Global One 2015  
Global Women for Quality and Sustainable Development Initiative  
Gooddler Foundation  
Govardhan Ecovillage Trust  
Green Crescent Health Development Initiative  
Green Crescent Indonesia Foundation

Green Moon  
Grikob Foundation Ghana  
Habitat Dergeji  
Her Choices Trust  
His Highness Maharaj Hanwant Singhji Charitable Trust  
His Marvellous Grace Support Foundation  
Hope for Life Initiative  
Hope Inspired Foundation for Women and Youth  
Hope Outreach Foundation  
Human Impacts Institute, Inc.  
Humanitarian Exchange and Research Center (HERE)  
Humanity Unified International, Inc.  
Imagine Empowerment through Music  
IMUNA, Incorporated  
Incorporated Association Happy People  
Independent Noncommercial Organization “Road Safety Promotion Centre – Movement for Safe Traffic”  
Initiative for African Youth Advancement Advocacy and Empowerment  
Innovating Health International  
Insan Defending Human Rights  
Institut international de recherche, de documentation et de formation pour la prévention et la lutte contre  
la falsification des produits de santé  
Institute of Informatics and Development  
Instituto de Estudios y Divulgación sobre Migración, AC  
International Charitable Initiative for Girl Child and Women Development Foundation  
International Interfaith Peace Corps, Inc.  
International Network for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Inc. (ESCR-Net)  
International Organization for Educational Development  
International Transformation Foundation  
International Youth Council – Yemen Chapter (IYCY)  
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers  
i-Smile International  
J’ai Rêvé Foundation  
Jagriti Child and Youth Concern Nepal  
JFMO Servicios en Intermediación Pública, Asociación en Participación  
Jyothirgamaya Foundation  
Kafa (Enough) Violence & Exploitation  
Khair al Kuwait Charity Organization  
King Saud Foundation  
Knowledge Mill International Foundation  
Kobia  
Ladli Foundation Trust  
Lantuun Dohio  
Law Explorer Development & Assistance Initiative  
Legal Center for Women’s Initiatives Sana Sezim



## Decisions

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Lesotho National Federation of Organisations of the Disabled  
Libyan Diplomats Organization  
Lidè Foundation  
Life Crown Foundation  
Life Project 4 Youth (LP4Y)  
Magdalene Iyamu Cancer Foundation  
MakeSense  
Mali action solidarité  
Milagros Day Worldwide, Inc.  
Missão Saúde para a Humanidade  
Motus Health Initiative  
NAMA Foundation  
National Alliance for Rare Diseases Support – Malta  
National Association of Women Entrepreneurs  
National Foundation for Peace, Development and Human Rights  
Native Children’s Survival  
Ndingicam Equity – Ndicameq  
NGO Committee on Sustainable Development – NY, Inc.  
No Borders Humanity Organization  
Nor Luyce Mentoring Center for Youth  
NORSAAC  
North-East Affected Area Development Society (NEADS)  
Nusroto Al-Anashid Association  
Nutrition International  
OneNess Foundations Diaspora USA  
Orchid Project, Limited  
Osdife Osservatorio sulla Sicurezza e Difesa CBRNe  
Palestinian Initiative for the Promotion of Global Dialogue and Democracy (Miftah)  
Pangloss  
Partnership for Peace and Security (PFPS)  
Parvati.org  
PEAC Institute – A NJ Nonprofit Corporation  
Peace Brigades International  
Peace Now  
Pertubuhan Bulan Sabit Hijau Malaysia/Green Crescent  
Pleasant Gathering Club of Nigeria  
Positive Youth Development Association  
PRATYEK  
Promundo – US  
Raise Your Voice Saint Lucia  
Reproductive Advocate Health Education, Ghana  
Romeo and Zainab Boudib Foundation  
Sawa for Development Association  
Sensitization Centre

Setu  
Shrimad Rajchandra Sarvamangal Trust  
Social Empowerment for Economic Development (SEED)  
Society Educational Awareness Research Consultancy and Health Organization  
Soul Sustainable Progress (SSP)  
Southern African AIDS Trust  
Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust  
Steps towards Development  
Stichting Health Action International  
Stichting Iranian Center for International Criminal Law  
Stichting Youth for Road Safety (YOURS)  
Stiftelsen Flowminder  
Stroke Association SupportNetwork – Ghana  
Svenska Naturskyddsforeningen  
Tangata Group, Inc.  
Team Rubicon UK  
The African Centre for Human Advancement, Social and Community Development Kuduru Bwari Abuja  
The ANORW Police & Emergency Services of Ottawa Watershed  
The Australian Council of Social Service, Incorporated  
The Born Free Foundation, Limited  
The Center for Oceanic Awareness, Research, and Education, Inc.  
The Center for Water Security and Cooperation  
The Fred Hollows Foundation, Limited  
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales  
The Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts of India University, Sikkim  
The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.  
The Jordan Anti-Drugs Society  
The Language Conservancy  
The Millennium Promise Alliance, Inc.  
The Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies  
The Promise  
The Regional Center for the Welfare of Ageing Persons in Cameroon  
The Royal Society of London for Improving Natural Knowledge (The Royal Society)  
The Secure Aid Relief Foundation  
The United Society  
Tony-May Foundation  
Touch a Heart Social and Economic Rights Initiative  
Transient Workers Count Too (TWC2)  
Udruzenje gradjana Zelene polujesec u Bosni i Hercegovini  
Uganda Green Crescent Society  
United Network Europa  
USAfrica News, Inc.  
Verband der deutschen Höhlen- und Karstforscher, e.V.  
Via Vitae – Associação Portuguesa a Favor da População Sénior

## Decisions

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Višva Guru Dīp Hindu Mandir – české hinduistické společenství  
Volontaires pour la paix  
Welcome Clubs International, Incorporated  
Women against Mutilations (WAM)  
Women and Youth Awareness Empowerment Network  
Women for Afghan Women, Inc.  
Women in Politics Forum  
Women Information Network  
Women Law and Development Centre, Nigeria  
Women Wage Peace, Registered Association  
Women, Infants and Children Care Initiative  
Women's Rights and Health Project, Ltd./Gte.  
World Development Foundation, Inc.  
World Woman's Christian Temperance Union, Inc.  
Worldwide Veterinary Service  
Yahola Tribal Nation CSO, Inc.  
Yedidim for Youth and Society  
Yiaga Africa Initiative  
Yolse, Santé publique et innovation  
Youth Alive, Ltd./Gte.  
Youth for Better Kenya  
Youth in Technology and Arts Network (YOTAN)  
Youth Initiative for Drug Research Information Support and Education  
Youth Leading Change – Aharai!

(b) Also decided to reclassify two non-governmental organizations from special to general consultative status:

Eastern Regional Organization for Public Administration  
Plan International

(c) Noted the decision of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to take note of the change of name of the following nine non-governmental organizations:

Ecumenical Alliance for Human Rights and Development (special, 2015) to Arab-European Forum for Dialogue and Human Rights  
Fondation Cordoue de Genève (special, 2018) to Cordoba Peace Institute – Geneva  
Initiative féministe européenne (special, 2016) to Initiative féministe euroméditerranéenne (IFE-EFI)  
Institute for Conflict Transformation and Peacebuilding (special, 2013) to æ-Centre  
International POPs Elimination Network (special, 2012) to International Pollutants Elimination Network (IPEN)  
Korean Association for Supporting the SDGs for the UN (ASD) (special, 2015) to Association for Supporting the SDGs for the UN (ASD)  
Stichting Ezidis (special, 2019) to International Yazidis Foundation for the Prevention of Genocide  
World Hunger Year, Inc. (special, 2012) to WhyHunger, Inc.  
World Lung Foundation (special, 2009) to Vital Strategies

(d) Also noted that the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations had taken note of the merger of the Social Service Agency of the Protestant Church in Germany, which had obtained special consultative status in 2004, with the Protestant Development Service to form the Protestant Agency for Diakonie and Development, and decided to grant special consultative status to the Protestant Agency for Diakonie and Development;

(e) Further noted that the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations had taken note of the quadrennial reports of the following 611 non-governmental organizations:

AARP (2015–2018)  
Abibimman Foundation (2015–2018)  
Aboriginal Legal Service of Western Australia (2015–2018)  
Academy for Future Science (2015–2018)  
Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (2015–2018)  
Action Health Incorporated (2015–2018)  
Action sensibilisation sur les nouvelles technologies de l’information et de la communication (2015–2018)  
Action solidaire pour le développement communautaire (2015–2018)  
ActionAid (2015–2018)  
Actions pour l’environnement et le développement durable (2015–2018)  
Active Help Organization (2015–2018)  
ADJMOR (2015–2018)  
Africa and Middle East Refugee Assistance (AMERA) (2015–2018)  
Africa Development Interchange Network (2015–2018)  
African Action on AIDS (2015–2018)  
African Association of Education for Development (2015–2018)  
African Relief in Action (ARIA) (2015–2018)  
African Rights Initiative International (2015–2018)  
African Youth for Transparency (AYFT) (2015–2018)  
Agalliao Development Initiative (2015–2018)  
AGE Platform Europe (2015–2018)  
Agence pour les droits de l’homme (2015–2018)  
Agewell Foundation (2015–2018)  
Aid for Trade Logistics (2015–2018)  
Aide internationale pour l’enfance (2015–2018)  
AIDS Foundation East-West (2015–2018)  
AIESEC International (2015–2018)  
ALDET Centre (Saint Lucia) (2015–2018)  
Al-Hakim Foundation (2015–2018)  
All China Women’s Federation (2015–2018)  
All India Women’s Conference (2015–2018)  
All India Women’s Education Fund Association (2015–2018)  
All Pakistan Women’s Association (2015–2018)  
Alliance for Health Promotion (A4HP) (2015–2018)  
Alliance Forum Foundation (2015–2018)  
All-Russian Social Fund “The Russian Children Foundation” (2015–2018)  
“All-Russian Society of the Deaf” All-Russian Public Organization of Persons with Disabilities (ARSD-APOPD) (2015–2018)  
American Correctional Association (2015–2018)  
American Indian Law Alliance (2015–2018)  
American Youth Understanding Diabetes Abroad, Inc. (AYUDA) (2015–2018)  
Antiviolence Center (2015–2018)

AquaFed: International Federation of Private Water Operators (2015–2018)  
Arab Forum for Environment and Development (2015–2018)  
Arab Lawyers' Union (2015–2018)  
Armenian Constitutional Right-Protective Centre (2015–2018)  
Asia Pacific Women's Watch (APWW) (2015–2018)  
Asian Centre for Human Rights (2015–2018)  
Asian People's Disability Alliance (2015–2018)  
Asociación Cubana de las Naciones Unidas/Cuban United Nations Association (2015–2018)  
Asociación Dominicana de las Naciones Unidas (ANU-RD) (2015–2018)  
Asociación Panameña de Corredores y Promotores de Bienes Raíces (2015–2018)  
Asociación para la Promoción de la Libertad y el Desarrollo Sostenible (2015–2018)  
Asociación Proyecto Hombre (2015–2018)  
Associated Country Women of the World (2015–2018)  
Association "Paix" pour la lutte contre la contrainte et l'injustice (2015–2018)  
Association Africa 21 (2015–2018)  
Association burkinabé pour la survie de l'enfance (2015–2018)  
Association de la jeunesse congolaise pour le développement (2015–2018)  
Association des femmes peules autochtones du Tchad (AFPAT) (2015–2018)  
Association des ressortissants et amis d'Eséka (2015–2018)  
Association femmes solidaires au Togo (2015–2018)  
Association for Emissions Control by Catalyst (AECC) (2015–2018)  
Association for Solidarity with Freedom-Deprived Juveniles (2015–2018)  
Association marocaine des droits humains (2015–2018)  
Association mauritanienne pour la promotion du droit (2015–2018)  
Association Miraisme International (2015–2018)  
Association nationale de coopération pour le développement du Cameroun (ANACODECAM) (2015–2018)  
Association of Asian Confederation of Credit Unions (2015–2018)  
Association of United Families International (2015–2018)  
Association pour l'éducation, la santé et la promotion des femmes et des enfants au Cameroun "ESOFÉ" (2015–2018)  
Association pour le développement économique, social, environnemental du nord (2015–2018)  
Association pour les victimes du monde (2015–2018)  
Associazione Carcere e Territorio (2015–2018)  
Assyrian Aid Society (Iraq) (2015–2018)  
Aube nouvelle pour la femme et le développement (2015–2018)  
Baha'i International Community (2014–2017)  
Bahrain Women Society (2015–2018)  
Bangladesh Nari Progati Sangha (2015–2018)  
Behnam Daheshpour Charity Organization (2015–2018)  
Beijing Children's Legal Aid and Research Center (2015–2018)  
Beijing Zhicheng Migrant Workers' Legal Aid and Research Center (2015–2018)  
Beirut Institute (2015–2018)  
Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti Jaipur (2015–2018)  
Bilie Human Rights Initiative (2015–2018)

Boy with a Ball Ministries (2015–2018)  
Buddha’s Light International Association (2015–2018)  
Campaign for Human Rights and Development Sierra Leone (2015–2018)  
Campaign Life Coalition (2015–2018)  
Canada’s National Firearms Association (2015–2018)  
Canadian Centre on Substance Abuse (CCSA) (2015–2018)  
Canadian Pugwash Group (2015–2018)  
Canterbury Business Association, Incorporated (2015–2018)  
CARE International (2015–2018)  
Caribbean Medical Association/Asociación Médica del Caribe (2015–2018)  
Caritas Internationalis – International Confederation of Catholic Charities (2015–2018)  
Caucus for Women’s Leadership (2015–2018)  
Center for Economic and Social Rights (2015–2018)  
Center for International Earth Science Information Network (2015–2018)  
Center for Regional Policy Research and Cooperation “Studiorum” (2015–2018)  
Center for Religion and Diplomacy, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Centre catholique international de Genève (CCIG) (2015–2018)  
Centre d’accompagnement des autochtones pygmées et minoritaires vulnérables (2015–2018)  
Centre d’accueil et de volontariat pour orphelins, abandonnés et handicapés du Cameroun (CAVOAH-CAM) (2015–2018)  
Centre d’encadrement et développement des anciens combattants (2015–2018)  
Centre de vulgarisation de l’outil informatique (CVOI) (2015–2018)  
Centre européen de recherche et de prospective politique (CEREPPOL) (2015–2018)  
Centre for Community Regeneration and Development (2015–2018)  
Centre for Equality, Ltd. (2015–2018)  
Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation (2015–2018)  
Centre for International Sustainable Development Law (2015–2018)  
Centre for Renewable Energy and Action on Climate Change (2015–2018)  
Centre international de droit comparé de l’environnement (2015–2018)  
Centro de Estudios Sobre la Juventud (2015–2018)  
CGFNS International, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Chant du guépard dans le désert (2015–2018)  
Child Development Foundation (2015–2018)  
Child Rights Connect (2015–2018)  
Childlink Foundation (2015–2018)  
“Children of the World” Regional Public Charitable Fund of Assistance to Cultural and Sports Development of Children and Young People (2015–2018)  
Children’s Human Rights Centre of Albania (2015–2018)  
China Association of Non-Profit Organizations (2015–2018)  
China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation (2015–2018)  
China Great Wall Society (2015–2018)  
China International Public Relations Association (CIPRA) (2015–2018)  
Chinese American Parent-Student Council of New York City, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Chinese Association for International Understanding (2015–2018)

Christian Legal Fellowship (2015–2018)  
Citizens' Coalition for Economic Justice (2015–2018)  
Civil Society Legislative Advocacy Centre (2015–2018)  
Coalition of Activist Lesbians (Australia) (2015–2018)  
Colombian Commission of Jurists (2015–2018)  
Colombian Confederation of NGOs (2015–2018)  
Comisión Jurídica para el Autodesarrollo de los Pueblos Originarios Andinos “Capaj” (2015–2018)  
Comité français pour l’Afrique du Sud (2015–2018)  
Comité Permanente por la Defensa de los Derechos Humanos (2015–2018)  
Commission africaine des promoteurs de la santé et des droits de l’homme (2015–2018)  
Community Social Welfare Foundation (2015–2018)  
Company of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul (2015–2018)  
Concepts of Truth (2015–2018)  
Concern Worldwide US (2015–2018)  
Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro/General Italian Confederation of Labour (2015–2018)  
Congregations of St. Joseph (2015–2018)  
Connecting.nyc, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Conscience and Peace Tax International (CPTI) (2015–2018)  
Conseil de jeunesse pluriculturelle (COJEP) (2015–2018)  
Convention of Independent Financial Advisors (2015–2018)  
Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations (2015–2018)  
Coordination immigrés du sud du monde, Vénétie (CISM) (2015–2018)  
Corporación Acción Técnica Social (ATS) (2015–2018)  
Count of Monte Alea Foundation, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Coup de pouce (2015–2018)  
Crowley Children’s Fund (2015–2018)  
Dacia Revival International Society, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Dar Si-Hmad for Development, Education and Culture in Sidi Ifni (2015–2018)  
Dartışsafaka Cemiyeti (2015–2018)  
Deaf Aid (2015–2018)  
Defence for Children International (2015–2018)  
Development Action for Women Network, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Development Generation Africa International (DGAI) (2015–2018)  
Development Innovations and Networks (2015–2018)  
“Dialogue of Cultures – United World” International Public Charity Fund (2015–2018)  
Dianova International (2015–2018)  
Dignité impact/Impact Dignity (2015–2018)  
Diplomatic Council, e.V. (2015–2018)  
Disabled Peoples International (2015–2018)  
Disease Management Association of India (2015–2018)  
Dóchas – The Irish Association of Non-Governmental Development Organisations (2015–2018)  
Drammeh Institute, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Du pain pour chaque enfant (2015–2018)  
Earthjustice (2015–2018)



Ecumenical Alliance for Human Rights and Development (EAHRD) (2015–2018)  
Egyptian Center for Women’s Rights (2015–2018)  
Emergency – Life Support for Civilian War Victims (2015–2018)  
Environmental Ambassadors for Sustainable Development (2015–2018)  
Environmental Women’s Assembly (2015–2018)  
Equidad de Género: Ciudadanía, Trabajo y Familia, AC (2015–2018)  
Espace Afrique international (2015–2018)  
Ethics & Religious Liberty Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention (ERLC) (2015–2018)  
Europäischer Interessenverband Handel-Gewerbe-Industrie (EIVHGI) (2015–2018)  
European Disability Forum (2015–2018)  
European Health Psychology Society (2015–2018)  
European Transport Safety Council (2015–2018)  
European Women’s Lobby (2015–2018)  
European Youth Forum (2015–2018)  
Federación Internacional de Asociaciones de Ayuda Social Ecológica y Cultural (FIADASEC)/International Federation of Associations for Social, Ecological and Cultural Help (FIADASEC) (2015–2018)  
Federación Internacional de Fe y Alegría (2015–2018)  
Federation for Women and Family Planning (2015–2018)  
Federation of Associations of Former International Civil Servants (2015–2018)  
FEMM Foundation (2015–2018)  
First Nations Summit (2015–2018)  
Fondation Congo Assistance (2015–2018)  
Fondation Institut de recherche pour le développement durable et les relations internationales (2015–2018)  
Fondation Mohammed VI pour la protection de l’environnement (2015–2018)  
Fondation pour l’éradication du travail des enfants dans la culture du tabac (2015–2018)  
Fondazione Marista per la Solidarietà Internazionale, ONLUS (2015–2018)  
Fondazione Rosselli Americas (2015–2018)  
Fonds Tara (2015–2018)  
Forum Azzahrae pour la femme marocaine (2015–2018)  
Forum for Women and Development (FOKUS) (2015–2018)  
Forum Réfugiés – Cosi (2015–2018)  
Foundation for Research on Technology Migration and Integration (2015–2018)  
Foundation for the Development of Knowledge Suma Veritas (2015–2018)  
Foundation Projekta for Women and Development Services/Stichting Projekta (2015–2018)  
Fracarita International (2015–2018)  
France libérés: Fondation Danielle Mitterrand (2007–2010)  
Franciscans International (2015–2018)  
Fundación Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (2015–2018)  
Fundación Antonio Núñez Jiménez de la Naturaleza y el Hombre (2015–2018)  
Fundación Atenea Grupo, GID (2015–2018)  
Fundación Centro Latinoamericano de Derechos Humanos (2015–2018)  
Fundación Diagrama: Intervención Psicosocial (2015–2018)  
Fundación Latinoamericana por los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo Social (2015–2018)  
Fundación Luz María (2015–2018)

Fundación Riba (2015–2018)  
Fundación Salvadoreña para el Desarrollo Económico y Social (2015–2018)  
Gender at Work (2014–2017)  
Gibh Varta Manch (2015–2018)  
Gic technologies nouvelles au Cameroun (2015–2018)  
Girl Scouts of the United States of America (2015–2018)  
Global Academy Institute of Technology Foundation, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Global Bioethics Initiative, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Global Forum on Human Settlements (2015–2018)  
Global Justice Center (2015–2018)  
Global Network for Rights and Development (GNRD) (2015–2018)  
Global Vision India Foundation (2015–2018)  
Global Volunteers (2015–2018)  
Globe International (2015–2018)  
Graduate Women International (GWI) (2015–2018)  
Grand Triangle, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Groupe d'action pour la promotion socioculturelle et l'alphabétisation: nouvelle énergie (2015–2018)  
Grupo de Información en Reproducción Elegida, AC (GIRE) (2015–2018)  
Grupo Intercultural Almaciga (2015–2018)  
Habitat for Humanity International (2015–2018)  
Handicap International (2015–2018)  
Hazrat Javad-al-Aemeh Cultural Charity Institute (2015–2018)  
Healthy Start Initiative (2015–2018)  
Helios Life Association (2015–2018)  
Help Me See, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Help4help (2015–2018)  
High Atlas Foundation (2015–2018)  
Himalayan Research and Cultural Foundation (2015–2018)  
Hong Kong Council of Social Service (2015–2018)  
Horn of Africa Voluntary Youth Committee (HAVOYOCO) (2015–2018)  
Howard Center for Family, Religion and Society (2015–2018)  
Howard League for Penal Reform (2015–2018)  
Human Appeal International (2015–2018)  
Human in Love (2015–2018)  
Human Life International, Inc. (2014–2017)  
Human Relief Foundation (2015–2018)  
Human Rights Council of Australia, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems International (2015–2018)  
Human Rights Law Centre (2015–2018)  
Human Rights League of the Horn of Africa (2015–2018)  
Human Rights National Circle (HRNC)/Cercle national des droits de l'homme (CNDH) (2015–2018)  
IBREA Foundation (2015–2018)  
Ilngwesi Afya Program (2015–2018)  
Indian Council of Education (2015–2018)

Institut de la démocratie et de la coopération (2015–2018)  
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (2015–2018)  
Institute for International Urban Development (2015–2018)  
Institute for Sustainable Development and Research (ISDR) (2015–2018)  
Institute for Women’s Studies and Research (2015–2018)  
Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Loreto Generalate (2015–2018)  
Instituto para la Participación y el Desarrollo, Asociación Civil (INPADE) (2015–2018)  
Instituto Qualivida (2015–2018)  
Integrated Youth Empowerment – Common Initiative Group (IYE-CIG) (2015–2018)  
Inter-action globale (IAG) (2015–2018)  
International Action Network on Small Arms (2015–2018)  
International Alert (2015–2018)  
International Alliance for Responsible Drinking (2015–2018)  
International Alliance of Women (2015–2018)  
International Association for the Defence of Religious Liberty/Association internationale pour la défense de la liberté (2015–2018)  
International Association for Water Law (2015–2018)  
International Association of Charities (2015–2018)  
International Association of Jewish Lawyers and Jurists (2015–2018)  
International Association of Lawyers against Nuclear Arms (2015–2018)  
International Association of Schools of Social Work (2015–2018)  
International Association of Soldiers for Peace (2015–2018)  
International Black Women for Wages for Housework (2015–2018)  
International Bureau for Epilepsy (IBE) (2015–2018)  
International Campaign to Ban Landmines – Cluster Munition Coalition (ICBL-CMC) (2015–2018)  
International Center for Ethno-Religious Mediation, Inc. (2015–2018)  
International Center for Not-for-Profit Law (INCPL) (2015–2018)  
International Christian Organisation of the Media (2015–2018)  
International Committee for the Indigenous Peoples of the Americas (Switzerland) (2015–2018)  
International Confederation of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (2015–2018)  
International Corrections and Prisons Association for the Advancement of Professional Corrections (2015–2018)  
International Council for Game and Wildlife Conservation (2015–2018)  
International Council of Russian Compatriots (ICRC) (2015–2018)  
International Council of Scientific Unions (2015–2018)  
International Council of Women (2015–2018)  
International Development Information Organization (2015–2018)  
International Ecological Safety Cooperative Organization (2015–2018)  
International Falcon Movement – Socialist Educational International (2015–2018)  
International Family Therapy Association (2015–2018)  
International Federation for Family Development (2015–2018)  
International Federation for Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida (IF) (2015–2018)  
International Federation of Associations of the Elderly (2015–2018)  
International Federation of Journalists (2009–2012)

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International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (2015–2018)  
International Federation of Psoriasis Associations (2015–2018)  
International Federation of Social Workers (2015–2018)  
International Federation on Ageing (2015–2018)  
International Fellowship of Reconciliation (2015–2018)  
International Foundation for Electoral Systems (2015–2018)  
International Geothermal Association, Incorporated (2015–2018)  
International Harm Reduction Association (IHRA) (2015–2018)  
International Human Rights Observer Pakistan (IHRO) (2015–2018)  
International Indian Treaty Council (2015–2018)  
International Informatization Academy (2015–2018)  
International Institute for Child Protection (2015–2018)  
International Institute for the Rights of the Child (2015–2018)  
International Islamic Relief Organization (2015–2018)  
International Islamic Youth League (2015–2018)  
International Jurists Organisation (2015–2018)  
International Juvenile Justice Observatory (2015–2018)  
International Law Association (2015–2018)  
International Law Enforcement Federation (2015–2018)  
International Lesbian and Gay Association (2015–2018)  
International Mahavira Jain Mission (2015–2018)  
International Motor Vehicle Inspection Committee (2015–2018)  
International Movement ATD Fourth World (2015–2018)  
International Multiracial Shared Cultural Organization (2015–2018)  
International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (2015–2018)  
International Network of Liberal Women (2015–2018)  
International Ocean Institute (2015–2018)  
International Ontopsychology Association (2015–2018)  
International Organization for Standardization (2015–2018)  
International Organization of Employers (2015–2018)  
International Peacebuilding Alliance (Interpeace) (2015–2018)  
International Planned Parenthood Federation (Europe region) (2015–2018)  
International Planned Parenthood Federation (western hemisphere region) (2015–2018)  
International Police Executive Symposium (2015–2018)  
International Press Institute (2001–2004)  
International Press Institute (2005–2008)  
International Press Institute (2009–2012)  
International Rescue Committee, Inc. (2015–2018)  
International Samaritan (2015–2018)  
International Sociological Association (2015–2018)  
International Trade Union Confederation (2015–2018)  
International Union for Land Value Taxation and Free Trade (2015–2018)  
International Union of Economists (2015–2018)  
International Union of Latin Notariat (2015–2018)

International Union of Railways (UIC) (2015–2018)  
International Volunteer Organization for Women, Education Development (2015–2018)  
International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development (VIDES) (2015–2018)  
International Women & Family Foundation (2015–2018)  
International-Lawyers.org (2015–2018)  
IOGT International (2015–2018)  
Isa Viswa Prajnana Trust (2015–2018)  
Islamic Research and Information Artistic & Cultural Institute (2015–2018)  
Japan Civil Liberties Union (2015–2018)  
Japan Federation of Bar Associations (2015–2018)  
Japan National Committee for UN-Women (2015–2018)  
Join Together Society (2015–2018)  
Jubilee Campaign (2015–2018)  
Junior Chamber International (2015–2018)  
Karamah: Muslim Women Lawyers for Human Rights (2015–2018)  
Kaurareg Aboriginal Land Trust (2015–2018)  
Kawish Resource Center (2015–2018)  
Kids Included Together (2015–2018)  
Kikandwa Rural Communities Development Organization (KIRUCODO) (2015–2018)  
Kiyana Karaj Group (2015–2018)  
Korean Association for Supporting the SDGs for the UN (ASD) (2015–2018)  
Korean Bar Association (2015–2018)  
Korean Institute for Women and Politics (2015–2018)  
L'auravetli'an Information and Education Network of Indigenous People (LIENIP) (2015–2018)  
La fondation de la progéniture Denis Lomela Ifangwa (2015–2018)  
Lama Gangchen World Peace Foundation (LGWPF) (2015–2018)  
Latter-day Saint Charities (2015–2018)  
Laya (2015–2018)  
Leadership Conference on Civil Rights Education Fund (2015–2018)  
Legião da Boa Vontade/Legion of Good Will (2015–2018)  
Life for Relief and Development (2015–2018)  
Ligue internationale contre le racisme et l'antisémitisme (2015–2018)  
Ligue marocaine de la citoyenneté et des droits de l'homme (2015–2018)  
Madre, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Managing Committee of Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (2015–2018)  
Manav Pragati Sansthan, Rajgarh (2015–2018)  
Manhattan Multicultural Counseling (2015–2018)  
Martina Centre for Sustainable Development (2015–2018)  
Maryam Ghasemi Educational Charity Institute (2015–2018)  
Mayama, Asociación Civil (2015–2018)  
Mayors for Peace (2015–2018)  
Medical Women's International Association (2015–2018)  
Medrar (2015–2018)  
Mercy-USA for Aid and Development, Inc. (2015–2018)

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Metro Toronto Chinese & Southeast Asian Legal Clinic (2015–2018)  
México Unido contra la Delincuencia, AC (2015–2018)  
Millennium Institute (2015–2018)  
Miroslava International Alliance (2013–2016)  
Misión Mujer, AC (2015–2018)  
Mission International Rescue Foundation (MIR) (2015–2018)  
Mongolian Family Welfare Association (2015–2018)  
Mouvement national des jeunes patriotes du Mali (2015–2018)  
Movement for a Better World (2015–2018)  
Muslim World League (2015–2018)  
NABU – Knowledge Transfer beyond Boundaries (2015–2018)  
National Aboriginal Circle against Family Violence (2015–2018)  
National Alliance of Women’s Organizations (2015–2018)  
National Association of Community Legal Centres, Inc. (2015–2018)  
National Council of Child Rights Advocates, Nigeria (south-west zone) (2015–2018)  
National Council of Negro Women (2015–2018)  
National Council of Women of the United States, Inc. (2015–2018)  
National Native Title Council (2015–2018)  
National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc. (2015–2018)  
National Women’s Council of Catalonia/Consell Nacional de Dones de Catalunya (2015–2018)  
New Japan Women’s Association (2015–2018)  
New Progressive Alliance (2015–2018)  
New York County Lawyers’ Association (2015–2018)  
Niger Delta Women’s Movement for Peace and Development (2015–2018)  
Nigerian Network of Women Exporters of Services (2015–2018)  
Noah’s Arc Foundation (2015–2018)  
Non-for-Profit Organization “Expert Society on Space Threat Defense” (2015–2018)  
Non-for-Profit Organization “International Association of Technical Survey and Classification Institutions” (2015–2018)  
Non-Governmental Ecological Vernadsky Foundation (2015–2018)  
Nonviolent Peaceforce (2015–2018)  
Nonviolent Radical Party; Transnational and Transparty (2015–2018)  
Nord-Sud XXI/North-South XXI (2015–2018)  
Northern CCB (2015–2018)  
Northern Ireland Women’s European Platform (2015–2018)  
Norwegian Forum for Environment and Development (2015–2018)  
Nouveaux droits de l’homme (NDH) (2015–2018)  
Objectif sciences international (2015–2018)  
OceanCare (2015–2018)  
OISCA International (South India chapter) (2015–2018)  
OLPC Foundation (2015–2018)  
Order of St. John (2015–2018)  
Organisation nationale des donneurs de sang bénévole (2015–2018)  
Organisation pour la prévention et l’intervention contre les risques et contingences (2015–2018)

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Organização das Famílias da Ásia e do Pacífico (2015–2018)  
Organización de Entidades Mutuales de las Américas (2015–2018)  
Organization for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Advancement International (2015–2018)  
Organization of Islamic Capitals and Cities (2015–2018)  
Pacific Rim Institute for Development & Education (2015–2018)  
Pag-Aalay Ng Puso Foundation (Offering of the Heart Foundation) (2015–2018)  
Palestinian Return Centre, Ltd. (2015–2018)  
Pan Pacific and South-East Asia Women’s Association of Thailand (2015–2018)  
PanAmerican-PanAfrican Association, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Partnership for Sustainable Development (PASD) (2015–2018)  
Pax Christi International – International Catholic Peace Movement (2015–2018)  
Peace and Life Enhancement Initiative International (2015–2018)  
Peivande Gole Narges Organization (2015–2018)  
Permanent Assembly for Human Rights (2015–2018)  
Plan International, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Planned Parenthood Federation of America (2015–2018)  
Poverty Alleviation for the Poor Initiative (2015–2018)  
Poverty Elimination and Community Education Foundation (2015–2018)  
Prasad Project, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Priests for Life (2015–2018)  
Privacy International (2015–2018)  
Program for Appropriate Technology in Health (PATH) (2015–2018)  
Pro-Life Campaign (2015–2018)  
Public International Law and Policy Group (2015–2018)  
Pugwash Conference on Science and World Affairs (2015–2018)  
Rajasthan Samgrah Kalyan Sansthan (2015–2018)  
Ramola Bhar Charitable Trust (2015–2018)  
RARE (2015–2018)  
Red Mujeres, Desarrollo, Justicia y Paz, AC (2015–2018)  
Red Venezolana de Organizaciones para el Desarrollo Social (2015–2018)  
Rede Brasileira de Redução de Danos e Direitos Humanos (REDUC) (2015–2018)  
Réseaux IP européens Network Coordination Centre (2015–2018)  
Restoration World Outreach Ministries (2015–2018)  
Romanian Independent Society of Human Rights (2015–2018)  
Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung – Gesellschaftsanalyse und Politische Bildung eV (2013–2016)  
Roshd Foundation (2015–2018)  
Roundtable Association of Catholic Diocesan Social Action Directors (2015–2018)  
Rural Community Development Program (2015–2018)  
Rural Development Centre (2015–2018)  
Sacro Militare Ordine Costantiniano di San Giorgio (2015–2018)  
Safe Water Network (2015–2018)  
Sahkar Social Welfare Association (2015–2018)  
Sahyog International Foundation (2015–2018)  
Salesian Missions, Inc. (2015–2018)

Salvation Army (2015–2018)  
Sam Kader Memorial Fund (2015–2018)  
Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled (2015–2018)  
Samarthyam (2015–2018)  
Sambhali Trust (2015–2018)  
Samdong International Association, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Samuhik Abhiyan (2015–2018)  
Schools without Borders (2015–2018)  
Schweizerische Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Jugendverbände (2015–2018)  
Self-Help Development Facilitators (2015–2018)  
Serve Train Educate People’s Society (2015–2018)  
Servicios Ecueménicos para Reconciliación y Reconstrucción (2015–2018)  
Shanta Memorial Rehabilitation Centre (2015–2018)  
Shia Rights Watch, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Shimin Gaikou Centre – Citizens’ Diplomatic Centre for the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2015–2018)  
Shohratgarh Environmental Society (2015–2018)  
Sikh Human Rights Group (2015–2018)  
Sindh Community Foundation (2015–2018)  
Skyian Welfare Organization (2015–2018)  
Social Development International (SDI) (2015–2018)  
Social Welfare Corporation “Miral Welfare Foundation” (2015–2018)  
Socialist International (2015–2018)  
Socialist International Women (2015–2018)  
Society for Human Advancement and Disadvantaged Empowerment (2015–2018)  
Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology (2015–2018)  
Society for the Promotion of Youth and Masses (2015–2018)  
Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (2015–2018)  
Society of Collective Interests Orientation (2015–2018)  
Sociologists for Women in Society (2015–2018)  
Soroptimist International of Europe (2015–2018)  
SOS Kinderdorf International (2015–2018)  
South Sudanese Women Christian Mission for Peace (2015–2018)  
Special Olympics International (2015–2018)  
Stichting Global Human Rights Defence (2015–2018)  
Stiftelsen Stockholm International Water Institute (2015–2018)  
Stree Aadhar Kendra/Women’s Development Center (2015–2018)  
Stree Mukti Sanghatana (2015–2018)  
Students for Sensible Drug Policy (2015–2018)  
Sulabh International (2015–2018)  
Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (2015–2018)  
Swedish Federation for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Rights (RFSL) (2015–2018)  
Swiss Catholic Lenten Fund (2015–2018)  
Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression (2015–2018)  
Tabernacle Worship and Prayer Ministry, Inc. (2015–2018)



Tandem Project (2015–2018)  
Temple of Understanding (2015–2018)  
Terra-1530 (2015–2018)  
Terre des hommes fédération internationale (2015–2018)  
The Arab Group for the Protection of Nature (2015–2018)  
The HETL Association, Inc. (2015–2018)  
The Institute of Development Studies (2015–2018)  
The International Coalition to Ban Uranium Weapons (2015–2018)  
The New Zealand Drug Foundation (2015–2018)  
The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (2011–2014)  
The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (2015–2018)  
The Society for Recovery Support (2015–2018)  
The Tronie Foundation (2015–2018)  
The United Kingdom Grand Priory of the International Knightly Order Valiant of St. George (2015–2018)  
The Washington and Lee University (2015–2018)  
The Well-Being Foundation (2015–2018)  
The World Association for al-Azhar Graduates (WAAG) (2015–2018)  
Third World Institute/Instituto del Tercer Mundo (2015–2018)  
Touro Law Center – The Institute on Human Rights and the Holocaust (2015–2018)  
Transform Drug Policy Foundation (2015–2018)  
Tribal Link Foundation, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Trilok Youth Club and Charitable Trust, Vadodara (2015–2018)  
Tripura Foundation, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Udisha (2015–2018)  
Udyama (2015–2018)  
Un Techo para Mi País (2015–2018)  
UNESCO Centre of Catalonia (2015–2018)  
Union for International Cancer Control (2015–2018)  
Union of British Columbia Indian Chiefs (2015–2018)  
Union of International Associations (2015–2018)  
United Help for International Children (2015–2018)  
United Nations Association of Russia (2015–2018)  
United Nations Association of San Diego (2015–2018)  
United Religions Initiative (2015–2018)  
United States Committee for UNIFEM (2015–2018)  
United States International Council on Disabilities (2015–2018)  
United States Sustainable Development Corporation (2015–2018)  
United Towns Agency for North-South Cooperation (2015–2018)  
Univers de solidarité et de développement (2015–2018)  
Universidad Interamericana de Puerto Rico, Inc. (2015–2018)  
UN-Women – Nationell Kommitté Sverige (2015–2018)  
UN-Women Australia, Incorporated (2015–2018)  
UN-Women for Peace Association, Inc. (2015–2018)  
Utah China Friendship Improvement Sharing Hands Development and Commerce (2015–2018)

Vaagdhara (2015–2018)  
Validity Foundation – Mental Disability Advocacy Centre (2015–2018)  
Verein Sudwind Entwicklungspolitik (2013–2016)  
Vier Pfoten International, gemeinnützige Privatstiftung (2015–2018)  
Viet Nam Family Planning Association (VINAFPA) (2015–2018)  
Villages Unis/United Villages (2015–2018)  
Vision Welfare Group (2015–2018)  
Vivekananda Sevakendra-O-Sishu Uddyan (2015–2018)  
Wales Assembly of Women (2015–2018)  
Wiener Drogen Komitee/Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs (2015–2018)  
Woïyo Kondeye (2015–2018)  
Women for Human Rights, Single Women Group (2015–2018)  
Women for Women’s Human Rights – New Ways (2009–2012)  
Women Founders Collective (2015–2018)  
Women Trafficking and Child Labour Eradication Foundation (2015–2018)  
Women’s Empowerment Group (2015–2018)  
Women’s Human Rights International Association (2015–2018)  
Women’s International Zionist Organization (2015–2018)  
Women’s Union of Russia (2015–2018)  
Women’s World Banking (2015–2018)  
Women’s World Summit Foundation (2015–2018)  
Womensport International (2015–2018)  
Working Women Association (2015–2018)  
World Alliance of Young Men’s Christian Associations (2015–2018)  
World Animal Net, Inc. (2015–2018)  
World Assembly of Youth (2015–2018)  
World Association of Industrial and Technological Research Organizations (2015–2018)  
World Blind Union (2015–2018)  
World Council for Psychotherapy (2015–2018)  
World Council of Arameans (Syriacs) (2015–2018)  
World Council of Independent Christian Churches (2012–2015)  
World Federation for Mental Health (2015–2018)  
World Federation of Methodist and Uniting Church Women (2015–2018)  
World Federation of the Deaf (WFD) (2015–2018)  
World Federation of the Deafblind (WFDB) (2015–2018)  
World Federation of United Nations Associations (2015–2018)  
World Hunger Year, Inc. (2012–2015)  
World Jurist Association of the World Peace through Law Center (2015–2018)  
World Lebanese Cultural Union, Inc. (2015–2018)  
World Mission Foundation – Crusaders Against HIV/AIDS (2015–2018)  
World Muslim Congress (2015–2018)

World Network of Users and Survivors of Psychiatry (WNUSP) (2015–2018)  
World Organization for Early Childhood Education (2015–2018)  
World Organization of Building Officials (2015–2018)  
World Rehabilitation Fund, Inc. (2015–2018)  
World Safety Organization (2015–2018)  
World Society of Victimology (2015–2018)  
World Young Women’s Christian Association (2015–2018)  
Youth and Women Empowerment Centre (2015–2018)  
Youth Bridge Foundation (2015–2018)  
Youth Empowerment Synergy (2015–2018)  
Zamani Foundation (2015–2018)

(f) Decided to close without prejudice consideration of the requests for consultative status made by the following 18 non-governmental organizations after those organizations had failed, after three reminders over the course of two consecutive sessions of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, to respond to queries posed to them by members of the Committee:

Children’s Dignity Forum (CDF)  
Climate-KIC Holding, BV  
Darülaceze Vakfı – Huzur Sağlık ve Eğitim Vakfı  
Dünya Yerel Yönetim ve Demokrasi Vakfı  
European Grassroots Antiracist Movement (EGAM)  
Fundación Alianza por los Derechos, la Igualdad y la Solidaridad Internacional  
Groupe de recherche et d’information sur la paix et la sécurité  
Institut arabe des chefs d’entreprise  
International Youth Committee  
Komitet pravnika za ljudska prava  
Relations publiques sans frontières  
Rupani Foundation  
Sahipkiran Stratejik Araştırmalar Merkezi  
SOS Exclus pour la protection et l’épanouissement de la famille, de l’enfant et des personnes vulnérables  
SOS-Esclaves  
The Centre for International Governance Innovation  
The Public Association “Kazakhstan International Bureau for Human Rights and Rule of Law”  
(the Republican Status)  
Waste Management Society

(g) Noted the decision of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to take note of the request by the non-governmental organization Mother Helpage (UK) to withdraw its application for consultative status.

#### **2020/209. Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2020 regular session**

On 18 June 2020, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2020 regular session.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> E/2020/32 (Part I).

**2020/210. Deadline for the submission of quadrennial reports by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council**

On 18 June 2020, the Economic and Social Council, recalling its resolution 2008/4 of 21 July 2008, in which it set the annual deadline of 1 May for the submission of quadrennial reports by non-governmental organizations in general and special consultative status with the Council, and its resolution 2020/4 of 4 June 2020, in which it decided, on an exceptional basis, taking into account the continued impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on the working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Council and sessions of its subsidiary bodies, that, should conditions allow for the convening of in-person meetings at United Nations Headquarters, and taking into account the availability of conference services, the 2020 resumed session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations would be held in August 2020, decided, on an exceptional basis, to extend the deadline for the submission of quadrennial reports by non-governmental organizations in general and special consultative status with the Council until 1 July 2020.

**2020/211. Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session and the provisional agenda and dates of its fifty-second session**

On 18 June 2020, the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Took note of the report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session;<sup>11</sup>

(b) Decided that the fifty-second session of the Commission would be held in New York from 2 to 5 March 2021;

(c) Approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-second session of the Commission, as set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE FIFTY-SECOND SESSION  
OF THE STATISTICAL COMMISSION

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

*Documentation*

Provisional agenda and annotations

Note by the Secretariat on the provisional programme of work and timetable

3. Demographic and social statistics:

(a) Demographic statistics;

*Documentation*

Report of the Secretary-General

(b) International migration statistics;

*Documentation*

Report of the Secretary-General

(c) Culture statistics;

*Documentation*

Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

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<sup>11</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2020, Supplement No. 4 (E/2020/24).*

- (d) Household surveys;

*Documentation*

Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Household Surveys

- (e) Ageing-related statistics and age-disaggregated data.

*Documentation*

Report of the Titchfield Group on Ageing-related Statistics and Age-disaggregated Data

4. Economic statistics:

- (a) National accounts;

*Documentation*

Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts

- (b) Business registers;

*Documentation*

Joint report of the Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers and the Committee of Experts on Business and Trade Statistics

- (c) Energy statistics;

*Documentation*

Joint report of the Secretary-General and the Oslo Group on Energy Statistics

- (d) International trade and economic globalization statistics;

*Documentation*

Report of the Secretary-General

- (e) Digital trade and e-commerce statistics;

*Documentation*

Report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on International Trade Statistics

- (f) Tourism statistics;

*Documentation*

Report of the World Tourism Organization

- (g) Finance statistics;

*Documentation*

Report of the International Monetary Fund

- (h) International Comparison Programme;

*Documentation*

Report of the World Bank

- (i) Informal sector statistics;

*Documentation*

Report of the International Labour Organization

- (j) Future of economic statistics.

*Documentation*

Report of the Friends of the Chair group on economic statistics

5. Natural resources and environment statistics:
  - (a) Environmental-economic accounting;  
*Documentation*  
Report of the Committee of Experts on Environmental-Economic Accounting
  - (b) Climate change statistics;  
*Documentation*  
Report of the Secretary-General
  - (c) Disaster-related statistics.  
*Documentation*  
Report of the Secretary-General
6. Activities not classified by field:
  - (a) Coordination of statistical programmes;  
*Documentation*  
Report of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities  
Report of the Committee of the Chief Statisticians of the United Nations System
  - (b) International statistical classifications;  
*Documentation*  
Report of the Expert Group on International Statistical Classifications
  - (c) Common open standards for the exchange and sharing of data and metadata;  
*Documentation*  
Report of the Statistical Data and Metadata Exchange sponsors
  - (d) Presentation of statistical data and metadata;  
*Documentation*  
Report of the Secretary-General
  - (e) Statistical capacity-building;  
*Documentation*  
Report of the Secretary-General
  - (f) Dissemination of statistics by the Statistics Division;  
*Documentation*  
Report of the Secretary-General
  - (g) Data and indicators for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;  
*Documentation*  
Report of the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators  
Report of the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development  
Report of the Secretary-General on the work for the review of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals

- (h) Follow-up to the policy decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council;

*Documentation*

Report of the Secretary-General

- (i) National quality assurance frameworks;

*Documentation*

Report of the Expert Group on National Quality Assurance Frameworks

- (j) Integration of statistical and geospatial information;

*Documentation*

Report of the Expert Group on the Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information

- (k) Big data;

*Documentation*

Report of the Global Working Group on Big Data for Official Statistics

- (l) Regional statistical development;

*Documentation*

Report of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

- (m) World Statistics Day.

*Documentation*

Report of the Secretary-General

7. Programme questions (Statistics Division).

8. Provisional agenda and dates of the fifty-third session of the Commission.

*Documentation*

Note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda of the fifty-third session of the Commission

Note by the Secretariat on the draft multi-year programme of work of the Commission

9. Report of the Commission on its fifty-second session.

**2020/212. Report of the Commission for Social Development on its fifty-eighth session and provisional agenda and documentation for its fifty-ninth session**

On 18 June 2020, the Economic and Social Council:

- (a) Took note of the report of the Commission for Social Development on its fifty-eighth session;<sup>12</sup>

(b) Approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-ninth session of the Commission as set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE FIFTY-NINTH SESSION  
OF THE COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

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<sup>12</sup> Ibid., *Supplement No. 6* (E/2020/26).

## Decisions

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3. Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly:

*Documentation*

Report of the Secretary-General on the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

- (a) Priority theme: Socially just transition towards sustainable development: the role of digital technologies on social development and well-being of all;

*Documentation*

Report of the Secretary-General on the priority theme "Socially just transition towards sustainable development: the role of digital technologies on social development and well-being of all"

- (b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:

- (i) Outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities: the way forward, a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond;
- (ii) World Programme of Action for Youth;
- (iii) Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;
- (iv) Family issues, policies and programmes;

*Documentation*

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes

Report of the Secretary-General on policies and programmes involving youth

- (c) Emerging issues (to be determined).

*Documentation*

Note by the Secretary-General on emerging issues

4. Programme questions and other matters:

- (a) Proposed programme plan for 2022;

*Documentation*

Note by the Secretariat on the proposed programme plan for 2022

- (b) United Nations Research Institute for Social Development.

*Documentation*

Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

5. Provisional agenda of the sixtieth session of the Commission.

6. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-ninth session



**2020/213. Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened sixty-second session**

On 18 June 2020, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened sixty-second session.<sup>13</sup>

**2020/214. Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its sixty-third session and provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session**

On 18 June 2020, the Economic and Social Council:

- (a) Took note of the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its sixty-third session;<sup>14</sup>
- (b) Also took note of Commission decision 55/1 of 7 December 2012;<sup>15</sup>
- (c) Approved the provisional agenda of the sixty-fourth session of the Commission as set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE SIXTY-FOURTH SESSION  
OF THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. General debate.

*Operational segment*

4. Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions:
  - (a) Work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
  - (b) Directives on policy and budgetary issues for the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
  - (c) Working methods of the Commission;
  - (d) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters.

*Normative segment*

5. Implementation of the international drug control treaties:
  - (a) Changes in the scope of control of substances;
  - (b) Challenges and future work of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the World Health Organization and the International Narcotics Control Board in the review of substances for possible scheduling recommendations;
  - (c) International Narcotics Control Board;
  - (d) International cooperation to ensure the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing their diversion;
  - (e) Other matters arising from the international drug control treaties.

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<sup>13</sup> Ibid., 2019, *Supplement No. 8A* (E/2019/28/Add.1).

<sup>14</sup> Ibid., 2020, *Supplement No. 8* (E/2020/28).

<sup>15</sup> Ibid., 2012, *Supplement No. 8A* (E/2012/28/Add.1), chap. I, sect. B.

6. Follow-up to the implementation at the national, regional and international levels of all commitments, as reflected in the Ministerial Declaration of 2019, to address and counter the world drug problem.
7. Inter-agency cooperation and coordination of efforts in addressing and countering the world drug problem.
8. Recommendations of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission.
9. Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution [72/305](#), including follow-up to and review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
10. Provisional agenda of the sixty-fifth session of the Commission.
11. Other business.
12. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its sixty-fourth session.

**2020/215. Report of the International Narcotics Control Board**

On 18 June 2020, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2019.<sup>16</sup>

**2020/216. Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixty-fifth and sixty-sixth sessions**

On 18 June 2020, the Economic and Social Council, on the proposal of the Vice-President (Pakistan), took note of the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixty-fifth and sixty-sixth sessions.<sup>17</sup>

**2020/217. International expert group meeting on the theme “Indigenous peoples and pandemics”**

On 18 June 2020, the Economic and Social Council decided to authorize a three-day international expert group meeting on the theme “Indigenous peoples and pandemics”.

**2020/218. Venue, dates and provisional agenda of the twentieth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues**

On 18 June 2020, the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Decided that the twentieth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues would be held at United Nations Headquarters from 19 to 30 April 2021;

(b) Approved the provisional agenda of the twentieth session of the Permanent Forum as set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE TWENTIETH SESSION OF THE  
PERMANENT FORUM ON INDIGENOUS ISSUES

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Discussion on the theme “Peace, justice and strong institutions: the role of indigenous peoples in implementing Sustainable Development Goal 16”.

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<sup>16</sup> [E/INCB/2019/1](#).

<sup>17</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2020, Supplement No. 2 (E/2020/22)*.

4. Discussion on the six mandated areas of the Permanent Forum (economic and social development, culture, environment, education, health and human rights), with reference to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
5. Dialogues:
  - (a) Dialogue with indigenous peoples;
  - (b) Dialogue with Member States;
  - (c) Dialogue with the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes;
  - (d) Human rights dialogue with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
  - (e) Regional dialogues;
  - (f) Thematic dialogues.
6. Follow-up to the outcome document of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
7. Future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues considered by the Economic and Social Council and emerging issues, specifically challenges related to pandemics and responses to them.
8. Provisional agenda of the twenty-first session of the Permanent Forum.
9. Adoption of the report of the Permanent Forum on its twentieth session.

**2020/219. Extension of the procedure for taking decisions of the Economic and Social Council during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic until the end of July 2020**

On 24 June 2020, the Economic and Social Council decided that its decisions 2020/205 of 3 April 2020 and 2020/206 of 22 May 2020 would continue to be in effect until the end of July 2020.

**2020/220. Report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its twenty-third session and provisional agenda and documentation for its twenty-fourth session**

On 17 July 2020, the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Took note of the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its twenty-third session;<sup>18</sup>

(b) Approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-fourth session of the Commission as set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION  
OF THE COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
2. Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels.

*Documentation*

Report of the Secretary-General

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<sup>18</sup> Ibid., *Supplement No. II* (E/2020/31).

3. Science and technology for development: priority themes:
  - (a) Using science, technology and innovation to close the gap on Sustainable Development Goal 3 on good health and well-being;  
*Documentation*  
Report of the Secretary-General
  - (b) Harnessing blockchain for sustainable development: prospects and challenges.  
*Documentation*  
Report of the Secretary-General
4. Presentation of reports on science, technology and innovation policy reviews.
5. Election of the Chair and other officers for the twenty-fifth session of the Commission.
6. Provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-fifth session of the Commission.
7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its twenty-fourth session.

**2020/221. Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its fifty-third session and provisional agenda and documentation for its fifty-fourth session**

On 17 July 2020, the Economic and Social Council:

- (a) Took note of the report of the Commission on Population and Development on its fifty-third session;<sup>19</sup>
- (b) Approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-fourth session of the Commission as set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE FIFTY-FOURTH SESSION  
OF THE COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.  
*Documentation*  
Provisional agenda of the fifty-fourth session of the Commission  
Note by the Secretariat on the organization of work of the session
3. General debate:
  - (a) Actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development at the global, regional and national levels;
  - (b) Population, food security, nutrition and sustainable development.  
*Documentation*  
Report of the Secretary-General on population, food security, nutrition and sustainable development  
Report of the Secretary-General on programmes and interventions for the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development in the context of population, food security, nutrition and sustainable development

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<sup>19</sup> Ibid., *Supplement No. 5* (E/2020/25).

Report of the Secretary-General on the flow of financial resources for assisting in the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

4. Programme implementation and future programme of work of the Secretariat in the field of population.

*Documentation*<sup>20</sup>

Report of the Secretary-General on programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population in 2020: Population Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Note by the Secretariat on the proposed programme plan for 2021 and programme performance for 2019: subprogramme 5, Population, of programme 7, Economic and social affairs

5. Future role and organization of the Commission on Population and Development

*Documentation*

No advance documentation requested

6. Provisional agenda for the fifty-fifth session of the Commission.

*Documentation*

Note by the Secretariat containing the provisional agenda for the fifty-fifth session of the Commission

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-fourth session.

#### **2020/222. Report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its fifteenth session and provisional agenda of its sixteenth session**

On 17 July 2020, the Economic and Social Council:

- (a) Took note of the report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its fifteenth session;<sup>21</sup>
- (b) Noted that the sixteenth session of the Forum would be held at Headquarters from 26 to 30 April 2021;
- (c) Approved the provisional agenda of the sixteenth session of the Forum as set out below:

##### PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE SIXTEENTH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS FORUM ON FORESTS

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Technical discussions on the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030:
  - (a) Thematic priorities for the 2021–2022 biennium, in support of the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030;
  - (b) Contributions of members of the Forum to implementing the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030:
    - (i) New announcements of voluntary national contributions;
    - (ii) Updates on voluntary national contributions and their follow-up related to the thematic priorities;

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<sup>20</sup> Beginning in 2020, the programme plan/strategic framework and proposed programme of work are subject to the new annual programme budget approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 72/266 A, including a new results framework. The 2021 annual programme budget was scheduled to be finalized in the first half of 2020.

<sup>21</sup> *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2020, Supplement No. 22 (E/2020/42)*.

- (c) Contributions of and enhanced cooperation with partners to achieving the thematic priorities:
    - (i) Contributions of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, its member organizations and the United Nations system to achieving the thematic priorities; progress on the workplan of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests;
    - (ii) Contributions of regional and subregional organizations and processes to achieving the thematic priorities;
    - (iii) Contributions of major groups and other relevant stakeholders, including the private sector and philanthropic community, to achieving the thematic priorities; progress on major group workplans;
  - (d) Interlinkages between the global forest goals and targets and the Sustainable Development Goals under review by the high-level political forum on sustainable development in 2021, the work towards the post-2020 global biodiversity framework and other international forest-related developments;
  - (e) Implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 communication and outreach strategy, including activities regarding the International Day of Forests in 2021;
  - (f) Means of implementation, including operations and resources of the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network;
  - (g) Monitoring, assessment and reporting:
    - (i) Forum flagship publication;
    - (ii) Global core set of forest-related indicators;
    - (iii) Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020.
4. Forum trust fund.
  5. Emerging issues: impacts of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on forests and the forest sector.
  6. Adoption of the programme of work of the Forum for the period 2022–2024.
  7. Dates and venue of the seventeenth session of the Forum.
  8. Provisional agenda of the seventeenth session of the Forum.
  9. Adoption of the report of the Forum on its sixteenth session.

**2020/223. Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its sixty-fourth session and provisional agenda and documentation for its sixty-fifth session**

On 17 July 2020, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its sixty-fourth session<sup>22</sup> and approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the sixty-fifth session of the Commission as set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE SIXTY-FIFTH SESSION  
OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

*Documentation*

Annotated provisional agenda and proposed organization of work of the Commission on the Status of Women

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<sup>22</sup> Ibid., *Supplement No. 7* (E/2020/27).

3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”:

- (a) Implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives:

- (i) Priority theme: to be determined;  
(ii) Review theme: to be determined;

*Documentation*

Report of the Secretary-General on the priority theme

Report of the Secretary-General on the review theme

Report of the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)

Note by the Secretariat containing a discussion guide for the ministerial round tables

- (b) Emerging issues, trends, focus areas and new approaches to questions affecting the situation of women, including equality between women and men;  
(c) Gender mainstreaming, situations and programmatic matters.

*Documentation*

Report of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) on the activities of the United Nations trust fund in support of actions to eliminate violence against women

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the outcome of relevant sessions of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

4. Communications concerning the status of women.

*Documentation*

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the list of confidential communications concerning the status of women and responses thereto

5. Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions.  
6. Provisional agenda of the sixty-sixth session of the Commission.  
7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its sixty-fifth session.

**2020/224. Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its reconvened twenty-eighth session**

On 17 July 2020, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its reconvened twenty-eighth session.<sup>23</sup>

**2020/225. Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its sixtieth session**

On 22 July 2020, the Economic and Social Council, on the proposal of the Vice-President (Pakistan), took note of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its sixtieth session.<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>23</sup> Ibid., 2019, Supplement No. 10A (E/2019/30/Add.1)

<sup>24</sup> Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/75/16).

**2020/226. Proposed programme budget for 2021**

On 22 July 2020, the Economic and Social Council, on the proposal of the Vice-President (Pakistan), took note of the relevant sections of the proposed programme budget for 2021 (relevant fascicles of A/75/6).

**2020/227. Further deferral of the consideration of the draft resolution entitled “Revised terms of reference of the Inland Transport Committee” of the Economic Commission for Europe**

On 22 July 2020, the Economic and Social Council, on the proposal of the Vice-President (Pakistan), decided to further defer, to its 2021 session, the consideration of draft resolution VI, entitled “Revised terms of reference of the Inland Transport Committee”, recommended by the Economic Commission for Europe, as contained in the addendum to the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields.<sup>25</sup>

**2020/228. Dates and provisional agenda of the twentieth session of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration**

On 22 July 2020, the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Decided that the twentieth session of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration would be held at United Nations Headquarters from 12 to 16 April 2021;

(b) Approved the provisional agenda of the twentieth session of the Committee as set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE TWENTIETH SESSION OF THE  
COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Governance and public administration aspects of the theme of the 2021 session of the Economic and Social Council and the 2021 high-level political forum on sustainable development.
4. Dialogue with voluntary national review countries on institutional aspects of Sustainable Development Goal 16.
5. Strengthening the analytical basis for reform policies based on the principles of effective governance for sustainable development.
6. Integrating the Sustainable Development Goals into national and subnational budgeting and financial management.
7. Sustainable public procurement in the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development.
8. Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on essential workers in the public sector.
9. Building strong institutions for sustainable development in conflict-affected countries.
10. Provisional agenda of the twenty-first session of the Committee.
11. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its twentieth session.

(c) Decided that documentation in support of the provisional agenda should continue to be prepared through the established working methods of the Committee.

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<sup>25</sup> E/2019/15/Add.2.



**2020/229. Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its seventy-third, seventy-fourth and seventy-fifth sessions**

On 22 July 2020, the Economic and Social Council, on the proposal of the Vice-President (Pakistan), took note of the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its seventy-third, seventy-fourth and seventy-fifth sessions.<sup>26</sup>

**2020/230. Revised provisional agenda of the twenty-ninth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice**

On 22 July 2020, the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Noted that the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice had had to postpone its twenty-ninth session, scheduled to be held from 18 to 22 May 2020, owing to the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19);

(b) Approved the revised, scaled-down provisional agenda of the twenty-ninth session of the Commission as set out below, on the understanding that the items that had been included in the provisional agenda as set out in Council decision 2019/223 of 23 July 2019 but would not be dealt with during the twenty-ninth session – including the thematic discussion on effective measures to prevent and counter the smuggling of migrants, while protecting the rights of smuggled migrants, particularly women and children, and those of unaccompanied migrant children – would be included in the provisional agenda of the thirtieth session:

REVISED PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE TWENTY-NINTH SESSION OF THE  
COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Strategic management, budgetary and administrative questions:
  - (a) Work of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
  - (b) Directives on policy and budgetary issues for the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme;
  - (c) Working methods of the Commission;
  - (d) Staff composition of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other related matters.
4. Preparations for the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and for the Fifteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.
5. Contributions by the Commission to the work of the Economic and Social Council, in line with General Assembly resolution [72/305](#), including follow-up to and review and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
6. Provisional agenda of the thirtieth session of the Commission.
7. Other business.
8. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its twenty-ninth session.

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<sup>26</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 38 (A/75/38).*

**2020/231. Sustainable development in the Sahel**

On 22 July 2020, the Economic and Social Council, recalling its resolution [2020/2](#) of 10 December 2019 on support to the Sahel region:

(a) Took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of integrated, coherent and coordinated support to South Sudan and the Sahel region by the United Nations system;<sup>27</sup>

(b) Requested the Secretary-General to report to the Council at its 2021 session on how the United Nations system is implementing integrated, coherent and coordinated support to achieve sustainable development in the Sahel region, within existing resources, under the sub-item entitled “Sustainable development in the Sahel” of the item entitled “Coordination, programme and other questions”.

**2020/232. African countries emerging from conflict**

On 22 July 2020, the Economic and Social Council, recalling its decision 2019/251 of 24 July 2019, requested the Secretary-General to submit to the Council at its 2021 session for its consideration a report on the implementation of integrated, coherent and coordinated support to South Sudan by the United Nations system.

**2020/233. Dates and provisional agenda of the twenty-first session of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters**

On 22 July 2020, the Economic and Social Council, taking into account the continuing impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on the working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Council and sessions of its subsidiary bodies:

(a) Decided that the twenty-first session of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters would be held in a scaled-down format using an online platform, with informal meetings to be held between 20 October and 6 November 2020, and final modalities to be decided by the Co-Chairs, following consultations with the members of the Committee, and that decisions of the Committee would be adopted through a silence procedure;

(b) Approved the provisional agenda of the twenty-first session of the Committee as proposed by the Committee and as set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA OF THE TWENTY-FIRST SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS  
ON INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN TAX MATTERS

1. Opening of the session by the Co-Chairs.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Discussion of substantive issues related to international cooperation in tax matters:
  - (a) Procedural issues for the Committee;
  - (b) Report of the Subcommittee on Updating the United Nations Model Double Taxation Convention between Developed and Developing Countries;
  - (c) Tax and the Sustainable Development Goals;
  - (d) Update of the United Nations Practical Manual on Transfer Pricing for Developing Countries;
  - (e) Update of the Handbook on Selected Issues for Taxation of the Extractive Industries by Developing Countries;
  - (f) Dispute avoidance and resolution;
  - (g) Capacity-building;

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<sup>27</sup> [E/2020/65](#).

## Decisions

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- (h) Environmental tax issues;
  - (i) Tax consequences of the digitalized economy – issues of relevance for developing countries;
  - (j) Tax treatment of official development assistance projects;
  - (k) Other matters for consideration.
4. Provisional agenda of the twenty-second session of the Committee.
  5. Arrangements for adopting the report of the Committee on its twenty-first session.