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Seventy-fifth session Agenda item 67

Report of the Human Rights Council

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Myriam Oehri (Liechtenstein)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 18 September 2020, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-fifth session the item entitled "Report of the Human Rights Council" and to allocate it to both the plenary and the Third Committee, in accordance with its resolution 65/281.

2. The Committee considered a proposal and took action on the item at its 14th meeting, on 19 November. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary record.¹ Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 1st to 6th meetings, from 5 to 8 October.²

3. The Committee, pursuant to the organization of work adopted at its 1st meeting, held on 5 October, and taking into account the prevailing conditions relating to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on the working arrangements for its seventy-fifth session and the available technological and procedural solutions in the interim period, convened one virtual informal meeting to hear an introductory statement and hold an interactive dialogue on the item. The proceedings of the virtual informal meeting are reflected in the annex to the present document.

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

(a) Report of the Human Rights Council on its forty-third and forty-fourth sessions (A/75/53) and on its forty-fifth session (A/75/53/Add.1);

² See A/C.3/75/SR.1, A/C.3/75/SR.2, A/C.3/75/SR.3, A/C.3/75/SR.4, A/C.3/75/SR.5 and A/C.3/75/SR.6. Pursuant to the organization of work adopted at the 1st meeting, on 5 October, official statements received by the Secretariat for posting on eStatements can be accessed at the following link: journal.un.org.





¹ A/C.3/75/SR.14.

(b) Report of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances (A/75/56).

5. At the 7th meeting, on 13 November, the representative of the United States of America made a statement with regard to the draft resolutions before the Committee.³

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.3/75/L.44

6. At its 14th meeting, on 19 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Human Rights Council" (A/C.3/75/L.44), which was submitted by Cameroon on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States. Subsequently, Argentina, Ecuador, Lebanon and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

7. At the same meeting, the representative of Cameroon, on behalf of the Group of African States, made a statement.

8. Also at its 14th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/75/L.44 by a recorded vote of 115 to 3, with 60 abstentions (see para. 12). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Belarus, Israel, Myanmar.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Australia, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland,

³ See A/C.3/75/SR.7.

Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Tonga, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

9. Before the vote, statements were made by the representatives of Egypt and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of); statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Israel, Germany (on behalf of the European Union and its member States, as well as Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia and Turkey), Myanmar and the Russian Federation.

10. After the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Liechtenstein (also on behalf of Australia, Canada, Iceland, New Zealand, Norway and Switzerland), the United States of America, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Syrian Arab Republic.

11. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of Burundi.

III. Recommendation of the Third Committee

12. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Report of the Human Rights Council

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 60/251 of 15 March 2006, by which it established the Human Rights Council, and 65/281 of 17 June 2011 on the review of the Council,

Recalling also its resolutions 62/219 of 22 December 2007, 63/160 of 18 December 2008, 64/143 of 18 December 2009, 65/195 of 21 December 2010, 66/136 of 19 December 2011, 67/151 of 20 December 2012, 68/144 of 18 December 2013, 69/155 of 18 December 2014, 70/136 of 17 December 2015, 71/174 of 19 December 2016, 72/153 of 19 December 2017, 73/152 of 17 December 2018 and 74/132 of 18 December 2019,

Having considered the recommendations contained in the report of the Human Rights Council,¹

Takes note of the report of the Human Rights Council, including the addendum thereto, and its recommendations.

¹ Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/75/53); and ibid., Supplement No. 53A (A/75/53/Add.1).

Annex

Virtual informal meeting to hear an introductory statement and hold an interactive dialogue on agenda item 67

1. At the virtual informal meeting of the Committee held in the afternoon of 30 October 2020, the President of the Human Rights Council made an introductory statement and responded to questions posed and comments made by the representatives of Mexico, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Qatar, Croatia, Lithuania, the Syrian Arab Republic, Poland, the Netherlands, Eritrea, Pakistan, the European Union, Austria, Colombia, Cuba, Spain, Switzerland (also on behalf of Australia, Canada, Iceland, Liechtenstein, New Zealand and Norway), the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Argentina, Germany, the Philippines, the Islamic Republic of Iran, China, Malaysia, Afghanistan, Indonesia, Ukraine, Iceland (on behalf of the Nordic and Baltic countries), Algeria, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Myanmar, India, Portugal and the Republic of Korea, as well as by the observer for the Sovereign Order of Malta.