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Agenda item 22 (b)

Globalization and interdependence: international migration and development

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Diamane **Diome** (Senegal)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive discussion on agenda item 22 ([A/75/460](#), para. 3). Action on sub-item (b) was taken at the 6th meeting, on 24 November 2020. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary record.¹

II. Consideration of draft resolution [A/C.2/75/L.8/Rev.1](#)

2. At its 6th meeting, on 24 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "International migration and development" ([A/C.2/75/L.8/Rev.1](#)), submitted by Guyana on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

3. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that the revised draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

4. Also at the same meeting, Palau joined as co-sponsor of the revised draft resolution.

5. Also at the 6th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.2/75/L.8/Rev.1](#) by a recorded vote of 178 to 3, with 1 abstention (see para. 8). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh,

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in three parts, under the symbols [A/75/460](#), [A/75/460/Add.1](#) and [A/75/460/Add.2](#).

¹ See [A/C.2/75/SR.6](#).



Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Hungary, Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Libya.

6. At the same meeting, statements in explanation of vote after the vote were made by the representatives of Hungary, the United States of America, Mexico and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

7. Also, at the same meeting, statements were made by the representatives of Libya, Brazil and Chile, as well as by the observer for the Holy See.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

8. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

International migration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions [58/208](#) of 23 December 2003, [59/241](#) of 22 December 2004, [60/227](#) of 23 December 2005, [61/208](#) of 20 December 2006, [63/225](#) of 19 December 2008, [65/170](#) of 20 December 2010, [67/219](#) of 21 December 2012, [69/229](#) of 19 December 2014, [71/237](#) of 21 December 2016 and [73/241](#) of 20 December 2018 on international migration and development, its resolution [68/4](#) of 3 October 2013, by which it adopted the Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, its resolution [60/206](#) of 22 December 2005 on the facilitation and reduction of the cost of transfer of migrant remittances, its resolutions [62/156](#) of 18 December 2007, [64/166](#) of 18 December 2009, [66/172](#) of 19 December 2011, [68/179](#) of 18 December 2013, [69/167](#) of 18 December 2014, [70/147](#) of 17 December 2015, [72/179](#) of 19 December 2017 and [74/148](#) of 18 December 2019 on the protection of migrants and its resolution [62/270](#) of 20 June 2008 on the Global Forum on Migration and Development, and recalling also chapter X of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development¹ and Commission on Population and Development resolutions 2006/2 of 10 May 2006,² 2008/1 of 11 April 2008,³ 2013/1 of 26 April 2013⁴ and 2014/1 of 11 April 2014,⁵

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

Reaffirming also its resolution [69/313](#) of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

Reaffirming further the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, adopted at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on addressing

¹ *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.

² See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 5 (E/2006/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

³ *Ibid.*, 2008, *Supplement No. 5 (E/2008/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

⁴ *Ibid.*, 2013, *Supplement No. 5 (E/2013/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

⁵ *Ibid.*, 2014, *Supplement No. 5 (E/2014/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

large movements of refugees and migrants, held at United Nations Headquarters on 19 September 2016,⁶

Reaffirming the New Urban Agenda, which was adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,⁷ and recognizing the linkages between migration and sustainable urbanization and sustainable urban development,

Reaffirming also the Paris Agreement,⁸ and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change⁹ that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Recalling the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, adopted at the Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction,¹⁰ and those provisions that are applicable to migrants,

Recalling also the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held in New York on 3 and 4 October 2013, which addressed constructively the issue of international migration and development and explored the opportunities and the challenges that international migration presents, including the protection of the human rights of migrants and the contribution of migrants to development,

Recalling further the Declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development adopted on 3 October 2013 on the occasion of the High-level Dialogue,

Noting with great concern the threat to human health, safety and well-being caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, as well as the severe disruption to societies and economies and the devastating impact on lives and livelihoods, and that the poorest and most vulnerable are the hardest hit by the pandemic, reaffirming the ambition to get back on track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by designing sustainable and inclusive recovery strategies to accelerate progress towards the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to help to reduce the risk of future shocks, and recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic requires a global response based on unity, solidarity and renewed multilateral cooperation,

Recognizing the importance to cooperate internationally to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration, recognizing further the positive contributions of migrants to inclusive growth and sustainable development in their countries of origin, transit and destination, and to the response and recovery to the crisis caused by COVID-19, at the same time noting with concern that migrants are often among those in vulnerable situations to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic as a result of a variety of factors including living and working conditions, migration status, limited local knowledge and networks, level of inclusion in countries of destination, and xenophobia against them, emphasizing that, in many countries, migrants make up a substantial share of the workforce in key sectors that have remained open and active throughout the crisis, while also being overrepresented in some sectors hardest hit by the pandemic, pushing them to underemployment and unemployment, also noting with concern that the measures implemented to stop the spread of the virus, such as lockdowns and site closures, have at times worsened the living conditions of migrants, and that border

⁶ Resolution [71/1](#).

⁷ Resolution [71/256](#), annex.

⁸ Adopted under the UNFCCC in [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21.

⁹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

¹⁰ Resolution [69/283](#), annexes I and II.

closures have also put pressure on job security, further noting with concern that COVID-19 has emerged as a unique threat to remittances, as the effects of the pandemic on sustainable development have deprived many migrant workers of their main source of income, thus harming the ability of remittance-receiving families to meet basic needs, and, while taking into account the rights, obligations and expectations of countries of origin, countries of destination and migrant health personnel, noting with concern that highly trained and skilled health personnel from the developing countries continue to emigrate at an increasing rate to certain countries, which weakens health systems in the countries of origin,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹¹ recalling the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,¹² the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,¹³ the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,¹⁴ the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,¹⁵ the Convention on the Rights of the Child¹⁶ and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,¹⁷ and recalling also the Declaration on the Right to Development,¹⁸

Encouraging States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families¹⁹ and to consider acceding to relevant conventions of the International Labour Organization, as appropriate,

Recalling the importance of the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, including for migrant workers, the eight fundamental Conventions of that Organization and the Global Jobs Pact adopted by the International Labour Conference at its ninety-eighth session as a general framework within which each country can formulate policy packages specific to its situation and national priorities in order to promote a job-intensive recovery and sustainable development,

Recognizing the valuable contribution of the Global Forum on Migration and Development to addressing the multidimensional nature of international migration and promoting balanced and comprehensive approaches and dialogue on migration and development, and acknowledging that it has proved to be a valuable forum for holding frank and open discussions, including through multi-stakeholder dialogues, and that it has helped to build trust among participating stakeholders through the exchange of experiences and good practices and by virtue of its voluntary, intergovernmental, non-binding and informal character and the engagement of civil society actors as well as the private sector,

Acknowledging the important and complex interrelationship between international migration and development and the need to deal with the challenges and opportunities that migration presents to countries of origin, transit and destination, recognizing that migration brings benefits and challenges to the global community, and confirming the importance of including the matter in relevant debates and discussions held at the global, regional and national levels, as appropriate, including at the level of the United Nations and other international organizations, in relation to development,

¹¹ Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

¹² See resolution [2200 A \(XXI\)](#), annex.

¹³ *Ibid.*

¹⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

¹⁵ *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

¹⁸ Resolution [41/128](#), annex.

¹⁹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2220, No. 39481.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;²⁰
2. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen synergies between international migration and development at all levels, including the global, regional, national and local levels, as appropriate;
3. *Calls upon* Member States to take steps to support the full inclusion of migrants in the COVID-19 pandemic response and recovery efforts, in the spirit of international cooperation and in line with national policies, legislation and circumstances, based on shared responsibilities, including the obligation of States to readmit their own nationals, cognizant of the vulnerable situations of migrants and their contributions to the COVID-19 crisis response and recovery efforts, by, among others, ensuring full respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, promoting faster, safer and cheaper transfer of remittances by further developing existing conducive policy and regulatory environments that enable competition, regulation and innovation on the remittance market, providing gender-responsive programmes and instruments that enhance the financial inclusion of migrants and their families in order to end structural barriers to women's equal access to economic resources, by 2030, reducing to less than 3 per cent the transaction costs of migrant remittances and strengthening bilateral, subregional, regional, interregional and multilateral cooperation to support the protection, well-being and effective and sustainable reintegration into labour markets of migrant workers in line with national policies, and in this regard recognizes the role of the United Nations Network on Migration, and the International Organization for Migration as its coordinator;
4. *Recommits* to ensuring full respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, and supporting countries of origin, transit and destination in the spirit of international cooperation, taking into account national circumstances;
5. *Recalls* the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, adopted at the Intergovernmental Conference to Adopt the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, held in Marrakech, Morocco, on 10 and 11 December 2018, and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution [73/195](#) of 19 December 2018;
6. *Notes* that the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration is the first intergovernmentally negotiated outcome, prepared under the auspices of the United Nations, to cover international migration in all its dimensions;
7. *Recognizes* that the High-level Dialogues on International Migration and Development have served as forums to advance discussions on the multidimensional aspects of international migration and development in order to identify appropriate ways and means to maximize its development benefits and minimize its negative impacts;
8. *Notes* that, with the adoption of the Global Compact, the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development has been repurposed into the International Migration Review Forum, which will serve as the primary intergovernmental global platform for Member States to discuss and share progress on the implementation of all aspects of the Global Compact, including as it relates to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,²¹ and with the participation of all relevant stakeholders, and that the Forum is to be held every four years, beginning in 2022;

²⁰ [A/75/292](#).

²¹ Resolution [70/1](#).

9. *Recalls* the high-level debate on international migration and development held on 27 February 2019 under the auspices of the President of the General Assembly, in lieu of the 2019 High-level Dialogue, to inform the high-level political forum on sustainable development, which reviewed the Goals and targets relevant to migration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, taking into consideration the outcomes of other processes related to international migration and development;

10. *Welcomes* the decision of the Secretary-General to establish the United Nations Network on Migration;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, at its seventy-seventh session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

12. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-seventh session, under the item entitled “Globalization and interdependence”, the sub-item entitled “International migration and development”.
