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> Angola, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Luxembourg, Mauritania, Nigeria, Slovenia, Spain, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan:\* draft resolution

## **Role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia**

The General Assembly,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* its resolutions 72/7 of 17 November 2017 and 75/272 of 16 April 2021,

*Recalling also* the exchange of letters between the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council on the establishment of a United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia in Ashgabat,<sup>1</sup>

*Noting* that preventive diplomacy is a core function of the United Nations and occupies the central place among the functions of the Secretary-General, and in this regard recognizing the important role of the special political missions of the United Nations and the good offices of the Secretary-General in the fields of peacemaking, peacekeeping and peacebuilding,

*Welcoming* the thirtieth anniversary of the membership of the Central Asian countries<sup>2</sup> in the United Nations, reaffirming the unique role of the United Nations in the system of international relations, and encouraging political dialogue directed towards collective action to address common challenges and the development of economic and social cooperation between the countries of the region,

*Noting* the fifteenth anniversary of the establishment of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia, in December 2022, and relying on the experience of the Regional Centre,

*Reaffirming* the importance of preventive diplomacy in supporting United Nations efforts to assist in the peaceful settlement of disputes, and acknowledging in

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.





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<sup>\*</sup> Any changes to the list of sponsors will be reflected in the official record of the meeting.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> S/2007/279 and S/2007/280.

this context the role of the Regional Centre in assisting the Central Asian countries, in accordance with its mandate and through enhanced regional cooperation, to respond to transnational threats to peace,

Acknowledging the efforts of the countries of the region that contribute to conflict prevention and enhancing trust in the region, including through developing and operationalizing substantive partnerships of the Regional Centre with a wide range of regional and subregional organizations,

*Recognizing* the important role of the Central Asian countries in ensuring peace, stability and sustainable development in the region as well as in promoting regional and international cooperation,

*Recalling* its resolution 76/299 of 28 July 2022, by which it declared the region of Central Asia a zone of peace, trust and cooperation, with the aim of establishing and maintaining a more stable and secure Central Asian region, based on the commitment of the countries of the region to regional peace and security,

*Welcoming* the increasing bilateral and regional cooperation among the countries of the region at all levels towards creating a dynamic and reinvigorated Central Asia, which provides new opportunities for United Nations engagement,

*Reaffirming* the importance of holding regular consultative meetings of the Central Asian Heads of State, and in this regard welcoming the joint statement of the consultative meeting held in Cholpon-Ata, Kyrgyzstan, on 21 July 2022,<sup>3</sup>

*Welcoming* the active engagement of the Regional Centre in multilateral dialogue within the platform of regular consultative meetings of Heads of State of Central Asian countries and other forums to promote cooperation within the region and beyond in fostering peace, trust and cooperation,

*Recalling*, in this regard, the Ashgabat Declaration of the high-level United Nations-Central Asia dialogue on implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy<sup>4</sup> in Central Asia, adopted on 13 June 2017,<sup>5</sup> and the Joint Plan of Action for the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia, adopted on 30 November 2011,

*Recalling also* the outcome of the high-level international conference dedicated to the 10-year review of the implementation of the Joint Plan of Action for the Implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy in Central Asia, held in Tashkent on 3 and 4 March 2022,<sup>6</sup>

*Underlining* the outcomes of the High-level Conference on International and Regional Border Security and Management Cooperation to Counter Terrorism and Prevent the Movement of Terrorists, held in Dushanbe on 18 and 19 October 2022,<sup>7</sup>

Welcoming the efforts of the Regional Centre in accordance with its mandate aimed at strengthening cooperation and engagement of the Central Asian countries on dealing with current challenges in Afghanistan, and noting in this regard the importance of maintaining close contact between the Regional Centre and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan in line with their mandates to ensure a comprehensive and integrated analysis of the situation in the region,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> A/76/920, annex.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Resolution 60/288.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> A/71/982-S/2017/600, annex.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> See A/76/751, annex.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See A/77/621, annex.

*Welcoming also* the readiness of the Central Asian countries to make efforts to reach mutually beneficial agreements or arrangements on the integrated use of water and energy resources in the region,

*Welcoming further* the initiatives of the Central Asian countries related to water and combating climate change, in particular the International Decade for Action, "Water for Sustainable Development", 2018–2028, declaring the period 2023–2027 as the Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions and declaring 2025 as the International Year of Glaciers' Preservation,

*Welcoming* the close interaction of the Regional Centre with United Nations country teams, as well as the Peacebuilding Fund, in the areas of conflict prevention and peacebuilding, and noting the necessity of its further strengthening,

*Recognizing* the efforts of the Regional Centre in providing a political framework and leadership for the preventive activities of the United Nations country teams in the region, and supporting the efforts of the Resident Coordinators and those of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, in promoting an integrated approach to preventive development and humanitarian assistance,

Underlining the necessity of countering illicit drug production and trafficking in the region, and in this regard commending the efforts being made by the Regional Centre, jointly with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime through its Regional Office for Central Asia, in Tashkent, and the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre for combating the illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, in Almaty, Kazakhstan,

*Noting* the initiatives of the Regional Centre aimed at empowering women and youth, such as the Preventive Diplomacy Academy to train young people in preventive diplomacy, and the Central Asian Women Leaders' Caucus, dedicated to promoting and fostering the role of all women in advancing sustainable development and supporting peace and security in the region and to promoting the full, equal and meaningful participation of women at all levels of politics, society and the economy,

*Welcoming* efforts of the Central Asian countries in coordinating joint preventive measures in the face of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and its consequences and the contribution of the Regional Centre in this regard,

1. *Encourages* the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia to play a proactive role and to continue to liaise with the Governments of the region and, with their concurrence, with other parties concerned on issues relevant to its mandate;

2. *Also encourages* the Regional Centre to maintain contact with relevant regional organizations and to facilitate coordination and information exchange, with due regard to their specific mandates;

3. *Welcomes* the assistance of the Regional Centre in implementing the initiatives of the Central Asian countries towards a stable, peaceful and prosperous region;

4. *Encourages* the Regional Centre to continue close cooperation with the Governments of the region to strengthen the capacity of the region to overcome challenges to peace and stability through preventive diplomacy and dialogue.