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Promotion and protection of human rights

Argentina, Armenia, Chile, Colombia, Equatorial Guinea, Georgia, Germany, Mexico, Philippines, Spain, Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Zambia:* draft resolution**

International Day of Care and Support

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,² the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,³ the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,⁴ the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto,⁵ the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,⁶ the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination⁷ and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,⁸ as well as other relevant international conventions and treaties, which contain provisions relevant to persons providing and receiving care and support,

Reaffirming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development⁹ and the commitment therein to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, as well as the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,¹⁰

* Any changes to the list of sponsors will be reflected in the official record of the meeting.

** In order for the General Assembly to take action on the present proposal, it will be necessary to reopen consideration of agenda item 68.

¹ Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

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

³ Ibid.

⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

⁵ Ibid., vols. 1577, 2171, 2173 and 2983, No. 27531.

⁶ Ibid., vol. 2515, No. 44910.

⁷ Ibid., vol. 660, No. 9464.

⁸ Ibid., vol. 2220, No. 39481.

⁹ Resolution [70/1](#).

¹⁰ Resolution [69/313](#), annex.



Recalling the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action¹¹ and the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development¹² and the outcome documents of their review conferences, while recognizing that the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, including target 5.4, which recognizes and values unpaid care and domestic work through the provision of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies and the promotion of shared responsibility within the household and the family as nationally appropriate,

Recalling also its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries,

Taking note of regional agreements and international, regional and national as well as multi-stakeholder initiatives related to providing and receiving care and support, including those that aim to guarantee the recognition, reduction and redistribution of care work and the reward and representation of care and domestic workers, to increase commitments toward economic justice and rights for all, and to promote and effectively protect the human rights of women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons,

Recognizing that comprehensive care and support policies aimed at reducing, redistributing and valuing unpaid care and domestic work are conducive to the well-being of society and all its members, in particular children, older persons and persons with disabilities, and the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls,

Recognizing also that support is an integral part of being able to live independently and being included in the community, and recognizing further the importance of increasing the resilience of older persons, persons with disabilities and persons living with mental health conditions by strengthening legal and social protection, adopting employment measures, providing better care and support services and promoting long-term care and support at home and in the community, with a view to ensuring their empowerment, autonomy and independence,

Recognizing further that unpaid care and domestic work remains invisible, undervalued and unaccounted for in national statistics, and neglected in economic and social policymaking, and that women and girls, including adolescent girls, undertake a disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work from one generation to the next, as well as the need to adopt measures to reduce, redistribute and value unpaid care and domestic work by promoting the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men within the household and by prioritizing, inter alia, sustainable infrastructure, social protection policies and accessible, affordable and quality social services, including care services, child care and maternity, paternity or parental leave,

Noting that those providing domestic care and support constitute a significant proportion of the workforce and that, globally, care work is carried out mainly by women, many of whom are migrants or persons who are particularly vulnerable to discrimination in respect of conditions of employment and of work,

Acknowledging that women and girls remain disproportionately affected by the socioeconomic fallout from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and that

¹¹ *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.

¹² *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.

the disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work further exacerbates gender inequality by limiting women's agency to decide how to spend their time and their ability to participate in decision-making processes and occupy leadership positions, and poses significant constraints on women's and girls' education and training and on women's economic opportunities and entrepreneurial activities, and recognizing the need to adopt a comprehensive and intergenerational approach in the design and implementation of care policies,

Acknowledging also the role of community care and protection, especially involving Indigenous Peoples, in respecting and protecting their traditional and ancestral knowledge, in accordance with each corresponding system of cultural values,

Acknowledging further the accelerated global trend of ageing of the population, which will require more care work and support, and stressing the need to promote and strengthen the estimation of the caregiving contribution and other activities of older persons to the economy, including recognition of unpaid care for family members, in particular by older women, and to ensure that national statistics in this regard inform policymaking,

Stressing the need to recognize and value paid care work and care workers as essential workers and the need to adopt measures that combat gender stereotypes related to care and support, as well as those related to, inter alia, race, ethnicity, age and migratory status, to reduce occupational segregation for care work, facilitate the transition from informal to formal work and decent work, including with regard to paid care and domestic work, and create quality jobs in the care economy and increase the rewards and representation of paid domestic workers, including care workers, as well as the need to realize women's right to work and rights at work for those with care responsibilities, including equal pay for work of equal value,

Mindful of the need to invest in the care economy and to create robust, resilient and gender-responsive, disability-inclusive and age-sensitive care and support systems with full respect for human rights with a view to recognizing, reducing, valuing and redistributing unpaid care and domestic work and support,

Recognizing that civil society organizations, in particular those working on the issue of care and support, including workers' and employers' organizations, women's and community-based organizations, youth-led organizations, feminist groups, faith-based organizations and other relevant stakeholders and networks, are contributing to putting the need for care and support of people at the centre of relevant national policies,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 29 October as the International Day of Care and Support;

2. *Invites* all Member States, organizations of the United Nations system and other global, regional and subregional organizations, as well as other relevant stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector, academia and individuals, to observe the International Day of Care and Support on an annual basis in an appropriate manner in order to raise awareness of the importance of care and support and its key contribution to the achievement of gender equality and the sustainability of our societies and economies, as well as of the need to invest in a resilient and inclusive care economy, including the development of strong and resilient care and support systems;

3. *Invites* the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the International Labour Organization to facilitate the observance of the International Day of Care and Support, in

collaboration with other relevant organizations, mindful of the provisions contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution [1980/67](#);

4. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions, including from the private sector;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of all Member States and organizations of the United Nations system to encourage them to observe and carry out activities to commemorate, on a voluntary basis, the International Day of Care and Support.
