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### Summary record of the 21st meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Wednesday, 5 June 2024, at 3 p.m.

President: Mr. Rae (Vice-President) . . . . . . . . . . . . . (Canada)

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In the absence of Ms. Narváez Ojeda (Chile), Mr. Rae (Canada), Vice-President, took the Chair.

The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

### Agenda item 19: Social and human rights questions (continued)

- (d) Narcotic drugs (continued) (E/2024/28 and E/INCB/2023/1)
- Mr. Johnson (Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs), introducing the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its sixty-seventh session (E/2024/28) in a pre-recorded video statement, said that the current year, 2024, was the midpoint in the 10-year cycle that had begun with the Commission's 2019 ministerial declaration calling for accelerated implementation of international drug policy commitments. In addition to its regular meetings, the Commission had organized a two-day segment that had adopted the high-level declaration by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on the 2024 midterm review, following up to the Ministerial Declaration of 2019. The segment had highlighted the need to focus on cross cutting issues, including cooperation, data collection, technological innovation and resource mobilization. It had included two multi-stakeholder round tables on taking stock and charting a way forward. As the Commission's Chair, he had launched the Pledge 4 Action initiative to mobilize member States to address key challenges to the goals of the 2019 Declaration.
- 2. The Commission had adopted two resolutions by consensus, one on drug disorder recovery and the other on uses and availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes. In addition, for the first time, two resolutions had been adopted by a vote, one on alternative development and the other on preventing and responding to drug overdoses. The Commission had also adopted a record 23 decisions on the scope of control of substances under the international drug control conventions. For the first time, it had scheduled substances that did not meet the "frequency of use" criterion, but which could be substituted for other scheduled substances.
- 3. On 8 May 2024, the Commission had adopted a 2024–2028 work plan for thematic discussions using the silence procedure. The plan proposed an annual intersessional meeting starting in 2024 and two stocktaking meetings for 2028. In February 2024, as Chair of the Commission, he had presided over a round table on the margins on the Economic and Social Council's coordination segment to foster collaboration between the Commission and the Council. The Commission had submitted input for the 2024 high-level

- political forum on sustainable development, and would be holding a side event at the forum together with the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in July 2024. As Commission Chair, he had submitted a written contribution for inclusion in the Pact for the Future.
- 4. Mr. Toufiq (President of the International Narcotics Control Board), introducing the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2023 (E/INCB/2023/1), said that as a medical doctor and psychiatrist specializing substance use disorders, he had personally witnessed how provisions of the anti-drug conventions could improve the well-being of patients, families and communities. The report's thematic chapter focused on the role of the Internet in drug trafficking. Traffickers exploited both the dark web and legitimate e-commerce platforms. The online sale of fentanyl and other synthetic opioids was a serious public health threat. The use of social media platforms as drug marketplaces was having devastating consequences for young people. Encryption and jurisdictional issues hindered the monitoring and prosecution of online activities. However, the Internet and social media also presented opportunities. Telemedicine was expanding access to treatment services, and social media platforms were being used for prevention campaigns. The Global Rapid Interdiction of Dangerous Substances (GRIDS) Programme provided Governments with tools to encourage industry partners to refrain from activities involving substitute substances.
- Data reported by Member States had confirmed disparities in the use of opioids such as morphine for the treatment of pain, with almost all consumption concentrated in Western Europe, North America, Australia and New Zealand. Consumption levels in most of Africa and parts of Asia were often insufficient to meet medical needs. At the same time, countries in North America suffered from an opioid overdose epidemic. Consumption of methadone and buprenorphine was concentrated in a limited number of countries; in other countries with high prevalence of opioid use disorders, the use of those substances for opioid agonist therapy was limited or non-existent. The Board recommended that Governments sufficient resources to ensure availability, review pricing and production policies for low- and middleincome countries, and increase national and/or regional production of pharmaceuticals in their generic forms.
- 6. The Board's INCB Learning programme was helping to build the capacities of national authorities to assess their implementation of treaty obligations. The Board urged Governments to take urgent action to ensure the timely provision of controlled medicines in

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countries undergoing humanitarian emergencies. States should also address disparities in evidence-based treatment services and promote alternatives to incarceration. In the wake of the dramatic decline in opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan, alternative livelihoods needed to be secured for affected farmers and measures taken to prevent substitution with synthetic opioids. The tension between the provisions of the anti-drug conventions and the trend toward the legalization of recreational cannabis also needed to be addressed.

- 7. The precursors report that accompanied the main report drew attention to the use of custom-made precursors to circumvent controls and efforts to promote cooperation with the chemicals industry to combat that emerging threat. The Board's new Pre-Export Notification Online (PEN Online) system had enabled Member States to interdict several large shipments of non-controlled chemicals. Implementation of the antidrug conventions contributed to Sustainable Development Goal 3 on health and well-being and Goal 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions.
- 8. **Ms. Ríos Serna** (Colombia) said that her delegation had joined 61 other States in calling for a review of international drug control policies, strategies and tools to ensure that they were effective and fit for purpose. Drug control policies must be respectful of human rights, gender-responsive, protective of the environment and grounded in a public health approach, while also meeting the needs of vulnerable communities. The Commission on Narcotic Drugs must fulfil its scientific and technical roles, acknowledge the failure of the so-called war against drugs and ensure a balanced, comprehensive, multidisciplinary and evidence-based approach.
- 9. **Mr. Toufiq** (President of the International Narcotics Control Board) said that he agreed that human rights should always be on the table when talking about combating drug use. A non-ideological science-based approach should always be applied.

Actions on recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its sixty-seventh session (E/2024/28)

10. **The President** drew attention to the draft proposals contained in chapter I, section A, of the report.

Draft decision I: Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its sixty-seventh session and provisional agenda for its sixty-eighth session

Draft decision II: Report of the International Narcotics Control Board

11. Draft decisions I and II were adopted.

# Agenda item 18: Economic and environmental questions (continued)

- (f) Public administration and development (E/2024/44)
- Ms. Fraser-Moleketi (Chair of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration), speaking via video link and introducing the report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its twenty-third session (E/2024/44), said that at that session, the Committee had highlighted five urgently needed transformative actions: anchoring the Sustainable Development Goals to the public discourse as a policy framework for the future; promoting sustainability through national budgets to increase public trust; investing in changing mindsets in the public sector; applying the principles of effective governance for sustainable development; and closing gaps in awareness of the Goals and of their importance at all levels. Leaving no one behind require mapping of vulnerable groups and inclusive people-centred strategies. Targeted interventions should engage all relevant stakeholders, alongside laws and policies that addressed systematic inequalities, discrimination and exclusion.
- 13. Climate-related weather events had led to insurance coverage gaps for vulnerable groups. In line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, Governments needed to analyse risks, incentivize investments in resilience, prevention and rehabilitation, and explore tailored financing mechanisms, including parametric approaches to insurance. Governments also needed to identify guiding principles and policy priorities for the regulation and use of artificial intelligence, especially by the public sector, to ensure that the diffusion of that technology reinforced the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and left no one behind.
- 14. In the face of declining trust in government, increased efficiency and effectiveness in public finance management were essential. Public sector innovation prompted by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic should be sustained and augmented with comprehensive human resource development strategies. Investment and capacity-building in emerging areas such as artificial intelligence could encourage young

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professionals to join the public sector and motivate and retain them once hired.

15. Ending poverty in all its forms was inextricably linked to strengthening public financial management frameworks in post-conflict situations. Although difficult to implement in such situations, sound public financial management was essential to preventing socioeconomic tensions from reaching a tipping point. The Committee had facilitated a peer exchange between countries and between cities on institutional aspects of Goals 16 and 17. The Committee had concluded its session by adopting a draft resolution and a draft decision for the consideration by the Council, and had also reaffirmed its contribution to the 2024 high-level political forum.

### Agenda item 19: Social and human rights questions (continued)

- **(f) Human rights** (E/2024/13 and E/2024/22)
- Ms. Brands Kehris (Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights), introducing the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on economic, social and cultural rights (E/2024/13), said that the report provided an overview of activities, achievements and challenges in the area of economic, social and cultural rights over the previous year. In September 2023, the High Commissioner had presented his vision and priorities to the Sustainable Development Goals summit, focusing on five areas: (a) expanding fiscal space and supporting the implementation of economic, social and cultural rights; (b) addressing inequalities; (c) ensuring an enabling environment; (d) addressing the role of international financial institutions; and (e) harnessing data to protect economic, social and cultural rights and achieve the 2030 Agenda.
- 17. The activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) had included a range of activities, including technical assistance, capacity-building, research and advocacy, and partnership and engagement with Governments, national human rights institutions, universities, academia, civil society and other stakeholders at the national, regional and international levels. In Ethiopia, OHCHR had organized a national policy dialogue on protection and promotion of the rights of domestic workers. In Jordan, it had worked with that country's economic and social council to place human rights at the centre of public finance policies. In Cambodia, OHCHR had provided technical advice to support the Government's efforts to develop a national social

- protection policy. In Kenya, it had supported citizen engagement with the local budgeting.
- 18. Although 171 countries had ratified the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, implementation of those rights remained a challenge. The COVID-19 pandemic had laid bare decades of underinvestment in economic, social and cultural rights. The report drew attention to the emerging concept of a human rights economy, whereby States would align their economic policies with human rights obligations and make sure to ringfence relevant expenditures during financial crises. The current crises had forced the delay or cancellation of several activities run by OHCHR, which continued to count on the support of Member States to maintain the capacities to do its work.
- 19. **Ms.** Crăciunean-Tatu (Chair of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights), speaking via video link and introducing the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its seventy-third and seventy-fourth sessions (E/2024/22), said that with the accession of South Sudan in February 2024, the number of signatories to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights now stood at 172. She urged States that had not yet done so to ratify the Covenant and its Optional Protocol.
- The Committee had considered 12 State party reports in 2023, but had a backlog pending. A considerable number of State parties had not yet engaged with the Committee or were overdue with reporting. Despite the adoption of General Assembly resolution 68/268 on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body treaty bodies remained underresourced. system, Insufficient meeting time had hampered Committee's consideration of individual communications. As had been noted by committees, there was a need for regular funding for treaty bodies based on a forward-looking formula that allowed for a predictable review cycle.
- 21. The Committee continued to work on general comments, including, notably, the draft general comment on sustainable development and the Covenant. Plans for two more general comments were under way, one related to drug policies and the other to conflict. In the run-up to the Summit of the Future, issues related to the human rights economy, social protection, sustainable food systems and integrated approaches to multiple and overlapping crisis were at the centre of the Committee's focus. The Committee welcomed the inclusion of language recognizing the importance of a

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human rights economy approach in the outputs of the 2023 high-level political forum.

- 22. **The President** said that he took it that the Council wished to take note of the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its seventy-third and seventy-fourth sessions, as contained in document E/2024/22.
- 23. It was so decided.

#### (e) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

- 24. Mr. Dhanapala (Director, New York Office, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)), presenting an oral report on behalf of the High Commissioner for Refugees, said that, globally, over 114 million people had been forcibly displaced. Instability and conflict in such areas as Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Haiti, Myanmar, Somalia, the Sudan, Ukraine and the Sahel continued to cause displacement and distress, leading to a breakdown of community support services and protection systems. Emergencies were lasting longer and becoming more complex, while funding shortfalls had constrained the ability of UNHCR to respond. Against that backdrop, coordination and partnerships were even more essential to providing lifesaving assistance.
- 25. UNHCR continued to exercise leadership and coordination responsibilities in refugee situations, in line with its mandate. At the second Global Refugee held in December 2023, over commitments to support the forcibly displaced and host communities had been received from Governments, civil society, academia, the private sector and refugeeled organizations. In 2023, UNHCR had developed eight regional refugee response plans covering 53 countries and mobilizing 1,470 partners to assist approximately 22 million refugees and 12.5 million members of host communities. UNHCR was also supporting four government-led regional support platforms, convening key stakeholders to enhance responses in the corresponding regions, and continued to work closely with regional and subregional organizations, supporting the development of protection standards and solutions to address forced displacement and statelessness.
- 26. Through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, UNHCR led or co-led the global protection cluster, the emergency shelter and non-food items cluster and the camp coordination and camp management cluster. UNHCR continued to shape the Committee's strategic priorities, co-leading efforts to ensure that protection remained at the centre of humanitarian action. UNHCR was also co-leading the development of global guidance

- on the practical application of the humanitarian-peacedevelopment nexus.
- 27. While remaining committed to its humanitarian mandate, UNHCR was aligning its programmes with those of development actors under the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks and had invested in a results-based management tool to enhance coherence between its country strategies and the common priorities outlined in those Cooperation Frameworks. Its country operations had developed multi-year strategies aligned, where possible, to the United Nations development system programme cycle. UNHCR also systematically engaged in regional forums on sustainable development and co-led two regional collaborative platforms on migration and human mobility in Europe and the western hemisphere.
- 28. Under the United Nations Common Pledge 2.0, an initiative co-led by UNHCR, the Development Coordination Office and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, over 100 ambitious and measurable commitments on advancing refugee inclusion had been made by 19 United Nations partners and 50 United Nations country teams. Following in the steps of the United Nations 2.0 initiative, UNHCR was scaling up its capacity in data, digital innovation and strategic foresight.
- 29. Partnerships with international financial institutions helped to promote refugee inclusion through dedicated financing and private sector mobilization. Since 2017, \$4.1 billion in investments had been made in 73 projects in 17 low-income host countries. Under the global concessional financing facility, \$853 million in grants had been allocated to provide \$6.7 billion in concessional loans to five middle-income countries since 2016. The private sector had also been mobilized through collaboration with the International Finance Corporation. For example, a collaboration with Santander Bank Polska had provided for \$17 million in loans to micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises that could benefit refugees.
- 30. Meaningful engagement of forcibly displaced and stateless persons was crucial. In 2023, in partnership with the International Council of Voluntary Agencies, seven regional consultations had been held with some 1,500 participants from local refugee-led organizations, civil society and local non-governmental organizations. UNHCR and the International Council of Voluntary Agencies had also developed a multi-stakeholder pledge on advancing localization in responses to displacement and statelessness, which involved funding, capacity-sharing, inclusion in decision-making and coordination. UNHCR was also developing sports partnerships to

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reach a wider audience with campaigns to combat xenophobia and racism and raise awareness of the positive contributions made by refugees.

### (h) Comprehensive implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

31. **The President** said that the General Assembly, in its resolution 62/220, decided that the Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Human Rights Council would constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental process for the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action. However, no advance documentation had been submitted under the agenda item and no draft proposal was before the Council.

# Agenda item 12: Coordination, programme and other questions (continued)

### (a) Reports of coordination bodies (E/2024/11)

- 32. **Ms. Jansen** (Secretary of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination), introducing the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for 2023 (E/2024/11), said that the Board acted as a catalyst for integration and policy coherence to support Member States. It served as a "think tank", harnessing expertise from across the United Nations system to develop forward-looking solutions in response to mandates from the governing bodies of its 31 member organizations. It strove to foster systemic transformation and enhance performance through results orientation; data-based analysis and decision-making; innovation and digital solutions; strategic foresight; and a work culture that enhanced collaboration and fostered accountability.
- 33. In 2023, amid multiple and compounding crises, the Board and its subsidiary mechanisms had reaffirmed their commitment to supporting Member States in strengthening the multilateral system and advancing the Sustainable Development Goals. The Board and its High-level Committee on Programmes had considered several key issues of system-wide concern to strengthen policy coherence and coordination. The Board had expanded its efforts on data governance, aiming to strike a balance between data protection and accessibility and promoting an approach that was grounded in human rights and support for sustainable development, and had also endorsed a set of common principles on future generations. The Strategic Foresight Network of the High-level Committee on Programmes had become the basis for the newly established foresight community of practice, which was aimed at enhancing new skills to strengthen the capabilities of the United Nations system

to better address the challenges of the twenty-first century.

- 34. At a joint session, the High-level Committee on Programmes and the High-level Committee on Management had addressed the governance and use of artificial intelligence and other frontier technologies. The Committees, emphasizing the need for a valuesbased approach to artificial intelligence grounded in the Charter of the United Nations, had requested the Highlevel Committee on Programmes to prepare an analysis of the United Nations system's institutional models, functions and existing normative frameworks applicable to artificial intelligence governance. A task force had been established to develop a system-wide normative and operational framework for the use of artificial intelligence within the United Nations and to identify and promote mechanisms for pooling technical capacity and knowledge-sharing.
- 35. Efforts to enhance transparency and accountability had also continued, and United Nations financial and human resources statistics had been made more accessible and comprehensive. Dialogues on data management had led to the development of a maturity model and road map for cyber and data risk readiness and to the adoption of a common approach on ransomware response. Further steps were taken in such areas as the fostering of a workplace culture aligned with the vision of a United Nations 2.0; disability inclusion and accessibility; and a coordinated approach to multilingualism. The Board had continued its efforts towards implementing a zero-tolerance policy to sexual harassment by establishing the United Nations Executive Group to Prevent and Respond to Sexual Harassment in the United Nations system. It had also endorsed a new strategy on mental health and wellbeing, focusing on a system-wide approach and sustained support for implementation.

# Agenda item 2: Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (continued)

Draft decision E/2024/L.9: Proposed dates of the meetings and segments of the Economic and Social Council in 2025

- 36. **The President** said that the draft decision had no programme budget implications.
- 37. Draft decision E/2024/L.9 was adopted.

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Agenda item 11: Implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits (continued)

- (b) Review and coordination of the implementation of the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries (A/79/75-E/2024/8)
- Ms. Fatima (Under-Secretary-General and High 38. Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States), introducing the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Follow-up to the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries" (A/79/75-E/2024/8), said that the situation facing the least developed countries was a challenging one. As of 2023, the least developed countries had lost 10 per cent of their gross domestic product compared with pre-pandemic growth trends, and 15 million people had been pushed into extreme poverty since 2019. The overall trade deficit of the least developed countries had climbed to \$124.1 billion in 2022, while official development assistance had fallen, amounting to just \$45 billion that year. Over 24 per cent of people living in the least developed countries were severely food insecure in 2021, and more than 231 million would require humanitarian assistance in 2024. To address these and other challenges, the least developed countries needed enhanced support, solidarity and global action.
- 39. The Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States had launched a road map for the accelerated implementation of the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, outlining specific actions to be taken by all partners. With support from Qatar, the Office was working towards operationalizing the food stockholding mechanism, which would enhance access to food supplies and preparedness for food emergencies. Studies were being prepared for several of the deliverables of the Doha Programme of Action, including a comprehensive study on multi-hazard early warning systems; a feasibility study for an online university to promote education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics; and a feasibility study and gaps analysis exercise for an international investment support centre for the least developed countries.
- 40. In December 2023, Bhutan had become the first country to graduate from the category of least developed countries since the adoption of the Doha Programme of Action. Another 15 countries were in different stages of graduation, with Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania having met the graduation criteria

- for the first time in the most recent triennial review of the list of least developed countries. Full operationalization of the Sustainable Graduation Support Facility would help to ensure country-specific and partnership-based support for graduating least developed countries and graduated countries.
- 41. The fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States had culminated with the adoption of the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for Small Island Developing States. Every effort would be made to ensure its timely implementation. The preparatory committee for the third United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries had agreed on the next programme of action for landlocked developing countries.
- 42. Mr. Thapa (Nepal), speaking on behalf of the Group of Least Developed Countries, said that the progress of the least developed countries towards sustainable development was severely affected by external factors, including the COVID-19 pandemic, ongoing interlinked crises and climate change. The resulting limited fiscal space meant that such countries could not make the investments required to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and the targets of the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries. It was imperative for all partners to fulfil the commitments made in the Doha Programme of Action and enhance access to all types of finance from all sources. As climate finance was particularly crucial, the Group called for the fulfilment of climate finance pledges and the simplification of procedures for gaining access to such finance.
- 43. The science, technology and innovation ecosystem was a crucial enabler of sustainable development, and the least developed countries continued to fall behind in that area. The Group reiterated its call for an online university to build capabilities in science, technology, engineering and mathematics in the least developed countries. It also reiterated its invitation for investments in the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries.
- 44. While the manufacturing share of gross domestic product in the least developed countries had grown to 15 per cent in 2020, the figure was still much lower than in other developing countries. Furthermore, 38 of the 45 least developed countries had still been classified as commodity-dependent in 2023 and thus were susceptible to the impacts of the volatility in global commodity prices. Commodity diversification and meaningful structural transformation were needed so that the least developed countries could effectively capitalize on the global trading system. The Group

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called for significant and consistent investment in sectors that could contribute to higher productivity and create decent jobs; at least \$1,051 billion in annual investments were required in manufacturing alone.

45. **Mr. Falkner** (Canada) said that his delegation remained committed to the full implementation of the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries and trusted that the implementation of the recently adopted Antigua and Barbuda Agenda and the adoption of a new programme of action for landlocked developing countries would support sustainable development in the least developed countries.

### Agenda item 12: Coordination, programme and other questions (continued)

### (e) Long-term programme of support for Haiti

Draft decision E/2024/L.8: Appointment of an additional member of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti

- 46. **The President** said that the draft decision had no programme budget implications.
- 47. Draft decision E/2024/L.8 was adopted.
- 48. **Mr. Falkner** (Canada) said that his delegation was confident that the addition of Germany as a member of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti would enrich the quality of the Group's work and help it to provide useful insight and advice to support the socioeconomic development of Haiti.

## Agenda item 18: Economic and environmental questions (continued)

#### (a) Sustainable development (continued)

Draft resolution entitled "Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twenty-sixth session (E/2024/L.11)

- 49. **Ms. Herity** (Secretary of the Council), reading out a statement of programme budget implications in connection with the draft resolution in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Council, said that detailed cost estimates and their underlying assumptions had been provided in the annex to the written statement circulated on 5 June 2024.
- 50. Should the Council adopt the draft resolution, additional programme budget appropriations for 2025 amounting to \$389,800, recurrent, and \$7,600, non-recurrent, would be requested, in the context of the report of the Secretary-General on revised estimates resulting from resolutions and decisions of the Council adopted during its 2024 session. An additional amount

- of \$24,600 would arise under section 36, Staff assessment, and would also be requested in the context of the aforementioned report of the Secretary-General. That sum would be offset by an equivalent amount under income, section 1, Income from staff assessment. The recurrent resource requirements, including the two proposed posts costed at continuing rates, would be requested annually from 2026 in the context of the respective proposed programme budget.
- 51. Draft resolution E/2024/L.11 was adopted.
- 52. Mr. Quinto Gonzalez (Observer for Mexico) said that the draft resolution could have been strengthened by including a multidimensional approach to vulnerability. Assessments of a country's level of development needed to weigh not only economic metrics, but also such factors as income inequality, the population's well-being and even climate change considerations. Such an approach would make it easier to identify gaps, enabling timely and targeted allocation of resources. Furthermore, incorporating into the graduation process a multidimensional approach that measured all three dimensions of sustainable development would make the process more effective and comprehensive.

The meeting rose at 4.45 p.m.

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