



# General Assembly

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Seventy-ninth session

Agenda item 18

## Sustainable development

### Report of the Second Committee\*

*Rapporteur:* Ms. Stefany **Romero Veiga** (Uruguay)

#### I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2024, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-ninth session the item entitled:

“Sustainable development:

- “(a) Towards the achievement of sustainable development: implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through sustainable consumption and production, building on Agenda 21;
- “(b) Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;
- “(c) Disaster risk reduction;
- “(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind;
- “(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;
- “(f) Convention on Biological Diversity;
- “(g) Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme;
- “(h) Harmony with Nature;

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\* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in 12 parts, under the symbols [A/79/437](#), [A/79/437/Add.1](#), [A/79/437/Add.2](#), [A/79/437/Add.3](#), [A/79/437/Add.4](#), [A/79/437/Add.5](#), [A/79/437/Add.6](#), [A/79/437/Add.7](#), [A/79/437/Add.8](#), [A/79/437/Add.9](#), [A/79/437/Add.10](#) and [A/79/437/Add.11](#).



- “(i) Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all;
- “(j) Combating sand and dust storms;
- “(k) Strengthening cooperation for integrated coastal zone management for achieving sustainable development”

and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a general discussion on the item at its 10th, 11th and 13th meetings, on 14 and 15 October 2024, heard the introduction of draft proposals under the item at its 21st, 22nd and 24th meetings, on 13, 22 and 26 November, and took action on the item at its 21st to 24th and 26th meetings, on 13, 22 and 25 to 27 November. An account of the Committee’s consideration of the item is contained in the relevant summary records.<sup>1</sup> Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 6th, 9th, 13th and 19th meetings, on 7 to 10, 15 and 18 October.<sup>2</sup> An account of the Committee’s further consideration of the item is given in the addenda to the present report.

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

**Item 18**  
**Sustainable development**

Report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals ([A/79/79-E/2024/54](#))

Report of the Secretary-General on entrepreneurship for sustainable development ([A/79/208](#))

Report of the Secretary-General on the oil slick on Lebanese shores ([A/79/294](#))

**Item 18 (a)**  
**Towards the achievement of sustainable development: implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through sustainable consumption and production, building on Agenda 21**

Report of the Secretary-General entitled “Towards the achievement of sustainable development: implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through sustainable consumption and production, building on Agenda 21” ([A/79/528](#))

**Item 18 (b)**  
**Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States**

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States ([A/79/527](#))

<sup>1</sup> [A/C.2/79/SR.10](#), [A/C.2/79/SR.11](#), [A/C.2/79/SR.13](#), [A/C.2/79/SR.21](#), [A/C.2/79/SR.22](#), [A/C.2/79/SR.23](#), [A/C.2/79/SR.24](#) and [A/C.2/79/SR.26](#).

<sup>2</sup> See [A/C.2/79/SR.2](#), [A/C.2/79/SR.3](#), [A/C.2/79/SR.4](#), [A/C.2/79/SR.5](#), [A/C.2/79/SR.6](#), [A/C.2/79/SR.9](#), [A/C.2/79/SR.13](#) and [A/C.2/79/SR.19](#).

Report of the Secretary-General entitled “Towards the sustainable development of the Caribbean Sea for present and future generations” ([A/79/399](#))

**Item 18 (c)**  
**Disaster risk reduction**

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030 ([A/79/268](#))

**Item 18 (d)**  
**Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report submitted by the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the Convention on Biological Diversity pertaining to the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention ([A/79/273](#), sect. 1)

**Item 18 (e)**  
**Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report submitted by the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the Convention on Biological Diversity pertaining to the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa ([A/79/273](#), sect. 2)

**Item 18 (f)**  
**Convention on Biological Diversity**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report submitted by the secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, and the Convention on Biological Diversity pertaining to the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity ([A/79/273](#), sect. 3)

**Item 18 (g)**  
**Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme**

Report of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme, sixth session (Nairobi, 26 February to 1 March 2024) ([A/79/25](#))

**Item 18 (h)**  
**Harmony with Nature**

Report of the Secretary-General on Harmony with Nature ([A/79/253](#))

**Item 18 (i)****Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all**

Report of the Secretary-General on ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all ([A/79/501](#))

**Item 18 (j)****Combating sand and dust storms**

Report of the Secretary-General on combating sand and dust storms ([A/79/254](#))

**Item 18 (k)****Promoting the social and solidarity economy for sustainable development**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report prepared by the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on promoting the social and solidarity economy for sustainable development ([A/79/351](#))

4. At its 10th meeting, on 14 October, the Committee heard introductory statements by the Chief of the Sustainable Development Goals Monitoring Section of the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (under item 18), the Chief of the Entrepreneurship Section of the Division on Investment and Enterprise of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (under item 18) (by videoconference), the Chief of the Integrated Policy Analysis Branch of the Division for Sustainable Development Goals of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (under sub-items 18 (b), (h) and (i)), the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction and Head of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (under sub-item 18 (c)) (by pre-recorded video), the Director of the Mitigation Division of the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention (under sub-item 18 (d)) (by video-conference), the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, (under sub-item 18 (e)) (by pre-recorded video), the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity (under sub-item 18 (f)) (by pre-recorded video), the Director of the New York Office of the United Nations Environment Programme (under sub-item 18 (g)), the Director of the Land and Water Division of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (under sub-item 18 (j)) (by pre-recorded video) and the Senior Multilateral Cooperation Specialist at the New York Office of the International Labour Organization, on behalf of the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy (under sub-item 18 (k)).

5. At the 21st meeting, on 13 November, the representative of the United States of America made a statement with regard to the draft resolutions before the Committee; at the 23rd meeting, on 25 November, the representatives of Colombia and Israel made statements with regard to the draft resolutions before the Committee; at the 23rd, 24th and 26th meetings, on 25 to 27 November, the representative of the Russian Federation made statements with regard to the draft resolutions before the Committee; and at the 23rd to 26th meetings, on 25 to 27 November, representatives of Argentina made statements with regard to the draft resolutions before the Committee.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> See [A/C.2/79/SR.21](#), [A/C.2/79/SR.23](#), [A/C.2/79/SR.24](#), [A/C.2/79/SR.25](#) and [A/C.2/79/SR.26](#).

## II. Consideration of proposals

### A. Draft resolution [A/C.2/79/L.9](#)

6. At the 21st meeting, on 13 November, the representative of Uganda (on behalf of the States that are members of the Group of 77 and China, taking into account also the provisions of General Assembly resolution [ES-10/23](#) of 10 May 2024) introduced a draft resolution entitled “Oil slick on Lebanese shores” ([A/C.2/79/L.9](#)). Subsequently, the Russian Federation joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

7. At the same meeting, the representative of Israel made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

8. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.2/79/L.9](#) by a recorded vote of 161 to 7, with 9 abstentions (see para. 17, draft resolution I). The voting was as follows:<sup>4</sup>

*In favour:*

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

*Against:*

Argentina, Canada, Israel, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America.

*Abstaining:*

Cameroon, Fiji, Kiribati, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Rwanda, Togo, Tonga, Vanuatu.

9. Also at the 21st meeting, the representative of the United States of America made a statement in explanation of vote after the vote.

<sup>4</sup> Subsequently, the Secretariat was informed by the delegations of Guinea-Bissau and Mauritius that they had intended to vote in favour.

10. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Lebanon and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

## **B. Draft resolution [A/C.2/79/L.10/Rev.1](#)**

11. At the 22nd meeting, on 22 November, the representative of Israel introduced a revised draft resolution entitled “Entrepreneurship for sustainable development” ([A/C.2/79/L.10/Rev.1](#)), submitted by Cameroon, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Guatemala, Israel, Jamaica, Micronesia (Federated States of), Papua New Guinea, South Sudan and Suriname. Subsequently, Albania, Australia, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Palau, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tuvalu, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

12. At the same meeting, Andorra, Austria, Cambodia, France, India, Kiribati, Madagascar, Malta, Montenegro, Paraguay, Peru, Serbia and Slovenia joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

13. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Lebanon (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) made a statement in explanation of vote before the vote.

14. Also at the 22nd meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.2/79/L.10/Rev.1](#) by a recorded vote of 136 to 28, with 11 abstentions (see para. 17, draft resolution II). The voting was as follows:<sup>5,6</sup>

### *In favour:*

Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia,

<sup>5</sup> Subsequently, the Secretariat was informed by the delegations of Tajikistan and Zambia that they had intended to vote in favour.

<sup>6</sup> Subsequently, the Secretariat was informed by the delegation of Djibouti that it had intended to vote against.

Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

*Against:*

Algeria, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen.

*Abstaining:*

Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, China, Gambia, Namibia, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Türkiye, United Republic of Tanzania.

15. At the same meeting, the representatives of the Russian Federation, Argentina, the United States of America, the State of Palestine and South Africa made statements in explanation of vote after the vote.

16. Following the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the European Union.

### III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

17. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

#### **Draft resolution I** **Oil slick on Lebanese shores**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [61/194](#) of 20 December 2006, [62/188](#) of 19 December 2007, [63/211](#) of 19 December 2008, [64/195](#) of 21 December 2009, [65/147](#) of 20 December 2010, [66/192](#) of 22 December 2011, [67/201](#) of 21 December 2012, [68/206](#) of 20 December 2013, [69/212](#) of 19 December 2014, [70/194](#) of 22 December 2015, [71/218](#) of 21 December 2016, [72/209](#) of 20 December 2017, [73/224](#) of 20 December 2018, [74/208](#) of 19 December 2019, [75/209](#) of 21 December 2020, [76/199](#) of 17 December 2021, [77/157](#) of 14 December 2022 and [78/143](#) of 19 December 2023 on the oil slick on Lebanese shores,

*Reaffirming* the outcome of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, especially principle 7 of the Declaration of the Conference,<sup>1</sup> in which States were requested to take all possible steps to prevent pollution of the seas,

*Emphasizing* the need to protect and preserve the marine environment in accordance with international law,

*Taking into account* the 1992 Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,<sup>2</sup> especially principle 16, in which it was stipulated that the polluter should, in principle, bear the cost of pollution, and taking into account also chapter 17 of Agenda 21,<sup>3</sup>

*Reaffirming* its resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,<sup>4</sup> recalling the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>5</sup> which highlights the importance of improving preparedness and national coordination for disaster response, rehabilitation and reconstruction, and post-disaster recovery and reconstruction, supported by strengthened modalities of international cooperation, and recalling also its resolution [71/256](#) of 23 December 2016, entitled “New Urban Agenda”, acknowledging that, in implementing the New Urban Agenda, particular attention should be given to addressing the unique and emerging urban development challenges facing, inter alia, countries affected by natural and human-made disasters,

*Welcoming* the declaration entitled “Our ocean, our future, our responsibility” as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution [76/296](#) of 21 July 2022, which underlines the interlinkages and potential synergies between Goal 14 and the other Sustainable Development Goals, as well as the importance of halting and

<sup>1</sup> See *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, Stockholm, 5–16 June 1972 (A/CONF.48/14/Rev.1)*, part one, chap. I.

<sup>2</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>4</sup> See [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21, annex.

<sup>5</sup> Resolution [69/283](#), annex II.



reversing the decline in the health of the ocean's ecosystems and biodiversity and of protecting and restoring its resilience and ecological integrity,

*Noting with great concern* the environmental disaster caused by the destruction by the Israeli Air Force on 15 July 2006 of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Jiyah electric power plant in Lebanon, resulting in an oil slick that covered the entirety of the Lebanese coastline, extended to the Syrian coastline and hindered efforts to achieve sustainable development, as already highlighted by the General Assembly in its resolutions [61/194](#), [62/188](#), [63/211](#), [64/195](#), [65/147](#), [66/192](#), [67/201](#), [68/206](#), [69/212](#), [70/194](#), [71/218](#), [72/209](#), [73/224](#), [74/208](#), [75/209](#), [76/199](#), [77/157](#) and [78/143](#),

*Noting* that the Secretary-General expressed grave concern at the lack of any acknowledgement on the part of the Government of Israel of its responsibilities vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill,

*Recalling* that, in paragraph 5 of its resolution [78/143](#), it reiterated its request to the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon and other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially polluted, and recognizing the conclusion of the Secretary-General that this request of the General Assembly has yet to be implemented,

*Acknowledging* that the Secretary-General concluded that this oil spill is not covered by any of the international oil spill compensation funds and thus merits special consideration, and recognizing that further consideration needs to be given to the option of securing the relevant compensation from the Government of Israel,

*Acknowledging also* the conclusions on measuring and quantifying the environmental damage set out in the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>6</sup>

*Noting again with appreciation* the assistance offered by donor countries and international organizations for the clean-up operations and the early recovery and reconstruction of Lebanon through bilateral and multilateral channels, including the Athens Coordination Meeting on the response to the marine pollution incident in the Eastern Mediterranean, held on 17 August 2006, as well as the Stockholm Conference for Lebanon's Early Recovery, held on 31 August 2006,

*Acknowledging* that the Secretary-General has welcomed the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean oil spill restoration trust fund, under its existing mechanism, and expressing concern that to date no contributions have been made to the trust fund,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;
2. *Reiterates*, for the nineteenth consecutive year, its deep concern about the adverse implications of the destruction by the Israeli Air Force of the oil storage tanks in the direct vicinity of the Lebanese Jiyah electric power plant for the achievement of sustainable development in Lebanon;
3. *Considers* that the oil slick has heavily polluted the shores of Lebanon and partially polluted Syrian shores and consequently has had serious implications for livelihoods and the economy of Lebanon, owing to the adverse implications for natural resources, biodiversity, fisheries and tourism, and for human health in the country;

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<sup>6</sup> [A/79/294](#).

4. *Acknowledges* the conclusions in the report of the Secretary-General, in which he stated that studies show that the value of the damage to Lebanon amounted to 856.4 million United States dollars in 2014, and requests the Secretary-General to urge United Nations bodies and agencies and other relevant organizations involved in the initial assessment of the relevant environmental damage to undertake, within existing resources, a further study, building on, inter alia, the initial work of the World Bank presented in the report of the Secretary-General submitted to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session,<sup>7</sup> with a view to measuring and quantifying the environmental damage sustained by neighbouring countries;

5. *Reiterates its request* in this regard to the Government of Israel to assume responsibility for prompt and adequate compensation to the Government of Lebanon for the aforementioned damage and to other countries directly affected by the oil slick, such as the Syrian Arab Republic, whose shores have been partially polluted, for the costs of repairing the environmental damage caused by the destruction, including the restoration of the marine environment, in particular in the light of the conclusion contained in the report of the Secretary-General that there remains grave concern at the lack of implementation of the relevant provisions of the resolutions of the General Assembly on the subject vis-à-vis reparations and compensation to the Government and people of Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the oil spill;

6. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the efforts of the Government of Lebanon and those of Member States, regional and international organizations, regional and international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in the initiation of clean-up and rehabilitation operations on the polluted shores, and encourages Member States and the above-mentioned entities to continue their financial and technical support to the Government of Lebanon towards achieving the completion of clean-up and rehabilitation operations, with the aim of preserving the ecosystem of Lebanon and that of the Eastern Mediterranean basin;

7. *Welcomes* the agreement of the Lebanon Recovery Fund to host the Eastern Mediterranean oil spill restoration trust fund, based on voluntary contributions, to provide assistance and support to the States directly and adversely affected in their integrated environmentally sound management, from clean-up to safe disposal of oily waste, of this environmental disaster resulting from the destruction of the oil storage tanks at the Jiyah electric power plant;

8. *Notes* that in his report the Secretary-General urged Member States, international organizations, international and regional financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to intensify their support for Lebanon in this matter, particularly for recovery and rehabilitation activities on the Lebanese coast, reiterates its invitation to States and the international donor community to make voluntary financial contributions to the trust fund, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to mobilize international technical and financial assistance in order to ensure that the trust fund has sufficient and adequate resources;

9. *Recognizes* the multidimensionality of the adverse impact of the oil slick, and requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its eightieth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled “Sustainable development”.

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<sup>7</sup> A/62/343.

## Draft resolution II

### Entrepreneurship for sustainable development

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [67/202](#) of 21 December 2012, [69/210](#) of 19 December 2014, [71/221](#) of 21 December 2016, [73/225](#) of 20 December 2018, [75/211](#) of 21 December 2020 and [77/160](#) of 14 December 2022,

*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,

*Reiterating* the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental and the wish to see the Sustainable Development Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

*Welcoming* the convening of the Summit of the Future on 22–23 September 2024 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, at which resolution [79/1](#) entitled “The Pact for the Future” and its annexes were adopted,

*Reaffirming* the Paris Agreement,<sup>1</sup> and encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>2</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible, noting the holding of the twenty-ninth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in Baku from 11 to 22 November 2024, as well as the twenty-eighth session of the Conference of the Parties, held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from 30 November to 13 December 2023, and looking forward to the thirtieth session of the Conference of the Parties, to be held in Belém, Brazil, from 10 to 21 November 2025,

*Recalling* the Sendai Declaration and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,<sup>3</sup> and reaffirming that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, among other things, seeks to develop and implement holistic disaster risk reduction management at all levels in line with the Sendai Framework,

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

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>3</sup> Resolution [69/283](#), annexes I and II.

*Recalling also* relevant strategies and programmes of action, including the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries<sup>4</sup> and the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for Small Island Developing States,<sup>5</sup> looking forward to the new Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2024–2034, taking note of Agenda 2063 of the African Union, and recognizing the importance of addressing the diverse needs and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing middle-income countries,

*Reaffirming* the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,<sup>6</sup> the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development<sup>7</sup> and the outcome documents of their review conferences,

*Emphasizing* the pivotal role of entrepreneurship in achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – by creating jobs, promoting decent work, driving inclusive economic growth and innovation, improving social conditions, harnessing the economic potential of each nation and expanding opportunities for all, including women and youth, persons with disabilities, older persons, Indigenous Peoples, and those in vulnerable situations, and emphasizing that achieving the Sustainable Development Goals requires the talents, creativity and entrepreneurial vigour of the entire population,

*Expressing concern* that multiple simultaneous and interlinked global shocks and crises, including the adverse impacts of climate change, biodiversity loss, desertification, pollution and other aspects of environmental degradation, rising geopolitical tensions and conflicts with widespread effects on people, planet, prosperity and peace, affecting food and energy prices and supply chain disruptions, are factors driving and compounding increased social and economic instability, which are disproportionately affecting vulnerable groups, micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, in particular those owned by women and young people, including through business uncertainty, higher operational costs and unfavourable borrowing conditions, in particular in developing countries,

*Recognizing* that the disproportionate effect of those crises can lead to an increase in entrepreneurial activity, in the form of necessity entrepreneurship, and noting with concern the negative effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on necessity entrepreneurs, who often constitute the majority of the workforce in low- and middle-income countries, often operating informally, and are more vulnerable and left with few avenues to access support in times of crisis,

*Noting* that the COVID-19 pandemic accelerated technological change, having sped up the adoption of digital tools in many areas of life, bringing with it new opportunities such as, inter alia, the adoption of digital tools for remote work and the acceleration of digitalization in developing countries, while further recognizing the contribution of digital technologies to micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises and entrepreneurs in adaptation to global shocks including through digital marketing, e-commerce, health tech and fintech, enabling better access to financial services as well as facilitating formalization,

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<sup>4</sup> Resolution 76/258, annex.

<sup>5</sup> Resolution 78/317, annex.

<sup>6</sup> *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.

<sup>7</sup> *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.

*Recalling* its resolution [71/279](#) of 6 April 2017 on Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day,

*Recognizing* the importance of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, which globally represent about 90 per cent of businesses and account for over two thirds of employment, and emphasizing their role in supporting achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular through promoting innovation, creativity and decent work for all,

*Acknowledging* the importance of promoting inclusive development-oriented policies that support entrepreneurship, including social and sustainable entrepreneurship, and the formalization and growth of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and encourage their participation in international, regional and national markets and integration into global value chains, including through promoting access for all to capacity-building, digital government, business and financial services, such as affordable microfinance and credit, and the improvement of financial and digital literacy,

*Recognizing* the role of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises in promoting inclusive and sustainable industrialization that could contribute to job creation for all,

*Recognizing also* that entrepreneurship can help to address environmental challenges and advance or promote energy sustainability through the introduction of new climate change mitigation and adaptation technologies and resilience measures, delivering energy-efficient products and providing renewable energy equipment, as well as by promoting environmentally sustainable consumption and production patterns,

*Recognizing further* that businesses will play a central role in the transition towards sustainable development and a more resource-efficient economy, such as circular economy, contributing to the achievement of sustainable consumption and production by adapting their business models and value chains,

*Underlining* the need to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for achieving sustainable development and to build transparent, effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and reaffirming that good governance, the rule of law, human rights, fundamental freedoms, equal access to fair justice systems and measures to combat corruption and curb illicit financial flows will be integral to those efforts,

*Recognizing* the positive contribution that entrepreneurship can make in promoting social cohesion, reducing inequalities and expanding opportunities for all, including women and youth, persons with disabilities, older persons, Indigenous Peoples, and those in vulnerable situations, and reaching the furthest behind first, and acknowledging that social entrepreneurship plays an important role in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by applying innovative market-based solutions to social and environmental problems, while being financially sustainable, and providing job and income opportunities for disadvantaged groups and those in vulnerable situations,

*Noting* the role that entrepreneurship can play in supporting participation in the labour market for persons with disabilities, and that promoting the feasibility of entrepreneurship for persons with disabilities will increase awareness of entrepreneurship as a potential labour market activity, not only for persons with disabilities, but also for self-employment and micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and noting also that persons with disabilities, including women with disabilities, face disproportionate and intersecting forms of discrimination, including in access to financial resources,

*Recalling* relevant agreed conclusions and resolutions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women, and stressing that women and girls, particularly in developing countries, are important drivers of entrepreneurship and sustainable development, calling for measures to enable women to leverage science and technology for entrepreneurship and economic empowerment, and recognizing the importance of policies and programmes that eliminate discrimination against women and provide public infrastructure to ensure equal access for women and men entrepreneurs,

*Noting with concern* that societal attitudes and negative preconceptions, in particular towards women and girls, including the fear of failure, the lack of opportunity and insufficient support structures, can undermine efforts to create a culture of entrepreneurship,

*Remaining deeply concerned* by continued high rates of youth unemployment, particularly in developing countries, which stifle the transformative potential of young people in sustainable development,

*Recognizing* the key role of youth entrepreneurship in sustainable economic growth and in generating innovative solutions and transformational development, and taking note of the convening of the fourth United Nations Conference on Trade and Development Youth Forum, in 2023,

*Reaffirming its commitment* to substantially increase the number of young people and adults who have relevant skills, including foundational learning skills, transferable skills, technical and vocational skills, for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship, and acknowledging the importance of strengthening education systems, including vocational training, in order to develop relevant skills and competences for a rapidly changing society and transition to sustainable and digital economies,

*Recognizing* that multi-stakeholder partnerships and the resources, knowledge and ingenuity of the private sector, civil society, Indigenous Peoples, the scientific community, academia, philanthropy and foundations, parliaments, local authorities, volunteers and other stakeholders will be important in order to mobilize and access knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, complement the efforts of Governments and contribute to the implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits, as well as support the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in all countries, including developing countries,

*Recognizing also* the importance of quality, accessible, timely and reliable disaggregated data for monitoring progress in the implementation of entrepreneurship policies and their direct and indirect contribution to the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, and addressing sex-disaggregated data gaps, to ensure that no one is left behind,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>8</sup>
2. *Reiterates* the need to promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all, stresses the positive role that entrepreneurship plays in driving job creation, reducing inequalities and expanding opportunities for all, including for women and youth, persons with disabilities, older persons, Indigenous Peoples, and those in vulnerable situations, and in that regard emphasizes the importance of improved regulatory environments and policy initiatives that promote entrepreneurship, including social entrepreneurship, and foster micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises;

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<sup>8</sup> A/79/208.

3. *Stresses* the need to highlight the value of entrepreneurship and its contribution to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>9</sup> including the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, by promoting policies, initiatives and programmes that support the development of an enabling entrepreneurial ecosystem, including through entrepreneurial skill-building, multi-stakeholder partnerships, raising public awareness, reinforcing local support networks and employing specific measures aimed at removing negative preconceptions and negative cultural biases;

4. *Encourages* Governments to take a coordinated and inclusive approach to promoting entrepreneurship involving all government entities and stakeholders, while noting initiatives of civil society, academia and the private sector as important entrepreneurship drivers, and to develop coherent and targeted policies and strategies, taking into account national priorities and circumstances, that address the legal, social and regulatory barriers to equal, effective economic participation, and stresses the need for a comprehensive and holistic approach to entrepreneurship that includes long-term and cross-sectoral strategies, including through strengthening disaggregated data collection to generate better insights for the promotion of sustainable entrepreneurship and to monitor and evaluate progress in implementation;

5. *Acknowledges* the need for Member States to develop policies and, where appropriate, strengthen national and international policy regulatory frameworks and their coherence, harnessing the potential of science, technology and innovation, closing technology gaps and scaling up capacity-building at all levels to better align private sector incentives with public goals, including incentivizing the private sector to adopt sustainable practices, and foster long-term quality investment, taking into account the importance of responsible business practices and corporate social responsibility, as reflected in the 10 principles of the United Nations Global Compact and in the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework,<sup>10</sup> environmental, social and governance performance standards and greater transparency in supply chains to end forced and child labour;

6. *Recognizes* the vital role of entrepreneurship in the development of regional economic integration, which can be an important catalyst for implementing economic reforms, reducing trade barriers and decreasing trade costs;

7. *Also recognizes* that entrepreneurs can address sustainable development challenges by developing effective and simple solutions in the areas of utility services, education, healthcare, hunger eradication and the environment, and that social entrepreneurship, including cooperatives and social enterprises, can help to alleviate poverty and catalyse social transformation by strengthening the productive capacities of vulnerable groups, including persons with disabilities, and producing goods and services that are accessible to them;

8. *Acknowledges* the value of entrepreneurship education and the dissemination of entrepreneurial thinking across all sectors, encourages all relevant actors to increase efforts to systemically integrate entrepreneurship within the formal and informal education systems, including through, inter alia, skills development, career guidance, and behavioural approach programmes such as the Empretec programme and the Entrepreneurship Policy Framework and Implementation Guidance of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the Start and Improve Your Business programme of the International Labour Organization, the International Trade Centre programmes, to support trade and international business development for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, capacity-building,

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<sup>9</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>10</sup> A/HRC/17/31, annex.

professional training programmes, business incubators and national centres of excellence, as well as online platforms and e-mentorships, such as the SME Trade Academy of the International Trade Centre, and encourages cooperation and networking and the sharing of best practices while fostering innovation and using innovative teaching methods in line with the demands of the competitive markets and ensuring the full participation of women and girls;

9. *Encourages* Governments to strengthen science and technology education policies and curricula to promote girls in science, technology, engineering and mathematics so that they are relevant to the needs of and benefit women and girls, and encourages investment and research in sustainable technology that meets the needs of women, particularly in developing countries, in order to strengthen their capacities, so as to enable women to leverage science and technology for entrepreneurship and economic empowerment in the changing world of work;

10. *Encourages* all relevant stakeholders to further develop financial literacy and financial education programmes that include an emphasis on the impact of finance on sustainable development, as appropriate, in order to ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to access financial services, in particular women and girls, farmers and those working in micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises;

11. *Recognizes* that technological improvement, particularly through the diffusion of technology, including artificial intelligence, can provide new opportunities for businesses to improve their competitiveness, increase their productive capacities and resilience, adapt to shocks and fast-changing environments and to foster an open, fair, inclusive and non-discriminatory digital environment for all that enables micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises to access and compete in the digital economy, and in this regard encourages Member States to increase cooperation in support of technology exchange and transfer on mutually agreed terms, innovation, capacity-building programmes and the sharing of best practices for promoting entrepreneurship, especially in developing countries;

12. *Also recognizes* the contribution of digital technologies and innovation to foster entrepreneurship and support the resilience and formalization of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and in this regard encourages Member States and all relevant stakeholders to support inclusive entrepreneurship through digitalization, including through digital government services, digital economic services, fintech, scaling up digital skills training and digital literacy, improved regulatory frameworks and developing targeted strategies to address digital divides, including the gender digital divide;

13. *Invites* Member States to support the digital entrepreneurship of women, including for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including for developing local solutions, promote innovation and decent job creation and close the gender digital divide;

14. *Acknowledges* that promoting entrepreneurship can stimulate new production processes and technology development, including the building of endogenous capacities for enabling climate change mitigation and adaptation and enhancing energy efficiency, and recognizes that such policies could help Governments to meet their targets for the Paris Agreement on climate change;

15. *Highlights* the importance of supporting technologies that can have a high social return, correspond to local needs and contribute to technological upgrading and social development;

16. *Acknowledges* that the private sector contributes to the achievement of sustainable development and poverty eradication, and that partnerships with the private sector play an important role in promoting entrepreneurship, generating



employment and investment, increasing revenue potential, developing new technologies and innovative business models and enabling high, sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth while protecting workers' rights;

17. *Emphasizes* the important role of national efforts aimed at bringing all workers from the informal to the formal economy, including the formalization of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, in order to integrate them into national social security and social protection systems, as appropriate, expand the formal economy, increase fiscal revenues, increase entrepreneurs' resilience and their access to finance and public support programmes, address barriers to continued operation in the formal sector, and boost growth perspectives, including by simplifying administrative processes, such as enabling business registration through single-window and e-registration procedures, notes that recommendation No. 204 of the International Labour Organization can provide useful guidance on the transition from the informal to the formal economy, and recognizes that women face unique barriers to entering the formal workforce;

18. *Invites* Member States to reduce the structural barriers to women in transitioning from the informal economy to formal employment and outline measures to recognize, reduce and redistribute women's and girls' disproportionate share of unpaid care and domestic work, reward and represent paid care work by promoting decent paid care and domestic work for women and men in the public and private sectors and by providing social protection, safe working conditions and equal pay for equal work or work of equal value, thereby facilitating the transition of informal workers, including those engaged in informal paid care and domestic work, into the formal economy;

19. *Also invites* Member States to strengthen the capacity of national financial institutions to reach out to those who have no access to banking, insurance and other financial services, particularly women and women-led micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, sustainable and inclusive businesses, and digital entrepreneurs, in urban and especially in rural areas, including through the use of fintech and innovative tools, such as mobile banking, payment platforms and digitalized payments, and encourages them to adopt regulatory and supervisory frameworks that facilitate the safe and sound provision of financial services, increase access to information to protect consumers and promote financial literacy, particularly for women, young people and the most vulnerable people;

20. *Encourages* Member States to expand alternative sources of financing, including blended finance as well as impact investing, cooperatives and venture philanthropy, venture capital and angel investors for start-ups, and diversify the retail financial service system to include non-traditional providers of financial services, such as microcredit and microfinance, stresses the value of a sound regulatory framework in this regard, and encourages the provision of incentives to microfinance institutions that meet national standards for delivering sound financial services to the poor, with a particular emphasis on women;

21. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen women's economic empowerment and resilience, and encourages Governments to facilitate women's entrepreneurship by supporting them in accessing and mobilizing adequate financial resources and technologies, increasing their employment and market opportunities through capacity-building and targeted education and training and greater legal protections in the workplace, and improving access to financing and investment opportunities, tools of trade, business development and training, such as the Women in Business and eTrade for Women initiatives of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the SheTrades initiative of the International Trade Centre in order to increase trade and procurement, including public procurement for women's enterprises;

22. *Also reiterates* the need for the promotion and advancement of women in labour markets, including through policies and programmes aimed at the elimination of structural barriers and stereotypes that women of all ages face in the transition from school to work, and the need to address challenges faced by women returning from care-related career breaks and by older women, by providing access to technical and vocational skills training, as well as access to science, technology, engineering and mathematics training, entrepreneurship development and job-matching, fostering women's empowerment and enabling their full, equal, effective and meaningful participation and leadership and addressing the multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination and barriers that they face, including violence, and the unequal distribution of unpaid care and work, and promoting their participation in relevant decision-making processes;

23. *Highlights* the importance of developing and implementing policies and programmes to support women's entrepreneurship, in particular opportunities for new women entrepreneurs and those that lead to business expansion for existing women-owned micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, and encourages Governments to increase investments in women-owned companies and businesses, to reduce unnecessary administrative barriers in the regulatory environment, removing restrictions that deter women from engaging in business activities, and to create a climate that is conducive to increasing the number of women entrepreneurs and the size of their businesses by providing them with training and advisory services in business, access to finance, administration and information and communications technology, facilitating networking and information-sharing and increasing their participation on advisory boards and in other forums so as to enable them to contribute to the formulation and review of policies and programmes being developed, in particular by financial institutions;

24. *Recognizes* that social entrepreneurs, including Indigenous Peoples, and local communities, are agents of change who can drive innovative, economic, social and environmental solutions and create alternative sustainable models of production, finance and consumption to respond to social, economic and environmental issues, while generating value for their community and stakeholders, including the social and solidarity economy, which can play a role in fostering patterns of development, and also recognizes the need to implement policies and programmes aimed at supporting these entrepreneurs, and encourages Governments to set up an environment conducive to social and environmental innovation;

25. *Also recognizes* that harnessing entrepreneurial talents among all young people is vital for increasing productive capacities, developing new forms of entrepreneurship focused on information and communications technology, big data, digitization, smart cities and creating start-ups, and generating full and productive employment and decent work and inclusive economic growth, and encourages Member States to integrate youth entrepreneurship strategies and innovative programmes into their national policies, create a nurturing environment for the full realization of the rights and capabilities of all young people, and increase investment in micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises, including through impact investment favouring the poorest and most vulnerable, entrepreneurial education, youth capacity-building and information and communications technology;

26. *Encourages* Governments and all sectors of society to take sustainable measures to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for persons with disabilities, on an equal basis and without discrimination on the basis of gender and disability, including by promoting access to inclusive education systems, skills development, including technical, vocational and entrepreneurial training throughout the life cycle, in order to enable persons with disabilities to attain and maintain maximum independence, notes that further efforts are needed to increase awareness

of the ability of persons with disabilities to innovate and contribute to the achievement of sustainable development through entrepreneurship, and in this regard calls upon all stakeholders to establish research on policy support for entrepreneurs with disabilities and collect data in order to develop or improve programmes, taking into account their capabilities, skills, socioeconomic status and other personal characteristics;

27. *Stresses* the need to enhance the alignment of policies, strategies and initiatives for entrepreneurship, including social entrepreneurship, with the 2030 Agenda, and emphasizes that these should prioritize those in vulnerable situations, who have the greatest needs, necessity entrepreneurs, including women and young entrepreneurs, and incentivize the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, adaptation to flexible work environments, including remote work, digitalization, innovation to access alternative markets and novel financing mechanisms, and the collection of high-quality, reliable and comparable data, while ensuring an optimal regulatory environment for entrepreneurs to start and scale up their businesses;

28. *Highlights* the importance of calibrating and differentiating between various types of entrepreneurs, in particular necessity and opportunity entrepreneurs, in line with their relative importance in the economy, in the design and implementation of policies and strategies, initiatives and support programmes, including for responding to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, including by employing specific measures targeting the vulnerable and most affected entrepreneurs, mobilizing resources, reinforcing local support networks and prioritizing initiatives and programmes aimed at increasing productivity, access to support measures and formalization;

29. *Encourages* all stakeholders, in particular women and young entrepreneurs, to apply their creativity and innovation to solving sustainable development challenges, and emphasizes that local innovation and entrepreneurship systems need to be able to fully participate in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and that concerted efforts are needed to ensure the participation of all;

30. *Acknowledges* the importance of adopting innovative and sustainable agriculture and food systems that will contribute to the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems, and help to end hunger, malnutrition and poverty in all its forms and dimensions, by harnessing entrepreneurship and innovation in the field of sustainable agriculture, food technology and agrifood technology;

31. *Recognizes* the potential of entrepreneurship in promoting the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, including through capacity-building and support to developing countries in water- and sanitation-related activities and programmes, including water harvesting, environmentally sustainable desalination technologies, water efficiency, wastewater treatment, recycling and reuse technologies;

32. *Also recognizes* the contribution urbanization makes to the acceleration of digitalization, the adoption of new technologies, innovation and information-sharing within cities, thereby encouraging entrepreneurship and job creation, and the contribution micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises make to solve societal problems in cities, and encourages Member States to adopt a multi-stakeholder approach towards urban collaborative economy planning for the delivery of the 2030 Agenda;

33. *Underlines* that sustainable entrepreneurship contributes to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 12, and invites Member States, relevant organizations and networks to cooperate in sharing and discussing best practices regarding relevant

product information along value chains, including in the context of the circular economy, as a contribution to achieving sustainable consumption and production, in line with domestic and international law;

34. *Recognizes* that democratic political institutions, transparent and accountable public and private entities, effective anti-corruption measures and responsible corporate governance are key conditions for making market economies and enterprises more responsive to the values and long-term goals of society;

35. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen and foster investment in research and development and innovation centres, with an emphasis on multilateralism and international collaborations in creating innovative solutions to global challenges, to strengthen their business environment, while encouraging the participation of underrepresented communities, and to promote the involvement of academia and the business and financial sectors in the development of an enabling and inclusive business environment, and invites the international community to support those efforts including through South-South and triangular cooperation initiatives;

36. *Stresses* the importance of indicators that can be used to formulate targeted entrepreneurship policies and measure their impact on the Sustainable Development Goals, and in this regard encourages Member States, in cooperation with all relevant stakeholders, to further identify and develop indicators at the national and regional levels, as appropriate;

37. *Calls upon* all stakeholders to implement the present resolution as a means to deliver the comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda, in which the dignity of the human person is fundamental, the Goals and targets are met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, no one is left behind and we endeavour to reach the furthest behind first;

38. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to further recognize and integrate entrepreneurship in its various forms into their policies, programmes and reports, as appropriate, and invites the United Nations system, and in particular the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to continue to provide support to and assist Member States, at their request, to identify, formulate, implement and assess coherent policy measures on entrepreneurship and the promotion of micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises;

39. *Decides* to continue to consider, as appropriate, the contribution of entrepreneurship to sustainable development in the follow-up and review framework of the 2030 Agenda;

40. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the secretariat of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to submit to the General Assembly at its eighty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its eighty-first session the item entitled “Sustainable development”, unless otherwise agreed.