

**Economic and Social Council**

Distr.: General  
11 October 2024

Original: English

**2024 session**

27 July 2023–24 July 2024

July management segment

**Summary record of the 37th meeting**

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Tuesday, 23 July 2024, at 10 a.m.

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

**Contents**

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

(c) Crime prevention and criminal justice (*continued*)

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

(b) Science and technology for development

(e) Population and development

(j) United Nations Forum on Forests

(g) International cooperation in tax matters (*continued*)

(f) Public administration and development

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

(g) Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Agenda item 17: Non-governmental organizations (*continued*)

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

(d) Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases

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 (*continued*)

This record is subject to correction.

Corrections should be submitted in one of the working languages. They should be set forth in a memorandum and also incorporated in a copy of the record. They should be sent as soon as possible to the Chief of the Documents Management Section ([dms@un.org](mailto:dms@un.org)).

Corrected records will be reissued electronically on the Official Document System of the United Nations (<http://documents.un.org/>).

24-13456 (E)



Please recycle 



Agenda item 7: Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation (*continued*)

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

- (e) Long-term programme of support for Haiti (*continued*)
- (f) African countries emerging from conflict (*continued*)
- (g) Sustainable development in the Sahel (*continued*)
- (a) Reports of coordination bodies
- (b) Proposed programme budget for 2025

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

*The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.*

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

**(c) Crime prevention and criminal justice**  
(continued) (E/2024/30)

1. **Mr. Šrámek** (Czechia), Chair of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, speaking via video link, introduced the report of the Commission on its thirty-third session (E/2024/30). He said that record levels of participation had been recorded during the session. The Commission had adopted five draft resolutions, which were before the Council for consideration.

2. In December 2024, at the fourth intersessional thematic discussions on the implementation of the Kyoto Declaration on Advancing Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law: Towards the Achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Commission would focus on international cooperation to address crime. The Commission was also preparing for the Fifteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, to be held in April 2025 in Abu Dhabi, on the theme “Accelerating crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: protecting people and planet and achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the digital age”.

3. The Commission attached great importance to strengthening the impact of the Council’s work. At its thirty-third session, the Commission had conducted awareness-raising initiatives and strengthened the references to voluntary national reviews in its work, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 78/225. The participants’ proposals on ways in which the Commission could help to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goal 16, had been submitted to the 2024 high-level political forum on sustainable development. In June 2024, he had participated in the high-level debate of the General Assembly on crime prevention and sustainable development through sports.

4. At the Commission’s thirty-third session, he had held special events on protecting people and the planet, implementing the 2030 Agenda in the digital age, and the preparations for the Fifteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as well as on the Generation Justice initiative to make the Fifteenth Congress inclusive of young people. In 2024,

he had called for the inclusion in A Pact for the Future of a reference to measures to prevent and counter crime and make criminal justice systems more effective, human, transparent and accountable. The Commission was implementing many of the recommendations resulting from the summary of recommendations formulated by the Council in 2022.

*Action on recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its thirty-third session (E/2024/30)*

5. **The President** drew attention to the draft proposals contained in chapter I, sections A, B, and C of the report.

6. **Ms. Botero** (Colombia) said that her country was committed to peacebuilding based on human security and the protection of life, which would contribute to social and environmental justice. Everyone, particularly those who had been excluded from development and were most vulnerable to transnational organized crime, deserved to live with dignity and without fear.

7. Transnational organized crime must be addressed through the promotion of human rights and fair socioeconomic conditions. Rather than focus on military security and the absence of war, the international community must overcome the structural causes of conflict and crime to prevent everyday violence and restore the social fabric, while taking into account the socioenvironmental context. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime were essential to a multilateral approach to preventing and fighting crime. Gender equality and the empowerment of women were crucial to countering transnational organized crime. Criminal justice policies must be based on the identification of conditions such as poverty, age, sex and ethnicity, which intersected with individuals’ gender and other exclusionary factors.

8. Holistic coordination was needed to address crimes that affected natural resources and the environment. The links between environmental crimes and other serious crimes must be understood, as must the way in which transnational organized crime networks operated, in order to apply the law to those who profited from those crimes; at the same time, the international community must uphold human rights, particularly those of the communities most affected by the damage those crimes did to ecosystems.

9. Colombia had sponsored the draft resolutions adopted by the Commission at its thirty-third session on reducing reoffending through rehabilitation and reintegration, preventing and countering violence

against children by organized criminal groups and terrorist groups, and the treatment of children associated with terrorist groups, including children who were recruited and exploited by those groups; a holistic approach must be taken to promote social reintegration, protect the most vulnerable and tackle the roots of crime and violence to build a more just and secure society.

#### Section A

*Draft resolution I: Follow-up to the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Fifteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice*

*Draft resolution II: Reducing reoffending through rehabilitation and reintegration*

*Draft resolution III: Preventing and countering violence against children by organized criminal groups and terrorist groups in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice*

10. *Draft resolutions I, II and III were adopted.*

#### Section B

*Draft resolution: Treatment of children associated with terrorist groups, including children who are recruited and exploited by those groups*

11. *The draft resolution was adopted.*

#### Section C

*Draft decision I: Re-election and appointment of members of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute*

12. **Ms. Herity** (Secretary of the Council), reading out an oral revision of the draft decision, said that, in the title, the word “re-election” should be replaced by “re-appointment”. In the first line, the word “re-election” should be replaced by “re-appointment” and, in the second line, the word “nomination” should be replaced by “appointment”. The draft decision would thus read: “The Economic and Social Council decides to approve the re-appointment of Carolina Lizárraga Houghton (Peru) and the appointment of Baba Tomoko (Japan) as members of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute.”

13. *Draft decision I, as orally revised, was adopted.*

*Draft decision II: Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its thirty-third session and provisional agenda for its thirty-fourth session*

14. *Draft decision II was adopted.*

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

##### (b) Science and technology for development (E/2024/31)

15. **Mr. Kah** (Observer for the Gambia), Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, introducing the report of the Commission on its twenty-seventh session (E/2024/31), said that the session had included a ministerial round table on the role of science, technology and innovation in the sustainable and resilient implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The speakers had shared their countries’ experiences of encouraging start-ups, which were essential to connecting technology with society through research in frontier technologies; improving the quality of higher education and developing scientific research; promoting innovation and technology transfer; and ensuring investment in desalination.

16. The participants had emphasized that global cooperation was essential to closing the technology gap between developed and developing countries, including through increased official development assistance and greater involvement in global research networks. The first exhibition on international cooperation in the use of science, technology and innovation to address development challenges had been held, with the participation of Governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and academia.

17. An intense debate had been held about data for development, particularly the impact of artificial intelligence. Participants had stated that data were crucial to sustainable, inclusive development. The majority of developing countries needed capacity-building assistance to address challenges in digital and infrastructural development. Given the multidimensional nature of data and the diverse national perspectives on their definition and governance, the United Nations should function as a neutral, inclusive platform for holistic discussions on the matter. Member States had encouraged the Commission to consider establishing a multistakeholder working group on the fundamental principles of data governance. The participants had also discussed the links between the 20-year review of the World Summit on the Information Society and the global digital compact.

18. Reports had been presented on the science, technology and innovation policy review of Seychelles, and on technology assessments related to agrivoltaics in Seychelles and biogas in Zambia, conducted as part of capacity-building projects by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, as the secretariat of the Commission. North-South and South-South cooperation in science, technology and innovation for development had increased as a result of the secretariat's efforts to address the issues discussed by the Commission.

19. At its twenty-eighth session, to be held in April 2025 in Geneva, the Commission would consider the diversification of economies in a world of accelerated digitalization, as well as technology foresight and technology assessment for sustainable development. The Commission would also discuss the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and would submit a report on the matter through the Council to the General Assembly for its 20-year review of the Summit, to be conducted in 2025. In fulfilling its mandates, the Commission enabled stakeholders to share best practices, discuss topical issues and collaborate to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. It would hold its next intersessional panel meeting in October 2024.

*Action on recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its twenty-seventh session (E/2024/31)*

20. **The President** drew attention to the draft proposals contained in chapter I, sections A and B, of the report.

#### *Section A*

*Draft resolution I: Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society*

*Draft resolution II: Science, technology and innovation for development*

21. *Draft resolutions I and II were adopted.*

#### *Section B*

*Draft decision: Report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its twenty-seventh session and provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-eighth session of the Commission*

22. *The draft decision was adopted.*

#### **(e) Population and development (E/2024/25)**

23. **Ms. Espinoza Madrid** (Observer for Honduras), Chair of the Commission on Population and Development, introducing the report of the Commission on its fifty-seventh session (E/2024/25), said that the Commission had conducted a five-year review of the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and its contribution to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda, and had adopted a declaration to mark the thirtieth anniversary of the Conference. In the declaration adopted at the session, the ministers and representatives of Governments had renewed their determination to advance the accelerated implementation of the Programme of Action; recognized that population dynamics would shape a demographically diverse world for present and future generations; committed to promoting access to high-quality, timely, relevant, disaggregated and reliable population data; emphasized that the Programme of Action was crucial to implementing the 2030 Agenda; recognized the right to development and the importance of development financing, including the need to accelerate the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development; underlined the importance of international cooperation, political will and sustainable financing; and stated that science, technology and innovation, and capacity-building activities, must be promoted through South-South cooperation in order to achieve those objectives.

24. During the general debate, Member States had shared their progress in implementing the Programme of Action, including in the areas of maternal and child health, poverty reduction, education, decreases in child marriage and adolescent pregnancy, and access to sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights. The challenges to such implementation included socioeconomic inequality, poverty and social exclusion, gender inequality, youth unemployment, environmental degradation, climate change, conflicts and humanitarian crises. In recent years, development gains had been reversed, resulting in threats to security and health, especially among marginalized and vulnerable groups.

25. At a high-level panel on the 2023 regional review conferences on the Programme of Action, it had been recognized that the outcome documents of those conferences provided region-specific guidance and advanced the implementation of the Programme of Action. That premise had been incorporated into the thirtieth anniversary declaration. The Commission had also held a special presentation, a keynote address, a multi-stakeholder panel on the theme of the session and

a panel of national experts on the programme of work of the Secretariat in the field of population. The participants in the session, as well as in the prior consultations on the declaration, had included representatives of many civil society organizations.

26. The session had demonstrated the vitality of the Commission, as well as the importance of implementing the Programme of Action and ensuring that demographic trends and human rights were at the heart of sustainable development planning. The declaration adopted at the session should be taken into account at the Summit of the Future and in other multilateral processes at the United Nations. She encouraged those regional groups that had not yet done so to endorse candidates for the remaining open posts on the Bureau of the fifty-eighth session as soon as possible.

*Actions on recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Population and Development on its fifty-seventh session (E/2024/25)*

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

*Draft decision: Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its fifty-seventh session and provisional agenda for its fifty-eighth session*

28. *The draft decision was adopted.*

**(j) United Nations Forum on Forests (E/2024/42)**

29. **Mr. Napurí Pita** (Peru), Vice-Chair of the United Nations Forum on Forests, introducing the report of the Forum on its nineteenth session (E/2024/42), said that 400 representatives of Member States, the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations, regional and subregional entities, and other stakeholders had participated in intense negotiations on the future of the international arrangement on forests. The outcome documents of the session had been a declaration adopted at the high-level segment and a draft resolution containing actions related to the Forum and its members, the Forum secretariat, the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, the Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network, the trust fund for the Forum, the implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, the contribution of the Forum to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the communication and outreach strategy for the strategic plan, the involvement of regional and subregional partners, and the involvement of major groups and other relevant stakeholders. The annex to the draft resolution contained the quadrennial programme of work of the Forum for the period 2025–2028.

30. During the session, the participants had taken stock of progress towards the global forest goals. They had identified links between those goals and the Sustainable Development Goals under review at the 2024 high-level political forum, and synergies between the achievement of the global forest goals and the implementation of the Rio conventions, as well as emerging issues related to wildfires, energy and livelihoods. They had also identified challenges related to financing for forests, and to cooperation within the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and with regional and subregional entities and other stakeholders.

31. The participants had expressed concern about deforestation, climate change, desertification, land degradation, biodiversity loss, pollution and waste. Despite recent increases in forest financing pledges, more resources must be mobilized to conserve, restore and sustainably manage forests, particularly in developing countries. Forests and trees outside forests made a significant contribution to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in relation to poverty eradication and food security. The participants had emphasized the need to accelerate the implementation of the United Nations forest instrument and the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030, and the achievement of the global forest goals, in order to honour forest-related commitments and unlock forests' potential to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Forest-related cooperation must be enhanced to support the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Paris Agreement, the Convention on Biological Diversity, the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, including the Land Degradation Neutrality Target Setting Programme, within the scope of the related mandates.

32. The Forum provided a global framework for the accelerated implementation of the United Nations strategic plan for forests 2017–2030 and the 2030 Agenda. In the draft resolution, the Forum had charted the direction to be taken by the international arrangement on forests until 2030. In the light of the draft resolution, the Forum would enhance forest-related synergies and interlinkages within the Council system, and would strengthen integrated policy approaches to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.



*Actions on recommendations contained in the report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its twentieth session (E/2024/42)*

33. **The President** drew attention to the draft proposals contained in chapter I, sections A and B, of the report.

34. **Ms. Ríos Serna** (Colombia) said that her Government attached great importance to protecting and regenerating forests, which covered more than half of her country. In 2023, 79,256 hectares had been deforested in Colombia, 36 per cent less than in 2022 and the lowest level in 23 years. In the Amazon region, deforestation had decreased by 61 per cent since 2021. Those results had been achieved through a deforestation containment plan, which included the trebling of incentives for communities that committed to the protection of forests, and the strengthening of a social pact with forest communities.

35. Forest ecosystems were the world's last hope in the fight against climate change. Millions of people, in particular Indigenous Peoples and forest communities, depended on forests for sustenance and were essential to conserving them. The international community, in particular developed countries, must mobilize financing to support developing countries, which should not be forced to choose between protecting the environment and providing their people with decent living conditions.

36. At the session, the Forum should have shown more ambition with regard to the provision of means of implementation and financing under conditions that would have enabled the conservation of forests and upheld social justice. The Forum should also have recognized the main causes of the loss and degradation of forests, including the encroachment of agriculture, changes in land use and extractive industries. Nevertheless, Colombia hoped that the declaration, the first adopted by the Forum in almost a decade, would be an opportunity to revitalize the Forum's work and consolidate alliances for forest conservation.

#### *Section A*

*Draft decision I: Declaration of the High-Level Segment of the nineteenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests*

*Draft decision II: Report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its nineteenth session and draft provisional agenda for its twentieth session*

37. *Draft decisions I and II were adopted.*

#### *Section B*

*Draft resolution: Outcome of the nineteenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests*

38. *The draft resolution was adopted.*

#### **(g) International cooperation in tax matters** (continued) (E/2024/45/Add.1)

*Draft decision: Venue, dates and provisional agenda of the twenty-ninth session of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters*

39. **The President** drew attention to the draft decision contained in chapter I of the report of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters on its twenty-eighth session (E/2024/45/Add.1).

40. *The draft decision was adopted.*

#### **(f) Public administration and development** (continued) (E/2024/L.14 and E/2024/L.15)

*Draft resolution E/2024/L.14: Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its twenty-third session*

41. **The President** said that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

42. *Draft resolution E/2024/L.14 was adopted.*

*Draft decision E/2024/L.15: Dates and provisional agenda of the twenty-fourth session of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration*

43. **The President** said that the draft decision had no programme budget implications.

44. *Draft decision E/2024/L.15 was adopted.*

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

#### **(g) Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues** (E/2024/43)

45. **Ms. Ibrahim** (Chair of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues), introducing the report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its twenty-third session (E/2024/43), said that the Permanent Forum had built a strong consensus on enhancing the rights of Indigenous Peoples in the face of multiple crises. The theme of the session had been "Enhancing Indigenous Peoples' right to self-determination in the context of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples: emphasizing the voices of Indigenous youth". The participants had also discussed the mandated areas of the Permanent Forum and its

future work, and dialogues had been held with the Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

46. Given the acceleration of climate change and biodiversity loss, and the effects of geopolitical tensions on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, the international community must take stronger collective action. In its report, the Forum called upon Member States to redouble their efforts to realize the right of self-determination for Indigenous Peoples by ensuring that those Peoples were at the centre of decision-making processes that affected their lives, lands, territories and resources. The Permanent Forum acknowledged the role of Indigenous youth in championing that right. Culturally appropriate measures were needed to lower the disproportionately high rates of suicide, poverty, and incarceration experienced by Indigenous Peoples, in particular Indigenous youth. Member States must strengthen their commitment to the health of Indigenous women.

47. The Permanent Forum was alarmed by continuing violations against Indigenous leaders and the exploitation of Indigenous Peoples' land through the extraction of minerals. Projects related to the clean energy transition were often conducted without Indigenous Peoples' free, prior and informed consent, and those Peoples' lands and resources were often lost, militarized and polluted as a result. Indigenous leaders and human rights defenders who opposed such initiatives became targets of reprisals, with Indigenous women at the highest risk of gender-based violence. No one should be threatened or killed for protecting Mother Earth.

48. Over the past decade, the world had recognized the leadership of Indigenous Peoples in ecosystem protection. Those Peoples made a significant contribution to the fight against climate change but received only a small fraction of the related funding. Member States should enhance their direct financial support for Indigenous-led projects through mechanisms that were equitable, accessible, flexible and aligned with Indigenous Peoples' priorities. In 2024, the fact that the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification and the twenty-ninth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change would be focused on financing would provide the international community with an opportunity to increase direct funding for Indigenous Peoples.

49. In the provisional agenda for its twenty-fourth session, which was contained in a draft decision in the report, the Permanent Forum proposed the theme "Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples within United Nations Member States and the United Nations system, including identifying good practices and addressing challenges". It was time to examine progress, as well as unresolved issues, in upholding the rights of Indigenous Peoples. The Permanent Forum also proposed the holding of an international expert group meeting on the theme "The rights of Indigenous Peoples, including those in voluntary isolation and initial contact in the context of the extraction of critical minerals" to provide input for its next session. Around 200 groups of Indigenous Peoples lived in voluntary isolation and initial contact. Their survival depended on the health of their environment. The Permanent Forum looked forward to ensuring that Indigenous Peoples participated meaningfully in the work of the Council's functional commissions and expert bodies with a view to transforming everyone's lives for the better.

*Action on recommendations contained in the report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (E/2024/43)*

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

*Draft decision I: International expert group meeting on the theme "The rights of Indigenous Peoples, including those in voluntary isolation and initial contact in the context of the extraction of critical minerals"*

*Draft decision II: Venue and dates of the twenty-fourth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues*

*Draft decision III: Report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its twenty-third session and provisional agenda of its twenty-fourth session*

51. *Draft decisions I, II and III were adopted.*

52. **Mr. Heartney** (United States of America) said that the United States noted that the statements in the report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues reflected the latter's position, and not necessarily that of the United States.

**Agenda item 17: Non-governmental organizations (continued)** (E/2024/32 (Part II); E/2024/L.23)

*Draft decision E/2024/L.23: Applications of non-governmental organizations for consultative status with the Economic and Social Council*

53. **The President** said that the draft decision had no programme budget implications.



54. **Mr. Heartney** (United States of America), introducing the draft decision, said that civil society organizations were essential to the United Nations. They kept the public informed of the Organization's work to advance human rights, development, and peace and security, and encouraged Member States to honour their related commitments. The United States was committed to promoting the participation of NGOs in the United Nations, without regard to their political beliefs. Member States must not ignore criticism or dissent; humility led to strength, while dissenting viewpoints promoted improvement and growth. Activists, advocates and human rights defenders working for NGOs encouraged Governments and the international community to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms, often at great risk of reprisals and persecution.

55. The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations had been established to help such organizations to gain access to the United Nations. At its 2024 resumed session, however, the Committee had approved less than 22 per cent of the applications before it. Owing to the slow pace of the Committee's work, two years elapsed between the submission of applications and their consideration. At the 2024 resumed session, the Committee had not considered all the eligible applications and, as a result, such consideration had been deferred until the next session, to be held in January 2025. The Committee members should respect Council resolution 1996/31 and stop using endless questions as a procedural tactic to delay, for years, the approval of applications from NGOs that were critical of their Governments. Those NGOs had done their part, having answered the Committee's questions time and again. Committee members should uphold their responsibility and assess the merits of the applications concerned, and of the NGOs' responses to those questions.

56. At the current meeting, the United States, with the support of many other Member States, was proposing that the Council grant special consultative status to two NGOs. The Committee had deferred, since 2018, its consideration of the application of the "Association of Wives and Mothers of Soldiers Participating in ATO", a Ukrainian organization, and, since 2019, its consideration of the application of the Urgent Action Fund for Women's Human Rights, an organization based in the United States. The United States had planned to propose two other long-deferred applications for consideration by the Council, but the Committee had not completed its consideration of those applications and, as a result of an active attempt to delay the Committee's work, had in fact declined a request by the United States

to consider one of them. The United States hoped that those NGOs would be granted consultative status at the next session.

57. The request for the Council to review the Committee's deferral of the first two applications was not one that his delegation made lightly. The United States made such requests only if the Committee had deferred consideration of an application for at least four years. In making such requests, the United States also sought to achieve geographical balance by ensuring that consultative status was granted to more NGOs based in the global South. At previous sessions, some delegations had argued that the Council should strictly follow the Committee's recommendations. The United States respectfully disagreed; currently, the Committee was not fulfilling its functions and was incurring long delays for many legitimate NGOs. His delegation hoped that, at future sessions, the Committee would be more receptive to the applications of legitimate NGOs and that the United States would not need to appeal against deferrals. The Council now had an opportunity to reaffirm the centrality of NGOs to the global system by voting in favour of the draft decision.

58. **Ms. Herity** (Secretary of the Council) said that Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom had become sponsors of the draft decision.

59. **The President** said that a recorded vote had been requested on draft decision [E/2024/L.23](#).

60. **Ms. Zabolotskaya** (Observer for the Russian Federation) said that the Russian Federation attached great importance to the expert contribution of constructively minded representatives of civil society to the work of the United Nations. The procedure established in resolution 1996/31 for the granting of consultative status to NGOs was the best way of involving a wide range of stakeholders in intergovernmental discussions. Strict compliance with the criteria set out in that resolution, including the requirement for political impartiality, would result in the swift and successful completion of the tasks facing the international community, the overcoming of challenges and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

61. The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations played a vital role in that regard, as the Council's functional commission responsible for thoroughly analysing applications for consultative

status. At its 2024 resumed session, the Committee had decided not to grant consultative status to two organizations named in its report ([E/2024/32 \(Part II\)](#)). The Committee had previously held a substantive dialogue with those NGOs in order to clarify the nature of their activities. Although a fairly routine procedure had been under way with regard to those applications, the United States had called for a vote on the granting of consultative status to those organizations. Such selectivity suggested that the NGOs concerned might be biased.

62. It was also notable that the delegations that had advocated accelerated consideration of those applications had themselves, as a matter of principle, blocked the granting of consultative status to a whole host of other organizations for many years. That fact demonstrated yet again that those delegations were applying a policy of double standards.

63. Any form of pressure on the Committee was unacceptable. The Russian Federation regarded the draft decision as such pressure; a small group of countries had decided to assume the function of deciding which NGOs should have consultative status with the Council and which should not. Her delegation rejected the practice of reviewing decisions of the Committee during sessions of the Council; unlike the members of the Committee, most members of the Council objectively did not have all the data on the activities of NGOs and had not carried out detailed studies of their structure, their budget or the nature of their projects. Given the time pressure and lack of objective information, the Council was simply not in a position to take a well-founded decision on the applications in question. Moreover, any review by the Council of the Committee's recommendations would essentially discredit the Committee's work. The Russian Federation rejected that approach and invited the members of the Council to vote against the draft decision.

64. **Ms. Zhang Sisi** (China) said that, at the 2024 resumed session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, the members had, in accordance with resolution 1996/31, efficiently and responsibly reviewed the applications of nearly 500 NGOs and hundreds of quadrennial reports. That review was a testament to the effectiveness of the Committee's working methods and the responsible work ethic of the majority of its members. Just before the end of the session, however, the representative of the United States had abruptly proposed, without prior communication with the other members of the Committee and without providing selection criteria, that certain NGOs be granted consultative status through a vote, solely on the basis that consideration of the applications of the

organizations in question had been deferred for many years. In so doing, the United States had completely departed from the Committee's objective and impartial approach. That highly politicized step had not only severely interfered with the normal working procedures of the Committee and delayed the progress of its deliberations, but had also poisoned its working atmosphere and undermined its authority and effectiveness, which had been questioned and opposed by most Member States. In the end, the Committee had overwhelmingly voted to reject the request, decided not to grant consultative status to the organizations and endorsed the report of the Committee as it was.

65. Unfortunately, at the current meeting, the representative of the United States had reiterated its request, with no regard for the opposition of all other parties. If that practice prevailed, a few countries would be able to sabotage the Committee's working methods, the hard work of the majority of responsible members would be wasted, an individual country would be able to override the Committee's collective decisions and overrule the results of the Committee's work, and a small number of NGOs would receive the privilege of priority consideration, while the majority would be treated unfairly.

66. Although the United States was a vocal supporter of the participation of NGOs in the work of the United Nations, it had persistently made matters difficult for NGOs from developing countries. The applications of some other NGOs had been deferred for much longer than those of the two organizations in the draft decision, but the United States had not fought on behalf of those other NGOs. China firmly opposed such double standards and political manoeuvring. It had always supported the regular and orderly participation of NGOs in the United Nations. As a responsible member of the Committee, China had always performed its duties objectively and impartially, and was not biased in favour of or against the two organizations in the draft decision. Given that aspects of their applications still needed to be clarified, the Committee had decided not to grant consultative status to those organizations. The Council's management segment was not the forum in which to consider the qualifications of individual NGOs. Decisions on the granting of consultative status should be taken on the basis of the professional, responsible judgment of the Committee, rather than at the request of an individual country. Her delegation had requested a vote on the draft decision and would vote against it.

67. **Ms. Saleem** (Pakistan), speaking in explanation of vote before the voting, said that her delegation's vote would reflect no judgement on the work of the NGOs under consideration. Pakistan objected to the draft

decision primarily on procedural grounds. The Council had, through its resolution 1996/31, given the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations the mandate of recommending that NGOs be granted consultative status, and the Committee had fulfilled that mandate. It worked transparently; its proceedings were broadcast live on United Nations Web TV and attended by the NGOs themselves. The Committee considered each application on its own merits and took most of its decisions by consensus.

68. At its 2024 resumed session, the fact that the Committee had granted 83 per cent of newly received applications demonstrated that it had worked effectively. The Committee, as the specialized intergovernmental body tasked with recommending that consultative status be granted to NGOs, must not be undermined, and must work independently and impartially. The Committee had received background information on which to base its decisions on the granting of consultative status to NGOs. The Council did not have the technical means to consider applications and grant consultative status against the recommendations of the Committee. If the Council wished to grant consultative status to NGOs, it should, rather than cherry-picking two organizations, consider voting on all the 984 applications received that year at the Committee's regular and resumed sessions. The Council would not do so, however, precisely because a specialized body existed for that purpose.

69. The process of granting fast-track consultative status to selected NGOs was not transparent or impartial. It constituted discrimination against those NGOs that followed the established procedure, and it undermined the mandate given to the Committee. Her delegation would therefore vote against the draft decision.

70. **Ms. Berelowitz** (United Kingdom), making a general statement before the voting, said that her delegation welcomed the draft decision. The consideration of the applications of the two NGOs had been arbitrarily deferred for years, although they had consistently provided adequate answers to often repetitive questions. Under the rules and procedures of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, such unilateral deferral was allowed; however, under those same rules and procedures, any member was allowed to put any application to a vote. The proposal contained in the draft decision did not, therefore, bypass the Committee. The Council was the Committee's parent body and governed the Committee's working methods; the Committee made recommendations for consideration by the Council. The submission of the draft decision, which the United Kingdom had

co-sponsored, was therefore a legitimate course of action with established precedents. Civil society organizations were essential to the work of the United Nations. They promoted human rights, addressed such global issues as climate change and conflict, held those in power to account, and were vital to inclusive multilateralism. Her delegation encouraged other Council members to vote in favour of the draft decision.

71. **Mr. Amemiya** (Japan), making a general statement before the voting, said that his delegation supported the proposal to grant special consultative status to two NGOs and urged the other members of the Council to do likewise. Such organizations were essential to promoting multilateralism and advancing the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. Their contributions to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, from eradicating poverty and providing healthcare to building institutions and fostering peace, were profound. They served as a bridge between the international community and the realities on the ground, ensuring that that community's decisions were informed and reflected diverse perspectives. NGOs enriched deliberations at the United Nations, giving marginalized communities a voice and enhancing the credibility and impact of the Organization. The practice of deferring applications for consultative status for years without providing substantive justification undermined the spirit of resolution 1996/31 and hindered the ability of NGOs to make their invaluable contributions. The Committee must adhere to the principles of transparency, efficiency and fairness.

72. **Mr. De Maesschalck** (Belgium), making a general statement before the voting, said that legitimate multilateralism was impossible without the meaningful participation of civil society. For that reason, the Council had, in the Charter, been given the responsibility for making suitable arrangements for consultation with NGOs. Unfortunately, the Council's subsidiary body in that area, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, had not fulfilled its mandate. Since the adoption of resolution 1996/31, the Committee had held consultations with organizations in consultative status only twice, despite the fact that such consultations should, in accordance with that resolution, be held before each of the Committee's sessions and at other times as necessary. In addition, NGOs faced many obstacles in their efforts to obtain consultative status, including irrelevant and repetitive questions, which resulted in endless deferrals of the decisions on their applications. Of the 476 applications considered at the Committee's 2024 resumed session, 132 had been new and 344 had been deferred from previous sessions. The Committee had recommended that only 103 of the

NGOs, or 21.6 per cent, be granted consultative status. Belgium was concerned about the decrease in the accreditation rate, which had been 38.2 per cent at the 2023 regular session, 33.4 per cent at the 2023 resumed session and 26 per cent at the 2024 regular session.

73. His delegation commended Costa Rica and the United Kingdom on their proposals to improve the Committee's work, proposals that were included in the report of the Committee on its 2024 resumed session ([E/2024/32 \(Part II\)](#)) as draft decision VII. Belgium welcomed the proposal that annual consultations be held with organizations in consultative status, in accordance with resolution 1996/31. Since such consultations were a long-standing mandate issued by the Council, they should be held without incurring additional programme budget implications, regardless of the format and scope of, and the arrangements for, those consultations. Belgium nevertheless welcomed the proposal that the Council request the Secretary-General to increase his support for the Non-Governmental Organizations Branch in his next budget proposal. In making that request, the Council would merely reiterate its previous request, in resolution 1996/31, for the Secretary-General to provide the necessary resources for the fulfilment of the Committee's mandate.

74. It was regrettable that a proposal to make hybrid arrangements for the participation of NGOs in the interactive segment of the Committee had been deleted from the draft decision after alleged practical and financial obstacles had appeared at the last minute during the 2024 resumed session. His delegation hoped that the informal working group tasked with considering options for improving the Committee's working methods would proceed in good faith so that the Committee could report the recommendations on the matter to the Council as soon as possible. If the informal working group and the Committee did not fulfil their responsibilities in that regard, the Council itself, as the Committee's parent body, must fulfil its mandate by making suitable arrangements for consultation with NGOs, in accordance with the Charter.

75. Until progress was made with regard to the process of granting consultative status, Belgium would welcome proposals such as draft decision [E/2024/L.23](#), on the granting of such status to two eligible NGOs, both of which had seen their applications unduly deferred by the Committee for more than four years, despite their diligent responses to every question put to them. The two NGOs had volunteered to have a decision on their applications taken by a vote, and the information related to their applications had been shared in full so that Council members could assess the matter independently. The Council must now grant those NGOs consultative

status and enable them to contribute to the work of the United Nations.

76. **Ms. Banaken Elel** (Cameroon), speaking in explanation of vote before the voting, said that civil society organizations made an important contribution to the work of the United Nations. At the same time, the Organization's procedures for the division of labour between main and subsidiary bodies must be followed. Subsidiary bodies were established to allow thorough discussion of specific issues. The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations was responsible for examining applications for consultative status, including by asking questions of the NGOs concerned, reviewing their budgets and activities, and issuing a recommendation to the Council on whether to grant such status.

77. As a member of the Committee, Cameroon had reviewed the applications of the NGOs mentioned in draft decision [E/2024/L.23](#), participated in the related deliberations and, with the majority of Committee members, voted against granting those NGOs consultative status. Council members that were not Committee members knew nothing about those organizations. It would be irresponsible for any delegation to vote in favour of granting such status purely on the basis of an organization's name or because that delegation had been asked to do so.

78. Cameroon would cast its vote not against NGOs in general or against the NGOs named in the draft decision, but in favour of the practices and procedures of the Committee. The Council should not undermine the work of its own subsidiary bodies by calling that work into question. Cameroon would vote against the granting of consultative status to the two organizations and encouraged other Council members to do likewise.

79. *A recorded vote was taken on the draft decision contained in document [E/2024/L.23](#).*

*In favour:*

Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

*Against:*

Cameroon, China, India, Kazakhstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Nigeria, Pakistan, Türkiye.

*Abstaining:*

Afghanistan, Belize, Botswana, Kenya, Nepal, Oman, Paraguay, Peru, Qatar, Tunisia.

80. *The draft decision was adopted by 25 votes to 8, with 10 abstentions.*

81. **Ms. Pereira Gomes** (Brazil) said that her delegation welcomed civil society participation in the work of the United Nations, opposed unjustified barriers to the process of granting consultative status in the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations and supported resolution 1996/31. Brazil was concerned about the excessive number of deferrals of consideration of applications for consultative status, particularly from organizations working in the areas of human rights, gender equality, the empowerment of women, and sexual and reproductive health and rights. Although her delegation had voted in favour of the decision, it supported a systemic resolution of the situation, which would require improvements in the procedures of the Council and the Committee.

82. Transparency and civil society participation must be enhanced at the Committee's meetings, including through improvements in regional balance. After each session of the Committee, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs should publish a list of NGOs that had requested consultative status and the number of sessions for which their applications had been under consideration. More meetings should be held between the Committee members and civil society representatives before each session, as stipulated in paragraph 61 (a) of resolution 1996/31. Organizations that had applied for consultative status should be allowed to participate in the Committee's sessions virtually, in order to reduce costs and logistical difficulties for NGOs from the global South. Brazil hoped that the adoption by the Council of draft decision VII, on improving the Committee's work (E/2024/32 (Part II)), would result in the enhanced participation of NGOs in the work of the United Nations.

83. **Mr. Sengdara** (Lao People's Democratic Republic) said that his delegation had voted against the decision. The contribution of civil society organizations to the work of the United Nations was essential to the implementation of 2030 Agenda; the Lao People's Democratic Republic had not, therefore, objected to the applications of the organizations mentioned in the decision, but was concerned about the approach taken at the current meeting, which had undermined the mandate, working methods and decision-making processes of the Committee, in addition to setting a new precedent. Member States had a common responsibility to enable United Nations bodies to fulfil their mandates; the political interests of Member States must not override the Organization's established rules. The overruling of decisions by United Nations bodies would do nothing to advance multilateralism.

84. **Mr. Sezer** (Türkiye) said that the role of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations as the United Nations body specialized in considering applications for consultative status should be not undermined. The Committee should continue to review each application on a case-by-case basis. Bypassing that review by submitting draft decisions to the Council in order to grant certain organizations consultative status on a selective basis ran counter to the Committee's mandate. The vast majority of Committee members had voted against granting consultative status to the NGOs in question. The decisions taken by the Committee should not be revisited. His delegation had voted against recommending that those NGOs be granted consultative status not because it was biased against their activities but on procedural grounds. While recognizing Committee members' right to put applications to a vote, Türkiye rejected the selective singling-out of specific applications on the basis of artificial criteria. That approach was unfair to the hundreds of other NGOs that had applied for such status and wished to see the Committee's work progress. Türkiye would continue to encourage civil society engagement with the United Nations in accordance with resolution 1996/31.

85. **Ms. Durodola** (Nigeria) said that her delegation supported the mandate of the Committee and its duly elected members, as set out in resolution 1996/31. Nigeria would not condone any attempt to undermine the Committee, since the process by which the Committee had made its recommendations on consultative status, particularly at the 2024 resumed session, had been fair, transparent and efficient.

*Action on recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2024 resumed session (E/2024/32 (Part II))*

86. **The President** drew attention to the draft decisions contained in chapter I of the report.

87. **Ms. Herity** (Secretary of the Council), reading out a statement of programme budget implications in connection with draft decision VII in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Council, said that, should the draft decision be adopted, additional programme budget appropriations for 2025, amounting to \$311,500, recurrent, including for the establishment of four posts (1 P-3, 1 P-2 and 2 General Service (Other level)), and \$15,200, 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 \$42,700 under section 36, Staff assessment, would also 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, to be offset by an equivalent amount under income section 1, Income from staff assessment. The recurrent resource requirements, including for the four posts, would be requested annually from 2026 in the context of the respective proposed programme budget.

*Draft decision I: Applications for consultative status, requests for a change of name and quadrennial reports received from non-governmental organizations*

88. *Draft decision I, as amended by the adoption of draft decision E/2024/L.23, was adopted.*

*Draft decision II: Suspension of the consultative status of non-governmental organizations with outstanding quadrennial reports, pursuant to Council resolution 2008/4*

89. *Draft decision II was adopted.*

*Draft decision III: Reinstatement of the consultative status of non-governmental organizations that submitted outstanding quadrennial reports, pursuant to Council resolution 2008/4*

90. *Draft decision III was adopted.*

*Draft decision IV: Withdrawal of the consultative status of non-governmental organizations, pursuant to Council resolution 2008/4*

91. *Draft decision IV was adopted.*

*Draft decision V: Withdrawal of consultative status of three non-governmental organizations, at the organizations' request*

92. *Draft decision V was adopted.*

*Draft decision VI: Dates and provisional agenda of the 2025 session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations*

93. *Draft decision VI was adopted.*

*Draft decision VII: Improving the work of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations*

94. *Draft decision VII was adopted.*

*Draft decision VIII: Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2024 resumed session*

95. *Draft decision VIII was adopted.*

96. **Ms. Chan Valverde** (Costa Rica), speaking also on behalf of the United Kingdom, said that, in January 2024, the delegations of the two countries had announced their intention to sponsor a draft decision on reforming some of the working methods of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, in order to make the Committee more transparent, fair and efficient. The two delegations were pleased that the Committee had adopted their proposals at its 2024 resumed session and looked forward to continued discussion of the matter in the informal working group. Civil society organizations were essential partners in Member States' collective efforts. They ensured that Member States' decisions reflected the realities faced by people around the world, and that international commitments resulted in action. Member States should promote safe and welcoming conditions for civil society participation in the work of the United Nations.

97. **Mr. Kaspar** (Representative of the European Union, in its capacity as observer), speaking also on behalf the candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine, said that NGOs were key to promoting multilateralism and supporting decisions taken at the United Nations. They helped to protect human rights, shed light on challenges and hold the international community accountable for honouring its obligations and commitments. They often served as eyes and ears on the ground and contributed to more substantive, evidence-based discussions. Such organizations also contributed to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals through their efforts to eradicate poverty, provide healthcare and build institutions. The European Union therefore supported the meaningful, free and open participation of NGOs within and outside the United Nations.

98. The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations bore a great responsibility for the credibility of the United Nations, since its recommendations directly influenced the participation of NGOs in the United Nations system and shaped relations between the Organization and civil society. When reviewing applications for consultative status, the Committee should be guided solely by the consideration of the general interest, in accordance with the provisions and spirit of Council resolution 1996/31. Given that the Council had the final decision-making authority on granting such status and had exercised that authority previously, the European Union had taken note of the Council's decision, the year before, to grant special consultative status to a number of NGOs by means of a vote, notwithstanding the Committee's recommendation.

99. The Committee must urgently be reformed, including through limitations on unjustified deferrals, so that it could work more inclusively, effectively, fairly and transparently. The European Union therefore welcomed the adoption of draft decision VII, on improving the work of the Committee, including the confirmation that the Committee would hold annual consultations with NGOs and the request to the Secretary-General to increase his support to the Non-Governmental Organizations Branch, in order for the Committee to fulfil its mandate as set out in resolution 1996/31. The European Union welcomed the decision that the Committee would resume its work in the informal working group to consider options to improve its methods of work, including by allowing the hybrid participation of NGOs in question-and-answer sessions. The Union looked forward to the Committee's reporting of the recommendations on the matter at the Council's management segment in 2025. The informal working group should consult widely with civil society and Member States to identify recommendations for the meaningful reform of the Committee.

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

##### **(d) Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases** (E/2024/57; E/2024/L.22)

100. **Ms. Kiegele** (World Health Organization (WHO)), introducing the note by the Secretary-General on the report of the Director General of WHO on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases (E/2024/57), said that, during the reporting period, the Task Force had made the political and economic case for investing in the field of non-communicable diseases and mental health at the country level; Member States continued to request support for investment cases. In the report, the Director General set out the conditions that must be met in order for investment cases to be impactful.

101. The Task Force had also sought to mitigate the main risk factors related to non-communicable diseases, namely, tobacco and alcohol use, physical inactivity, unhealthy diet, and air pollution, and had promoted mental and brain health. In response to previous calls from the Council to scale up technical support to Member States in the area of digital health, the Task Force had developed a global digital health business case that included telemedicine, mobile messaging and chatbot interventions, to be launched in September 2024. National digital health investment cases for non-communicable diseases were being developed in a number of countries.

102. The Task Force had expanded its partnerships, most recently by signing an agreement with the G7 & G20 Health & Development Partnership to develop an initiative for legislators. Partnerships were also central to the United Nations multi-partner trust fund to catalyse country action for non-communicable diseases and mental health (the Health4Life Fund), established by WHO, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Children's Fund, and spearheaded by Kenya, Thailand and Uruguay. At the 2024 World Health Assembly, Mauritius and the Philippines had become strategic partners of the Health4Life Fund, which had launched its inaugural call for proposals in December 2023, with funding from the government of Scotland. The first grant would be awarded in August 2024, and a second grant cycle would be announced in September of that year if sufficient funding was available.

103. The high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, to be held in 2025, would be an opportunity for the international community to renew its commitment to whole-of-government, whole-of-society and whole-of-United Nations action. The outcomes of three meetings held in the past year would contribute to the preparations for the high-level meeting: a ministerial meeting on non-communicable diseases and mental health in small island developing States, convened by Barbados, WHO and the Pan American Health Organization, whose outcome document, the Bridgetown Declaration on Noncommunicable Diseases and Mental Health, had been endorsed in the outcome document of the fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States, the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for Small Island Developing States; a global high-level technical meeting on non-communicable diseases in humanitarian settings, hosted by the Government of Denmark and organized by WHO and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; and an international dialogue on sustainable financing for non-communicable diseases and mental health, held by WHO and the World Bank Group. The secretariat and members of the Task Force had contributed to those meetings. The Task Force was committed to implementing the Bridgetown Declaration and the recommendations arising from the other two meetings, and to supporting cross-sectoral work, which was critical to action on non-communicable diseases and mental health.

*Draft resolution E/2024/L.22: United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases*

104. **Ms. Fangco** (Philippines), also speaking on behalf of El Salvador, introduced the draft resolution. She said that the adoption of the draft resolution had been deferred at the previous two sessions of the Council. The draft resolution must be adopted in time for the 2025 high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, at which a political declaration on the matter was to be adopted. The United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases had been established by the Council in 2013 and reported annually to the Council. Previous political declarations on non-communicable diseases had contained specific actions to be taken by WHO and the United Nations development system, as the prevention and control of such diseases included economic, social, environmental and commercial determinants of health, and required a whole-of-government and whole-of-society response. The Task Force coordinated activities pertaining to such diseases across the United Nations system and would contribute to the high-level meeting and the related follow-up.

105. Non-communicable diseases, which caused 74 per cent of global deaths annually, comprised mental health conditions, cancers, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory diseases and disabilities, and hampered economic growth. Most of those deaths and disabilities could be prevented by policies, laws and regulations to respond to the needs of people living with or at risk from non-communicable diseases. A total of 86 per cent of those deaths occurred in low- and middle-income countries, in which the social, economic and physical environments provided significantly less protection against the risks and consequences of those diseases than in high-income countries. If the draft resolution was adopted, the Council would welcome the operationalization of the Health4Life Fund and request the Task Force to support Member States in their efforts to address non-communicable diseases, including through health promotion, disease prevention, essential healthcare, evidence-based digital health programmes, and research and development. The Council would also call upon the members of the Task Force to identify additional technical resources to enhance their support for Member States. The delegations of the two countries invited other delegations to become sponsors of the draft resolution.

106. **The President** said that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

107. **Ms. Herity** (Secretary of the Council) said that Belarus, Brazil, Cambodia, Fiji and Thailand had become sponsors of the draft resolution.

108. **Ms. Muller Silvestri** (Uruguay), speaking in explanation of vote before the voting, said that her delegation welcomed the draft resolution; Uruguay was committed to fighting non-communicable diseases. With regard to paragraph 10 of the draft resolution, policies to address such diseases must be supported by the Task Force, in accordance with the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control and the Protocol to Eliminate Illicit Trade in Tobacco Products. In implementing policies to address tobacco addiction, Member States must not only prevent interference by the tobacco industry but also ensure that conventional and emerging tobacco products were controlled.

109. *Draft resolution E/2024/L.22 was adopted.*

**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 (continued) (E/2024/L.26)**

*Draft resolution E/2024/L.26: Doha Programme of action for the least developed countries for the decade 2022–2031*

110. **The President** said that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

111. *Draft resolution E/2024/L.26 was adopted.*

**Agenda item 7: Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation (continued) (E/2024/L.17)**

*Draft resolution E/2024/L.17: Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 75/233 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system*

112. **The President** said that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

113. *Draft resolution E/2024/L.17 was adopted.*

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

**(e) Long-term programme of support for Haiti (continued) (E/2024/L.21 and E/2024/L.25)**

*Draft decision E/2024/L.21: Appointment of an additional member of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti*

114. **The President** said that the draft decision contained no programme budget implications.

115. *Draft decision E/2024/L.21 was adopted.*

*Draft resolution E/2024/L.25: Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti*

116. **The President**, speaking as the representative of Canada and Chair of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, introduced the draft resolution. He said that, if the draft resolution was adopted, the Council would welcome the report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti (E/2024/7) and decide to extend the Advisory Group's mandate for another year. The Advisory Group, which had been joined at the current Council session by Germany and Guatemala, was committed to supporting the long-term socioeconomic development of Haiti.

117. Although the multidimensional crisis in the country was severe, it was not desperate. The Advisory Group welcomed the establishment of an inclusive transitional Government and would support its efforts to meet the needs of Haitians, restore democracy and accelerate sustainable development. The international community should support those efforts through a comprehensive approach. Security must be restored in order to alleviate suffering, allow people to leave their homes in safety and strengthen investor confidence. Strong national institutions must be built to provide long-term stability and effective governance. The Advisory Group welcomed the arrival in Haiti of, and encouraged Member States to contribute to, the Multinational Security Support Mission, led by Kenya. It hoped that the Mission would strengthen the capacity of the Haitian National Police to restore security and stability.

118. The international community must also help Haiti to meet the immediate humanitarian needs of its people, which were set out in the 2024 humanitarian needs and response plan, for which less than a quarter of the required funding had been received. In addition, the international community must invest in the country's sustainable development to increase its resilience to future shocks, including by enhancing the resilience of households and small farmers. The root causes of violence in the country, namely, extreme poverty, corruption, impunity, and collusion between the political and economic spheres, must also be addressed. The support of the United Nations in those areas was essential to advancing Haitian-led solutions in coordination with

other partners, including regional organizations and international financial institutions.

119. Speaking as President, he said that the draft resolution contained no programme budget implications.

120. **Ms. Herity** (Secretary of the Council) said that Latvia and Suriname had become sponsors of the draft resolution.

121. *Draft resolution E/2024/L.25 was adopted.*

#### **(f) African countries emerging from conflict** (continued) (E/2024/63; E/2024/L.19)

122. **The President** drew attention to the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of integrated, coherent and coordinated support for South Sudan and the Sahel region by the United Nations system (E/2024/63).

*Draft decision E/2024/L.19: African countries emerging from conflict*

123. **The President** said that the draft decision had no programme budget implications.

124. *Draft decision E/2024/L.19 was adopted.*

#### **(g) Sustainable development in the Sahel** (continued) (E/2024/63; E/2024/L.18)

125. **The President** drew attention to the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of integrated, coherent and coordinated support for South Sudan and the Sahel region by the United Nations system (E/2024/63).

*Draft decision E/2024/L.18: Sustainable development in the Sahel*

126. **The President** said that the draft decision had no programme budget implications.

127. *Draft decision E/2024/L.18 was adopted.*

#### **(a) Reports of coordination bodies (A/79/16; A/C.5/79/2)**

128. **The President** drew attention to the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its sixty-fourth session (A/79/16) and the statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly on the programme budget implications of recommendations contained in the report (A/C.5/79/2).

129. **Ms. Herity** (Secretary of the Council), reading out a statement of programme budget implications in connection with the recommendations contained in the

report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (A/79/16) in the context of rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Council and rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, said that, in paragraph 237 of the report, on programme 9, United Nations system support for the African Union's Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want – strategic partnership for progress towards implementation, the Committee welcomed the fellowship programme for young African policymakers in the 2025 programme plan, and recommended that the Assembly approve the fellowship programme and request the Secretary-General to submit to the Assembly at its eighty-second session a report on the first two years of implementation. That request for documentation would constitute an addition to the workload of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of one pre-session document with a word count of 8,500 words in all six languages in 2027. Additional resource requirements for documentation would arise in 2027 in the amount of \$24,500. Accordingly, should the Council or the Assembly endorse the recommendations made by the Committee in its report, the additional resource requirements in the amount of \$24,500 would be included in the proposed programme budget for 2027 under section 2, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management, for the consideration of the Assembly at its eighty-first session.

130. **Mr. Kaspar** (Representative of the European Union, in its capacity as observer) said that the European Union welcomed the adoption, by the Committee for Programme and Coordination at its sixty-fourth session, of conclusions and recommendations on 12 of the 28 programme plans of the United Nations. The Committee's failure to adopt conclusions and recommendations by consensus on 16 programme plans, however, even though the duration of the session had been extended to five weeks and the relevant planning documents had been available before the session, had undermined the relevance of the Committee and shifted a heavy burden onto the Main Committees of the General Assembly. The European Union was concerned about the lack of transparency that had tainted the facilitation of programme 7, Economic and social affairs, in particular the facilitation modalities, which had led several members of the Committee to dissociate themselves from the adopted conclusions and recommendations on the grounds that they had resulted in previously undisclosed programme budget implications.

131. **The President** said he took it that the Council wished to take note of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (A/79/16).

132. *It was so decided.*

**(b) Proposed programme budget for 2025 (A/79/6)**

133. **The President** said he took it that the Council wished to take note of the relevant sections of the proposed programme budget for 2025 (A/78/6).

134. *It was so decided.*

*The meeting rose at 12.30 p.m.*