



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
2 October 2008

Original: English

Sixty-third session Second Committee

Agenda item 51 (a)

Globalization and interdependence: role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

Ethiopia: draft resolution

International Year of Chemistry

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years,

Recognizing that humankind's understanding of the material nature of our world is grounded in our knowledge of chemistry,

Stressing that education in and about chemistry is critical in addressing challenges such as global climate change, in providing sustainable sources of clean water, food and energy and in maintaining a wholesome environment for the well-being of all people,

Considering that the science and application of chemistry produces medicines, fuels, metals and virtually all other manufactured products,

Being aware that the year 2011 provides the opportunity to celebrate the contributions of women to science on the one-hundredth anniversary of the awarding of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry to Maria Skłodowska-Curie,

Being aware also that the year 2011 provides the opportunity to highlight the need for international scientific collaboration on the one-hundredth anniversary of the founding of the International Association of Chemical Societies,

1. *Welcomes* the unanimous resolution of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, at its 2007 Council meeting, to declare 2011 as the International Year of Chemistry and to play a leading role in coordinating and promoting chemistry activities at the national and regional levels around the world;

2. *Designates* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization as the lead agency and focal point for the Year and invites it to



organize activities to be realized during the Year, in collaboration with other relevant entities of the United Nations system, the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry and its associated organizations and federations across the world, and, in this regard, notes that the activities of the Year will be funded from voluntary contributions, including from the private sector;

3. *Encourages* all Member States, the United Nations system and all other actors to take advantage of the Year to promote actions at all levels aimed at increasing awareness among the public of the importance of chemistry and promoting widespread access to new knowledge and to chemistry demonstrations;

4. *Decides* to proclaim 2011 the International Year of Chemistry.
