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Seventieth session  
Agenda item 72 (b)

**Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms**

**Report of the Third Committee\*\***

*Rapporteur:* Ms. Adele Li Wei (Singapore)

**I. Introduction**

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 18 September 2015, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventieth session, under the item entitled “Promotion and protection of human rights”, the sub-item entitled “Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms” and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Third Committee considered the sub-item jointly with sub-item 72 (c), “Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives”, at its 21st to 34th meetings, from 21 to 29 October 2015. The Committee held a general discussion on the sub-item at its 35th, 36th and 44th meetings, on 30 October and 5 November, and considered proposals and took action under sub-item 72 (b) at its 43rd, 45th, 46th, 48th to 50th, 52nd, 53rd, 55th and 56th meetings, on 5, 10, 12, from 17 to 20 and from 23 to 25 November. An account of the Committee’s consideration is contained in the relevant summary records.<sup>1</sup>

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\*\* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in five parts, under the symbols A/70/489, A/70/489/Add.1, A/70/489/Add.2, A/70/489/Add.3 and A/70/489/Add.4.

<sup>1</sup> A/C.3/70/SR.21, A/C.3/70/SR.22, A/C.3/70/SR.23, A/C.3/70/SR.24, A/C.3/70/SR.25, A/C.3/70/SR.26, A/C.3/70/SR.27, A/C.3/70/SR.28, A/C.3/70/SR.29, A/C.3/70/SR.30, A/C.3/70/SR.31, A/C.3/70/SR.32, A/C.3/70/SR.33, A/C.3/70/SR.34, A/C.3/70/SR.35, A/C.3/70/SR.36, A/C.3/70/SR.43, A/C.3/70/SR.44, A/C.3/70/SR.45, A/C.3/70/SR.46, A/C.3/70/SR.48, A/C.3/70/SR.49, A/C.3/70/SR.50, A/C.3/70/SR.52, A/C.3/70/SR.53, A/C.3/70/SR.55 and A/C.3/70/SR.56.



3. For the documents before the Committee under this sub-item, see A/70/489.
4. At the 21st meeting, on 21 October, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights addressed the Committee and engaged in a dialogue with the representatives of Brazil, Morocco, Costa Rica, Colombia, Chile, Austria, Ireland, the Islamic Republic of Iran, India, Mexico, Indonesia, Switzerland, China, the Russian Federation, the European Union, Latvia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Belarus, Liechtenstein, Norway, Spain, Cuba, Iraq, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Yemen, Libya, the Sudan, Armenia, Sierra Leone (on behalf of the Group of African States), the Syrian Arab Republic, Egypt, Turkey, Nigeria, Israel, Myanmar and Eritrea, as well as the observer of the State of Palestine. The observer of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation also participated in the dialogue.
5. At its 22nd meeting, on 21 October, the Committee heard an introductory statement by the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Myanmar, who subsequently responded to questions raised and comments made by the representatives of Myanmar, the United Kingdom, Malaysia, Egypt (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation) and the European Union.
6. At the same meeting, the Committee heard an introductory statement by the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights.
7. Also at the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran.
8. Also at the 22nd meeting, the Chair of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Mexico, Morocco, the European Union, Argentina, France, Japan, Armenia and Colombia.
9. Also at the same meeting, the Vice-Chair of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances gave an oral report and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Argentina, Morocco, the European Union, France, the United States and Mexico.
10. At the 23rd meeting, on 22 October, the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of China, the European Union, Morocco, South Africa, Brazil, Indonesia and Colombia.
11. At the same meeting, the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights by persons with albinism made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of the United Republic of Tanzania, Portugal, the United States and the European Union.
12. Also at the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Morocco, the European Union, Brazil, Indonesia, Germany, Maldives, South Africa, Cameroon and Iraq.
13. At the 24th meeting, on 22 October, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive

dialogue with the representatives of Norway, Ireland, the Czech Republic, the European Union, Poland, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Brazil, Lithuania, the United Kingdom, Cuba, Maldives, Colombia, the United States, Canada, the Russian Federation and Costa Rica.

14. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Brazil, Switzerland, the United States, the European Union, Estonia, Liechtenstein, Poland, Norway, the United Kingdom, Austria, the Czech Republic, Colombia, Maldives, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Russian Federation and France.

15. Also at the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Switzerland, the United States, Ireland, the European Union, Austria, the Russian Federation, Norway, Canada, Poland, Iraq, Mexico, the United Kingdom, Germany and Turkey.

16. At the 25th meeting, on 23 October, the Chair of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Mexico, Morocco, Qatar and Indonesia.

17. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of the United States, the European Union, Mexico, Switzerland, Nigeria, Brazil, Qatar, Turkey, Costa Rica and Colombia. The observer of the International Organization for Migration also participated in the interactive dialogue.

18. Also at the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children, made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Morocco, Belarus, Fiji, Maldives, the European Union, the United States, Switzerland, Nigeria, Mongolia, the United Kingdom, South Africa, Qatar, the Russian Federation, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Cuba. The observer of the International Organization for Migration also participated in the interactive dialogue.

19. At the 26th meeting, on 23 October, the Chair of the Working Group on the Right to Development made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Nigeria, Cuba, Morocco, Panama, China, South Africa and Pakistan.

20. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on the right to food made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Cuba, Mexico, Switzerland, Indonesia, Qatar, Norway, the European Union, South Africa, Colombia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Costa Rica and Morocco. The representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations also participated in the interactive dialogue.

21. Also at the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue

with the representatives of Colombia, Norway, Mexico, the European Union, Brazil and Costa Rica.

22. At the 27th meeting, on 26 October, the Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Morocco, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Cuba, Algeria and the Russian Federation.

23. At the same meeting, the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights, made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of the Sudan, Argentina, Morocco and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

24. Also at the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran (on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries), Iraq, Cuba, the Sudan, Algeria, Belarus, the Russian Federation, Zimbabwe, the Syrian Arab Republic, Morocco and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

25. At the 28th meeting, on 26 October, the Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Pakistan, the European Union, the Russian Federation, Brazil, Cuba, Morocco and Mexico.

26. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Mexico, the United Kingdom, the United States, Morocco, Qatar, the Russian Federation, the European Union, Switzerland, Brazil, Iraq, Nigeria, the Syrian Arab Republic and Pakistan.

27. Also at the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Morocco, Colombia, the United States, Argentina, the European Union, Brazil, Armenia, Switzerland, Nigeria and Norway.

28. At the 29th meeting, on 27 October, the Chair of the Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Morocco, Switzerland, Mexico, Colombia, the European Union, the Czech Republic, Norway, Chile, the United States, Indonesia and South Africa.

29. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of the United States, Morocco, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ireland, the European Union, the Russian Federation, the Czech Republic, Switzerland, Malaysia, the United Kingdom, Norway, Poland, Kazakhstan, Colombia, Pakistan and the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

30. Also at the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive

dialogue with the representatives of Qatar, the European Union, the United States, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Russian Federation and Morocco.

31. At the 30th meeting, on 27 October, the Chair of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Mexico, Israel, Norway (also on behalf of Denmark), the European Union, Switzerland, Morocco, Colombia, Chile and Costa Rica.

32. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Mexico, Qatar, Indonesia, Spain, the European Union, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Maldives, Brazil, the United States, Morocco and the Sudan.

33. Also at the same meeting, the Independent Expert on human rights and international solidarity made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of the Philippines, Brazil and Morocco.

34. At the 31st meeting, on 28 October, the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Morocco, Georgia, Iraq, Austria, the European Union, Liechtenstein, the Philippines, the United States, Norway, Ukraine (on behalf of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development-GUAM), Azerbaijan, Armenia, Nigeria, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. The observer of the International Organization for Migration also participated in the interactive dialogue.

35. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on minority issues made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Iraq, the European Union, the Russian Federation, Mexico, Austria, Switzerland, Norway, Hungary, Brazil and the United States.

36. Also at the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Indonesia, China, the European Union, Fiji, Morocco, Mexico, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Brazil, Germany, Maldives, Switzerland, Qatar, Nigeria, Norway, Spain and Israel, as well as the observer of the State of Palestine.

37. At the 32nd meeting, on 28 October, the Committee heard a statement by the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

38. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Eritrea made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Eritrea, the United States, the European Union, Belarus, the Russian Federation, Djibouti, the United Kingdom, Norway, China, Nicaragua (also on behalf of the Plurinational State of Bolivia), Cuba, Ecuador, the Sudan and Switzerland.

39. Also at the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Myanmar, the United Kingdom, Belarus, China, the Russian Federation, the United States, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Singapore,

Norway, Japan, the European Union, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Republic of Korea, Cuba, Switzerland, Viet Nam, Indonesia and the Czech Republic. The observer of the International Organization for Migration also participated in the interactive dialogue.

40. Also at the 32nd meeting, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Canada, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United States, the Russian Federation, Norway, the European Union, Maldives, Nicaragua, Switzerland, China, Ecuador, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Australia, Belarus, Cuba, Germany, the United Kingdom, Egypt, Eritrea, Myanmar and Chile.

41. At the 33rd meeting, on 29 October, the Committee heard a statement by the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

42. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the European Union, the Republic of Korea, the Czech Republic, Liechtenstein, Switzerland, Cuba, China, Myanmar, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Russian Federation, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Norway, the United Kingdom, the United States, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, the Sudan, Maldives and Belarus.

43. Also at the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Belarus made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Belarus, Cuba, Ecuador, the Syrian Arab Republic, Switzerland, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the United Kingdom, Zimbabwe, the European Union, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Czech Republic, Kyrgyzstan, the United States, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, the Sudan, Nicaragua (also on behalf of the Plurinational State of Bolivia), Nigeria, Norway, the Russian Federation, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Azerbaijan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Eritrea, Uzbekistan, China, Viet Nam and Myanmar.

44. Also at the 33rd meeting, the Chair of the Commission of Inquiry on human rights in Eritrea made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Eritrea, Djibouti, the Sudan, Australia, the European Union, the United States, China, Ethiopia, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Nigeria, Norway, Cuba and the Russian Federation.

45. At the 34th meeting, on 29 October, the Special Rapporteur on the right to education made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of the European Union, the United States, Norway, Maldives, Fiji, the Russian Federation, Costa Rica, China, Mexico, Morocco, Qatar, Portugal and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

46. At the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of Brazil, the European Union, South Africa, Maldives, the United Kingdom, Indonesia, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Israel, Norway, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Sudan, Iraq, Jordan, Turkey, Pakistan, Oman and Morocco, as well as the observer

of the State of Palestine. The observer of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation also made a statement.

47. Also at the same meeting, the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions made an introductory statement and engaged in an interactive dialogue with the representatives of the European Union, Switzerland, Norway, the United Kingdom, Liechtenstein, Nigeria, Brazil and Iraq.

48. At the 35th meeting, on 30 October, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs made an introductory statement.

## **II. Consideration of proposals**

### **A. Draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.20/Rev.1**

49. At its 55th meeting, on 24 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Protection of migrants" (A/C.3/70/L.20/Rev.1), which replaced draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.20 and was submitted by Argentina, Armenia, Belize, Brazil, Chile, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Honduras, Kyrgyzstan, Mexico and Paraguay. Subsequently, Algeria, Angola, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Burkina Faso, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Indonesia, Italy, Lesotho, Mali, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Portugal, Senegal, Tajikistan, Turkey, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

50. At the same meeting, the representative of Mexico made a statement.

51. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.20/Rev.1 (see para. 155, draft resolution I).

52. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America.

### **B. Draft resolutions A/C.3/70/L.23 and Rev.1**

53. At the 43rd meeting, on 5 November, the representative of Mexico introduced a draft resolution entitled "Protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism" (A/C.3/70/L.23).

54. At its 52nd meeting, on 20 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/70/L.23/Rev.1), submitted by Argentina, Armenia, Brazil, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Panama and Paraguay. Subsequently, Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of

America, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

55. At the same meeting, the representative of Mexico made a statement.

56. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.23/Rev.1 (see para. 155, draft resolution II).

57. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of Egypt.

### C. Draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.30

58. At the 48th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of Cuba, on behalf of Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chad, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order" (A/C.3/70/L.30). Subsequently, Angola, Bangladesh, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, China, the Comoros, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jamaica, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Myanmar, Namibia, the Niger, Nigeria, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, South Sudan, the Sudan, Togo, Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

59. At its 53rd meeting, on 23 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.30 by a recorded vote of 121 to 53, with 5 abstentions (see para. 155, draft resolution III). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania,

Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Against:*

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Abstaining:*

Chile, Costa Rica, Lesotho, Mexico, Peru.

60. Before the vote, a statement was made by the representative of Luxembourg on behalf of the European Union; after the vote, statements were made by the representatives of Argentina and the United States of America.

#### **D. Draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.31**

61. At the 48th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of Cuba, on behalf of Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chad, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity" (A/C.3/70/L.31). Subsequently, Angola, Bangladesh, Belize, China, Colombia, the Comoros, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Madagascar, Malaysia, Mali, Myanmar, Namibia, the Niger, Nigeria, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, South Sudan, the Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkmenistan, Uganda and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

62. At its 53rd meeting, on 23 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.31 (see para. 155, draft resolution IV).

#### **E. Draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.32**

63. At the 48th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of Cuba, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Human rights and unilateral coercive measures" (A/C.3/70/L.32). Subsequently, China, Kyrgyzstan and South Sudan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

64. At its 52nd meeting, on 20 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.32 by a recorded vote of 126 to 53, with 1 abstention (see para. 155, draft resolution V). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Against:*

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Abstaining:*

Palau.

65. After the vote, a statement was made by the representative of the United States.

## **F. Draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.33**

66. At the 48th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of Cuba, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Promotion of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of the human rights treaty bodies" (A/C.3/70/L.33). Subsequently, Brazil, China, the Russian Federation and South Sudan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

67. At its 52nd meeting, on 20 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.33 by a recorded vote of 124 to 54, with 1 abstention (see para. 155, draft resolution VI). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Against:*

Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Abstaining:*

Costa Rica.<sup>2</sup>

68. Before the vote, a statement was made by the representative of Luxembourg on behalf of the European Union.

**G. Draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.34**

69. At the 48th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of Cuba, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights" (A/C.3/70/L.34). Subsequently, China, El Salvador, Paraguay, the Russian Federation and South Sudan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

70. At its 49th meeting, on 18 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.34 (see para. 155, draft resolution VII).

<sup>2</sup> The delegation of Costa Rica subsequently indicated that it had intended to vote in favour.

71. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America.

## **H. Draft resolutions A/C.3/70/L.36 and Rev.1**

72. At the 48th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of Cuba, on behalf of Algeria, Antigua and Barbuda, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cabo Verde, Chad, Cuba, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), introduced a draft resolution entitled "The right to food" (A/C.3/70/L.36). Subsequently, Angola, Bangladesh, Brazil, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, China, the Central African Republic, the Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, the Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Guinea, Haiti, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Mali, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, the Niger, Nigeria, Panama, Paraguay, Qatar, the Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Senegal, South Sudan, the Sudan, Suriname, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, the United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

73. At its 55th meeting, on 24 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.36/Rev.1, submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.36 and Belize, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Grenada, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Peru, Tajikistan and Togo. Subsequently, Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, the Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Finland, France, the Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Oman, Papua New Guinea, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey and Ukraine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

74. At the same meeting, the representative of Cuba made a statement.

75. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.36/Rev.1 (see para. 155, draft resolution VIII).

76. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America and Canada.

## **I. Draft resolutions A/C.3/70/L.37 and Rev.1**

77. At the 48th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of Cuba, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, introduced a draft resolution entitled "The right to

development” (A/C.3/70/L.37). Subsequently, China and South Sudan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

78. At its 53rd meeting, on 23 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/70/L.37/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.37. Subsequently, El Salvador joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

79. At the same meeting, the representative of Cuba orally revised operative paragraph 46 of the draft resolution.<sup>3</sup>

80. At the 55th meeting, on 24 November, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran made a statement on behalf of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

81. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.37/Rev.1, as orally revised, by a recorded vote of 136 to 4, with 34 abstentions (see para. 155, draft resolution IX). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe.

*Against:*

Canada, Israel, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Abstaining:*

Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand,

<sup>3</sup> See A/C.3/70/SR.53.

Norway, Poland, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine.

82. Before the vote, a statement was made by the representative of the United States; after the vote, statements were made by the representatives of Canada, Mexico and Luxembourg (on behalf of the European Union).

## **J. Draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.38**

83. At the 48th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of Cuba, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Human rights and cultural diversity" (A/C.3/70/L.38). Subsequently, Brazil, China and South Sudan joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

84. At its 52nd meeting, on 20 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.38 by a recorded vote of 130 to 54, with no abstentions (see para. 155, draft resolution X). The voting was as follows:

### *In favour:*

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

### *Against:*

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain,

Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

85. Before the vote, a statement was made by the representative of Luxembourg on behalf of the European Union; after the vote, a statement was made by the representative of the United States of America.

### **K. Draft resolutions A/C.3/70/L.40 and Rev.1**

86. At the 43rd meeting, on 5 November, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, introduced a draft resolution entitled “Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping, stigmatization, discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons, based on religion or belief” (A/C.3/70/L.40). Subsequently, China joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

87. At its 52nd meeting, on 20 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/70/L.40/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.40 and South Sudan. Subsequently, Australia, Burundi, the Central African Republic, the Congo, Eritrea, Ghana, Lesotho, New Zealand and Thailand joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

88. At the same meeting, the representative of Egypt made a statement and orally revised the last preambular paragraph of the draft resolution.<sup>4</sup>

89. Also at the same meeting, a statement was made by the representative of Luxembourg on behalf of the European Union.

90. Also at its 52nd meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.40/Rev.1, as orally revised (see para. 155, draft resolution XI).

### **L. Draft resolutions A/C.3/70/L.41 and Rev.1**

91. At the 43rd meeting, on 5 November, the representative of Luxembourg, on behalf of Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, introduced a draft resolution entitled “Freedom of religion or belief” (A/C.3/70/L.41). Subsequently, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Guatemala and Lebanon joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

92. At its 52nd meeting, on 20 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/70/L.41/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.41 and Argentina, Brazil, Israel, Peru, the Republic of Korea and Uruguay. Subsequently, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican

<sup>4</sup> See A/C.3/70/SR.52.

Republic, El Salvador, Ghana, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, the Philippines, Thailand, Turkey and Ukraine joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

93. At the same meeting, the representative of Luxembourg made a statement.

94. Also at its 52nd meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.41/Rev.1 (see para. 155, draft resolution XII).

### **M. Draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.43**

95. At the 50th meeting, on 19 November, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of Benin, Chad, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Jordan, Morocco, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Viet Nam, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights" (A/C.3/70/L.43) and orally revised the ninth preambular paragraph and deleted operative paragraphs 1 and 2 of the draft resolution.<sup>5</sup> Subsequently, Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, China, the Comoros, the Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, the Philippines, Qatar, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, the Sudan, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

96. At its 53rd meeting, on 23 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.43, as orally revised, by a recorded vote of 128 to 53, with 2 abstentions (see para. 155, draft resolution XIII). The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru,

<sup>5</sup> See A/C.3/70/SR.50.

Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Against:*

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

*Abstaining:*

Greece, Papua New Guinea.

97. Before the vote, a statement was made by the representative of Luxembourg on behalf of the European Union; after the vote, a statement was made by the representative of Mexico.

## **N. Draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.44**

98. At its 50th meeting, on 19 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance" (A/C.3/70/L.44), submitted by Argentina, Armenia, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Morocco, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Austria, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, the Central African Republic, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Ecuador, Eritrea, Estonia, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Lithuania, Madagascar, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Ukraine and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

99. At the same meeting, the representative of Morocco made a statement.

100. Also at its 50th meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.44 (see para. 155, draft resolution XIV).

**O. Draft resolutions A/C.3/70/L.46 and Rev.1 and amendments to draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.46/Rev.1 contained in documents A/C.3/70/L.69-L.107**

101. At the 43rd meeting, on 5 November, the representative of Norway, on behalf of Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Chile, Colombia, Georgia, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Panama, Switzerland, the United States of America and Vanuatu, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Recognizing the role of human rights defenders and the need for their protection" (A/C.3/70/L.46). Subsequently, Albania, Guatemala, Honduras and Mongolia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

102. At its 56th meeting, on 25 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/70/L.46/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.46 and the Dominican Republic, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, New Zealand, Palau, Paraguay and Ukraine.

103. At the same meeting, the Committee had before it amendments to draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.46/Rev.1, contained in documents A/C.3/70/L.69, A/C.3/70/L.70, A/C.3/70/L.71, A/C.3/70/L.72, A/C.3/70/L.73, A/C.3/70/L.74, A/C.3/70/L.75, A/C.3/70/L.76, A/C.3/70/L.77, A/C.3/70/L.78, A/C.3/70/L.79, A/C.3/70/L.80, A/C.3/70/L.81, A/C.3/70/L.82, A/C.3/70/L.83, A/C.3/70/L.84, A/C.3/70/L.85, A/C.3/70/L.86, A/C.3/70/L.87, A/C.3/70/L.88, A/C.3/70/L.89, A/C.3/70/L.90, A/C.3/70/L.91, A/C.3/70/L.92, A/C.3/70/L.93, A/C.3/70/L.94, A/C.3/70/L.95, A/C.3/70/L.96, A/C.3/70/L.97, A/C.3/70/L.98, A/C.3/70/L.99, A/C.3/70/L.100, A/C.3/70/L.101, A/C.3/70/L.102, A/C.3/70/L.103, A/C.3/70/L.104, A/C.3/70/L.105, A/C.3/70/L.106 and A/C.3/70/L.107, submitted by China, Iran (Islamic Republic of) and Sierra Leone (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States).

104. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Norway made a statement, orally revised the title of the draft resolution and read out numerous revisions to the text.<sup>6</sup>

105. Also at the 56th meeting, the representative of Sierra Leone made a statement and withdrew the amendments to the draft resolution.<sup>6</sup> Subsequently, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, as orally revised.

106. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.46/Rev.1, as orally revised, by a recorded vote of 117 to 14, with 40 abstentions (see para. 155, draft resolution XV). The voting was as follows:

<sup>6</sup> See A/C.3/70/SR.56.

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay.

*Against:*

Burundi, China, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Zimbabwe.

*Abstaining:*

Algeria, Angola, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Fiji, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Nicaragua, Niger, Oman, Qatar, Swaziland, Tajikistan, Togo, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen.

107. At the same meeting, statements were made before the vote by the representatives of New Zealand (also on behalf of Australia, Canada, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Switzerland), Chile, Norway, Panama (also on behalf of Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay), China, the Russian Federation and Nigeria; after the vote, statements were made by the representatives of India, the Sudan, Viet Nam, Luxembourg (on behalf of the European Union) and the United States of America.

**P. Draft resolutions A/C.3/70/L.48 and Rev.1**

108. At the 43rd meeting, on 5 November, the representative of Greece, on behalf of Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cabo Verde, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta,

Monaco, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, introduced a draft resolution entitled “The safety of journalists and the issue of impunity” (A/C.3/70/L.48). Subsequently, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Mongolia, the Republic of Moldova and San Marino joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

109. At its 53rd meeting, on 23 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/70/L.48/Rev.1) submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.48 and Ghana, Israel, Montenegro, New Zealand, Qatar, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine and Uruguay. Subsequently, Andorra, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, the Central African Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Japan, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Mali, Mexico, Peru, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka and Switzerland joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

110. At the same meeting, the representative of Greece made a statement.

111. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.48/Rev.1 (see para. 155, draft resolution XVI).

112. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement.

#### **Q. Draft resolutions A/C.3/70/L.49 and Rev.1**

113. At the 43rd meeting, on 5 November, the representative of Germany, on behalf of Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Tunisia, introduced a draft resolution entitled “National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights” (A/C.3/70/L.49). Subsequently, Afghanistan, Albania, Bahrain, Georgia, Ghana, Guatemala, Jordan, Madagascar, Mongolia, Myanmar, Panama, Peru, Sri Lanka and Sweden joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

114. At its 53rd meeting, on 23 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/70/L.49/Rev.1) submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.49 and Bosnia and Herzegovina, Costa Rica, Lebanon, Mexico and New Zealand. Subsequently, Andorra, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cabo Verde, Canada, the Central African Republic, Côte d’Ivoire, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Iraq, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Norway, Palau, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, Senegal, Serbia, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

115. At the same meeting, the representative of Germany made a statement.

116. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.49/Rev.1 (see para. 155, draft resolution XVII).

117. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Australia (also on behalf of Canada, France, Iceland, New Zealand and the United Kingdom); after the adoption of the draft resolution, the representatives of the Russian Federation and India made statements.

## **R. Draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.50/Rev.1**

118. At its 55th meeting, on 24 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “Measures to enhance the promotion and protection of the human rights and dignity of older persons” (A/C.3/70/L.50/Rev.1), which replaced draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.50 and was submitted by Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Paraguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Austria, the Central African Republic, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Indonesia, Israel, Liechtenstein, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Slovenia, Turkey, the United States of America and Uruguay joined in sponsoring the resolution, and the representative of Slovakia withdrew her country’s sponsorship of the draft resolution.

119. At the same meeting, the representative of Argentina made a statement.

120. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.50/Rev.1 (see para. 155, draft resolution XVIII).

121. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representatives of Japan, Slovenia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Switzerland (also on behalf of Australia and Canada) and Albania made statements.

## **S. Draft resolutions A/C.3/70/L.51 and Rev.1**

122. At the 43rd meeting, on 5 November, the representative of Norway, on behalf of Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, Georgia, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Norway, Panama, Sweden and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, introduced a draft resolution entitled “Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons” (A/C.3/70/L.51). Subsequently, Albania, Austria, Croatia, Guatemala, Hungary and Peru joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

123. At its 53rd meeting, on 23 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/70/L.51/Rev.1) submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.51 and Brazil, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia and Switzerland. Subsequently, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, the Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Ecuador, El Salvador, Greece, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Latvia, Liberia, Madagascar, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mozambique, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Somalia, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and

Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

124. At the same meeting, the representative of Norway made a statement.

125. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.51/Rev.1 (see para. 155, draft resolution XIX).

126. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representatives of Canada, the Sudan and Armenia made statements.

## **T. Draft resolutions A/C.3/70/L.52 and Rev.1**

127. At the 43rd meeting, on 5 November, the representative of Austria, on behalf of Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Chile, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Paraguay, Poland, Slovenia, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities" (A/C.3/70/L.52). Subsequently, Albania, Cyprus, Georgia, Guatemala, Norway, Panama and Serbia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

128. At its 48th meeting, on 17 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/70/L.52/Rev.1) submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.52 and Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Czech Republic, Greece, Ireland, Monaco and Montenegro. Subsequently, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Canada, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Iceland, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, the Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovakia, Sweden, Ukraine, the United States of America and Uruguay joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

129. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.52/Rev.1 (see para. 155, draft resolution XX).

130. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Colombia made a statement.

## **U. Draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.53**

131. At the 45th meeting, on 10 November, the representative of Cameroon, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Economic Community of Central African States, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa" (A/C.3/70/L.53). Subsequently, Algeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Madagascar, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, the Niger, Tunisia and Uganda joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

132. At the 46th meeting, on 12 November, the representative of Cameroon made a statement and orally revised the seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth preambular paragraphs and operative paragraph 4 of the draft resolution.<sup>7</sup>

133. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.53, as orally revised (see para. 155, draft resolution XXI).

## **V. Draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.54 and amendment thereto contained in document A/C.3/70/L.64**

134. At the 43rd meeting, on 5 November, the representative of the United States of America, on behalf of Australia, Austria, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, introduced a draft resolution entitled “Strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization” (A/C.3/70/L.54). Subsequently, Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cabo Verde, Estonia, Guatemala, Lebanon, Mexico, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Panama, Peru, the Republic of Moldova, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Sweden, Thailand, Ukraine and Yemen joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

135. At the 48th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of the United States made a statement. Subsequently, Algeria, Argentina, Barbados, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, the Central African Republic, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Paraguay, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Senegal, Somalia, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Uruguay, Vanuatu and Zambia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

### **Action on the amendment contained in document A/C.3/70/L.64**

136. At the 48th meeting, on 19 November, the Chair drew the attention of the Committee to the amendment to draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.54 submitted by the Russian Federation, contained in document A/C.3/70/L.64.

137. At the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement and the representative of the United States made a statement in connection with the draft amendment.

138. Also at the same meeting, the Committee rejected the amendment contained in document A/C.3/70/L.64 by a recorded vote of 101 to 24, with 34 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

<sup>7</sup> See A/C.3/70/SR.46.

*In favour:*

Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brunei Darussalam, Burundi, China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sudan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Zimbabwe.

*Against:*

Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yemen, Zambia.

*Abstaining:*

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bahrain, Bhutan, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Gambia, India, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Mali, Morocco, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Oman, Qatar, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania.

**Action on draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.54 as a whole**

139. At the 48th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement and requested a recorded vote on draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.54.

140. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.54, by a recorded vote of 155 to none, with 15 abstentions (see para. 155, draft resolution XXII). The voting was as follows:<sup>8</sup>

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic,

<sup>8</sup> The delegation of the Sudan subsequently indicated that it had intended to abstain.

Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

*Against:*

None.

*Abstaining:*

Angola, Azerbaijan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Namibia, Nicaragua, Russian Federation, Syrian Arab Republic, Togo, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Zimbabwe.

141. Before the vote, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Luxembourg (on behalf of the European Union), Australia (also on behalf of Canada, Iceland, Liechtenstein, New Zealand, Norway and Switzerland), Israel and the Russian Federation; after the vote, statements were made by the representatives of Singapore and the Sudan.

## **W. Draft resolutions A/C.3/70/L.55 and Rev.1**

142. At the 43rd meeting, on 5 November, the representative of Spain, on behalf of Armenia, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Morocco, the Netherlands, Panama, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, introduced a draft resolution entitled "The human right to safe drinking water and sanitation" (A/C.3/70/L.55). Subsequently, Albania, Andorra, Cabo Verde, Eritrea, Georgia, Guatemala, Haiti, Mongolia, Palau, Peru and Serbia joined in sponsoring the resolution.

143. At its 55th meeting, on 24 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "The human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation" (A/C.3/70/L.55/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.55 and Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, France, Ireland, Lebanon, Liberia, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, Rwanda, Switzerland and Ukraine.

144. At the same meeting, the representative of Germany made a statement and orally revised operative paragraph 9 of the draft resolution.<sup>9</sup> Subsequently, Algeria, Benin, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Honduras, Iceland, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Namibia, Nicaragua, Oman, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, the United Arab Emirates and Uruguay joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

145. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.55/Rev.1, as orally revised (see para. 155, draft resolution XXIII).

146. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of South Africa made a statement; after the adoption of the draft resolution, the representatives of India, the United States of America, Uzbekistan, Argentina, Canada and Turkey made statements.

## **X. Draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.56**

147. At the 43rd meeting, on 5 November, the representative of Poland, on behalf of Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Chile, Costa Rica, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Jordan, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovenia and Spain, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Towards the full realization of an inclusive and accessible United Nations for persons with disabilities" (A/C.3/70/L.56). Subsequently, Bahrain, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mongolia and the United Republic of Tanzania joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

148. At the 53rd meeting, on 23 November, the representative of the Republic of Korea made a statement. Subsequently, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Canada, the Central African Republic, China, Colombia, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Jamaica, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, the Niger, Nigeria, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, the Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, South Sudan, the Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Yemen joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

<sup>9</sup> See A/C.3/70/SR.55.

149. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.56 (see para. 155, draft resolution XXIV).

## Y. Draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.57

150. At the 43rd meeting, on 5 November, the representative of Qatar, on behalf of Oman and Qatar, introduced a draft resolution entitled “United Nations Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region” (A/C.3/70/L.57). Subsequently, Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cameroon, Comoros, Cuba, Eritrea, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, the Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, the United States of America and Yemen joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

151. At the 48th meeting, on 17 November, the representative of Qatar made a statement. Subsequently, Australia, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Côte d’Ivoire, Djibouti, Egypt, El Salvador, the Gambia, Guinea, Libya, Rwanda, Turkey, Uganda and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

152. At the same meeting, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement and requested a recorded vote on the draft resolution.

153. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/70/L.57 by a recorded vote of 169 to 1, with 2 abstentions (see para. 155, draft resolution XXV). The voting was as follows:

### *In favour:*

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, 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, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan,

Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Against:*

Syrian Arab Republic.

*Abstaining:*

Angola, Democratic Republic of the Congo.

154. Before the vote, statements were made by the representatives of Qatar and the United States; after the vote, a statement was made by the representative of Kuwait on behalf of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf.

### III. Recommendations of the Third Committee

155. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

#### **Draft resolution I** **Protection of migrants**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* all its previous resolutions on the protection of migrants, the most recent of which is resolution 69/167 of 18 December 2014, and recalling also Human Rights Council resolution 29/2 of 2 July 2015,<sup>1</sup>

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>2</sup> which proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, in particular as to race,

*Reaffirming also* that everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each State and the right to leave any country, including his or her own, and to return to his or her country,

*Reaffirming further* that everyone has the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law,

*Recalling* all relevant international instruments, particularly the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>3</sup> and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>3</sup> the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,<sup>4</sup> the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,<sup>5</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>6</sup> the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>7</sup> the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,<sup>8</sup> the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>9</sup> the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations,<sup>10</sup> the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families<sup>11</sup> and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the protocols thereto,<sup>12</sup> in particular the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air<sup>13</sup> and the Protocol

<sup>1</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/70/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>2</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>3</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>4</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

<sup>5</sup> Resolution 61/177, annex.

<sup>6</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 596, No. 8638.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2220, No. 39481.

<sup>12</sup> *Ibid.*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2241, No. 39574.

to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,<sup>14</sup>

*Acknowledging* the relevant contribution of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families to the international system for the protection of migrants,

*Recalling* the provisions concerning migrants contained in the outcome documents of major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development<sup>15</sup> and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>16</sup>

*Recalling also* Commission on Population and Development resolutions 2006/2 of 10 May 2006<sup>17</sup> and 2009/1 of 3 April 2009,<sup>18</sup> and its resolution 2013/1 of 26 April 2013 on new trends in migration: demographic aspects,<sup>19</sup>

*Taking note* of advisory opinion OC 16/99 of 1 October 1999 on the Right to Information on Consular Assistance in the Framework of the Guarantees of the Due Process of Law, advisory opinion OC 18/03 of 17 September 2003 on the Juridical Condition and Rights of Undocumented Migrants, and advisory opinion OC 21/14 of 19 August 2014 on the Rights and Guarantees of Children in the Context of Migration and/or in Need of International Protection, issued by the Inter-American Court of Human Rights,

*Taking note also* of the Judgment of the International Court of Justice of 31 March 2004 in the case concerning *Avena and Other Mexican Nationals*<sup>20</sup> and the Judgment of the Court of 19 January 2009 regarding the request for interpretation of the *Avena* Judgment,<sup>21</sup> and recalling the obligations of States reaffirmed in both decisions,

*Underlining* the importance of the Human Rights Council in promoting respect for the protection of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all, including migrants,

*Recognizing* that women represent almost half of all international migrants, and in this regard recognizing also that women migrant workers are important contributors to social and economic development in countries of origin and destination, and underlining the value and dignity of their labour, including the labour of domestic workers,

*Welcoming* the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in its entirety, and recalling Sustainable Development Goals 8 and 10, including, inter alia, the targets on the protection of labour rights and promotion of safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants and those in precarious employment, and on the facilitation of

<sup>14</sup> Ibid., vol. 2237, No. 39574.

<sup>15</sup> Resolution 63/303, annex.

<sup>16</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>17</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2006, Supplement No. 5 (E/2006/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

<sup>18</sup> Ibid., 2009, *Supplement No. 5 (E/2009/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

<sup>19</sup> Ibid., 2013, *Supplement No. 5 (E/2013/25)*, chap. I, sect. B.

<sup>20</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 4 (A/59/4)*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>21</sup> Ibid., *Sixty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 4 (A/64/4)*, chap. V, sect. B.

orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies,

*Recognizing* the importance of the second High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, held on 3 and 4 October 2013, which recognized the important contribution of migration in realizing the Millennium Development Goals and recognized that human mobility is a key factor for sustainable development,

*Noting* the eighth summit meeting of the Global Forum on Migration and Development, hosted by Turkey from 14 to 16 October 2015, under the overarching theme of “Strengthening partnerships: human mobility for sustainable development”, which addressed the link between migration and development, and the issues of protecting the human rights of migrants, promoting the well-being of all people moving across international borders, migration as a factor of development, and enhancing international cooperation and partnerships among all stakeholders on emerging issues in migration and mobility,

*Acknowledging* the cultural and economic contributions made by migrants to their communities of origin and destination and the need to identify appropriate means of maximizing development benefits, to respond to the challenges that migration poses to countries of origin, transit and destination, to promote dignified, humane treatment with applicable protections and access to basic services, and to strengthen mechanisms for international cooperation,

*Emphasizing* the multidimensional character of international migration, the importance of international, regional and bilateral cooperation and dialogue in this regard, as appropriate, and the need to protect the human rights of all migrants, particularly at a time when migration flows have increased in the globalized economy and take place in a context of continued security concerns,

*Acknowledging* the complexity of migratory flows and that international migration movements also occur within the same geographical regions, and in this context calling for a better understanding of migration patterns across and within regions,

*Deeply concerned* at the large and growing number of migrants, especially women and children, including those unaccompanied or separated from their parents, who place themselves in a vulnerable situation by attempting to cross international borders, and recognizing the obligation of States to respect the human rights of those migrants in accordance with their applicable international human rights obligations,

*Recognizing* the importance of coordinating international efforts to provide assistance and support to migrants in vulnerable situations and, as appropriate, facilitate their voluntary return to their countries of origin or procedures for determining the need for international protection while respecting the principle of non-refoulement,

*Bearing in mind* the obligations of States under international law, as applicable, to exercise due diligence to prevent crimes targeting migrants and to investigate and punish perpetrators, and that not doing so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of the human rights and fundamental freedoms of victims,

*Affirming* that migrant smuggling and crimes against migrants, including trafficking in persons, continue to pose a serious challenge and require a concerted international assessment and response and genuine multilateral cooperation among countries of origin, transit and destination for their eradication,

*Bearing in mind* that policies and initiatives on the issue of migration, including those that refer to the orderly management of migration, should promote holistic approaches that take into account the causes and consequences of the phenomenon, as well as full respect for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants,

*Stressing* the importance of all regulations and laws regarding irregular migration, at all levels of government, being in accordance with the obligations of States under international law, including international human rights law,

*Stressing also* the obligation of States to protect the human rights of migrants regardless of their migration status, including when implementing their specific migration and border security policies, and expressing its concern at measures which, including in the context of policies aimed at reducing irregular migration, treat irregular migration as a criminal rather than an administrative offence, where the effect of doing so is to deny migrants the full enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms, and in this regard recalling that sanctions and the treatment given to irregular migrants should be commensurate with their offences,

*Aware* that, as criminals take advantage of migratory flows and attempt to circumvent restrictive immigration policies and border controls, migrants become more vulnerable to, inter alia, kidnapping, extortion, forced labour, sexual exploitation, physical assault, debt servitude and abandonment,

*Recognizing* the contributions of young migrants to countries of origin and destination, and in that regard encouraging States to consider the specific circumstances and needs of young migrants,

*Concerned* about the large number of migrants, especially women and children, including those unaccompanied or separated from their parents, who place themselves in a vulnerable situation by crossing or attempting to cross international borders without the required travel documents, and recognizing the responsibility of States to respect the human rights of those migrants,

*Recognizing* the obligations of countries of origin, transit and destination under international human rights law,

*Underlining* the importance for States, in cooperation with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, workers' organizations and the private sector, among other relevant stakeholders, to undertake information campaigns aimed at clarifying opportunities, limitations, risks and rights in the event of migration in order to enable everyone to make informed decisions and to prevent anyone from utilizing dangerous means to cross international borders,

1. *Calls upon* States to promote and protect effectively the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, especially those of women and children, and to address international migration through international, regional or bilateral cooperation and dialogue and a comprehensive and balanced approach, recognizing the roles and responsibilities of countries of origin, transit and destination in promoting and protecting the human

rights of all migrants and avoiding approaches that might aggravate their vulnerability;

2. *Expresses its concern* about the impact of financial and economic crises as well as natural disasters and the effects of climate-related phenomena on international migration and migrants, and in that regard urges Governments to combat unfair and discriminatory treatment of migrants, in particular migrant workers and their families;

3. *Reaffirms* the rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>2</sup> and the obligations of States under the International Covenants on Human Rights,<sup>3</sup> and in this regard:

(a) Strongly condemns the acts, manifestations and expressions of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance against migrants and the stereotypes often applied to them, including on the basis of religion or belief, and urges States to apply and, where needed, to reinforce the existing laws when hate crimes, xenophobic or intolerant acts, manifestations or expressions against migrants occur, in order to eradicate impunity for those who commit those acts and, where appropriate, to provide effective remedy to the victims;

(b) Encourages States to establish or, when appropriate, strengthen mechanisms which allow migrants to report alleged cases of abuse by relevant authorities and employers without fear of reprisal, and which allow for such complaints to be addressed fairly;

(c) Expresses concern about legislation adopted by some States that results in measures and practices that may restrict the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants, and reaffirms that, when exercising their sovereign right to enact and implement migratory and border security measures, States have the duty to comply with their obligations under international law, including international human rights law, in order to ensure full respect for the human rights of migrants;

(d) Calls upon States to ensure that their laws and policies, including in the areas of counter-terrorism and combating transnational organized crime, such as trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, fully respect the human rights of migrants;

(e) Calls upon States that have not done so to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families<sup>11</sup> as a matter of priority, and requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to promote and raise awareness of the Convention;

(f) Takes note of the report of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families on its twenty-third session;

4. *Also reaffirms* the duty of States to effectively promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, especially those of women and children, regardless of their migration status, in conformity with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the international instruments to which they are party, and therefore:

(a) Calls upon all States to respect the human rights and inherent dignity of migrants, to put an end to arbitrary arrest and detention and, in order to avoid

excessive detention of irregular migrants, to review, where necessary, detention periods and to use alternatives to detention, where appropriate, including measures that have been successfully implemented by some States;

(b) Encourages States to put in place, if they have not yet done so, appropriate systems and procedures in order to ensure that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration in all actions or decisions concerning migrant children, regardless of their migration status, and to use, when applicable, alternatives to the detention of migrant children;

(c) Encourages States to cooperate and to take appropriate measures, in full conformity with their obligations under international human rights law, to prevent, combat and address the smuggling of migrants, including strengthening laws, policies, information-sharing and joint operational functions, enhancing capacities and support opportunities for migration in a well-managed, safe and dignified manner and strengthening legislative methods for criminalizing acts of smuggling migrants, particularly women and children;

(d) Urges all States to adopt effective measures to prevent and punish any form of illegal deprivation of liberty of migrants by individuals or groups;

(e) Requests States to adopt concrete measures to prevent the violation of the human rights of migrants while in transit, including in ports and airports and at borders and migration checkpoints, and to adequately train public officials who work in those facilities and in border areas to treat migrants respectfully and in accordance with their obligations under international human rights law;

(f) Underlines the right of migrants to return to their country of citizenship, and recalls that States must ensure that their returning nationals are duly received;

(g) Calls upon States to analyse and implement, where appropriate, mechanisms for the safe and orderly administration of returning migrants, with particular attention to the human rights of migrants in accordance with their obligations under international law;

(h) Calls upon States to prosecute, in conformity with applicable law, acts of violation of the human rights of migrants and their families, such as arbitrary detention, torture and violations of the right to life, including extrajudicial executions, during their transit from the country of origin to the country of destination and vice versa, including transit across national borders;

(i) Recognizes the particular vulnerability of migrants in transit situations, including through national borders, and the need to ensure full respect for their human rights also in these circumstances;

(j) Also recognizes the importance of promoting respect for human rights in coordinated efforts of the international community to assist and support migrants who are stranded or in vulnerable situations;

(k) Reaffirms emphatically the duty of States parties to ensure full respect for and observance of the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations,<sup>10</sup> in particular with regard to the right of all foreign nationals, regardless of their migration status, to communicate with a consular official of the sending State in case of arrest, imprisonment, custody or detention, and the obligation of the receiving State to inform the foreign national without delay of his or her rights under the Convention;

(l) Requests all States, in conformity with national legislation and applicable international legal instruments to which they are party, to enforce labour law effectively, including by addressing violations of such law, with regard to migrant workers' labour relations and working conditions, inter alia, those related to their remuneration and conditions of health, safety at work and the right to freedom of association;

(m) Invites Member States to consider ratifying relevant conventions of the International Labour Organization, including Convention No. 189 on decent work for domestic workers;

(n) Encourages all States to remove unlawful obstacles, where they exist, that may prevent the safe, transparent, unrestricted and expeditious transfer of remittances, earnings, assets and pensions of migrants to their country of origin or to any other countries, and, in conformity with applicable laws, regulations and agreements, to consider, as appropriate, measures to resolve any identified issues that may impede such transfers or subject them to impractical restrictions;

(o) Recalls that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights recognizes that everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts violating the fundamental rights granted to him or her;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of protecting persons in vulnerable situations, and in this regard:

(a) Expresses its concern about the increase in the activities and profits of transnational and national organized crime entities and others who profit from crimes against migrants, especially migrant women and children, without regard for dangerous and inhumane conditions, and in flagrant violation of national laws and international law and contrary to international standards;

(b) Also expresses its concern about the high level of impunity enjoyed by traffickers and their accomplices as well as other members of organized crime entities and, in this context, the denial of rights and justice to migrants who have suffered from abuse;

(c) Calls upon States, within the framework of applicable international law, to take steps to ensure that their national procedures at international borders include adequate safeguards to protect the dignity, safety and human rights of all migrants;

(d) Welcomes immigration programmes, adopted by some countries, that allow migrants to integrate fully into the host countries, facilitate family reunification and promote a harmonious, tolerant and respectful environment, and encourages States to consider the possibility of adopting these types of programmes;

(e) Calls upon States that have not already done so to provide for the protection of the human rights of women migrant workers, to promote fair labour conditions and to ensure that all women, including care workers, are legally protected against violence and exploitation;

(f) Encourages States to implement gender-sensitive policies and programmes for women migrant workers, to provide safe and legal channels that recognize the skills and education of women migrant workers and, as appropriate, to facilitate their productive employment, decent work and integration into the labour force, including in the fields of education and science and technology;

(g) Encourages all States to develop international migration policies and programmes that include a gender perspective, in order to adopt the necessary measures to better protect women and girls against dangers and abuse during migration;

(h) Calls upon States to protect the human rights of migrant children, given their vulnerability, particularly unaccompanied migrant children, ensuring that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration in their legislation, policies and practices, including on integration, return and family reunification;

(i) Encourages all States to prevent and eliminate discriminatory policies and legislation at all levels of government that deny migrant children access to education and, while taking into account the best interests of the child as a primary consideration, to foster the successful integration of migrant children into the education system and the removal of barriers to their education in host countries and countries of origin;

(j) Reminds all States that all persons, including migrants, should have access to lifelong learning opportunities that help them acquire the knowledge and skills needed to take advantage of opportunities and to participate fully in society;

(k) Urges States to ensure that repatriation mechanisms allow for the identification and special protection of persons in vulnerable situations, including unaccompanied children and persons with disabilities, and take into account, in conformity with their international obligations and commitments, the principle of the best interests of the child, clarity about reception and care arrangements and family reunification;

(l) Urges States parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the protocols thereto,<sup>12</sup> in particular the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air<sup>13</sup> and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,<sup>14</sup> to implement them fully, and calls upon States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to them as a matter of priority;

6. *Encourages* States to take into account the conclusions and recommendations of the study of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on challenges and best practices in the implementation of the international framework for the protection of the rights of the child in the context of migration<sup>22</sup> when designing and implementing their migration policies;

7. *Also encourages* States to protect migrants from becoming victims of national and transnational organized crime, including kidnapping and trafficking and, in some instances, smuggling, including through the implementation of programmes and policies that prevent victimization and guarantee protection and access to medical, psychosocial and legal assistance, where appropriate;

8. *Encourages* Member States that have not already done so to enact national legislation and to take further effective measures to combat trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants, recognizing that these crimes may endanger the lives of migrants or subject them to harm, servitude, exploitation, debt bondage,

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<sup>22</sup> A/HRC/15/29.

slavery, sexual exploitation or forced labour, and also encourages Member States to strengthen international cooperation to prevent, investigate and combat such trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants and to identify and disrupt financial flows related to these activities;

9. *Stresses* the importance of international, regional and bilateral cooperation in the protection of the human rights of migrants, and therefore:

(a) Requests all States, international organizations and relevant stakeholders to take into account in their policies and initiatives on migration issues the global character of the migratory phenomenon and to give due consideration to international, regional and bilateral cooperation in this field, including by undertaking dialogues on migration that include countries of origin, transit and destination, as well as civil society, including migrants, with a view to addressing, in a comprehensive manner, inter alia, its causes and consequences and the challenge of undocumented or irregular migration, granting priority to the protection of the human rights of migrants;

(b) Encourages States to promote the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>16</sup> including its target 10.7 on the facilitation of orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies;

(c) Also encourages States to take the measures necessary to achieve policy coherence on migration at the national, regional and international levels, including by ensuring coordinated child protection policies and systems across borders that are in full compliance with international human rights law;

(d) Further encourages States to cooperate effectively in protecting witnesses in cases of smuggling of migrants, regardless of their migration status;

(e) Encourages States to cooperate effectively in protecting witnesses and victims in cases of trafficking in persons, regardless of their migration status;

(f) Calls upon the United Nations system and other relevant international organizations and multilateral institutions to enhance their cooperation in the development of methodologies for the collection and processing of statistical data on international migration and the situation of migrants in countries of origin, transit and destination and to assist Member States in their capacity-building efforts in this regard;

(g) Encourages States to include, as appropriate, information on the implementation of their international obligations related to the human rights of migrants in their national reports to the universal periodic review mechanism of the Human Rights Council;

10. *Welcomes* the consideration afforded to the issues of migration, development and human rights in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

11. *Encourages* States, relevant international organizations, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, and the private sector to continue and to enhance their dialogue in relevant international meetings with a view to strengthening and making more inclusive public policies aimed at promoting and respecting human rights, including those of migrants;

12. *Requests* Governments and international organizations to take appropriate measures to give due consideration to the declaration of the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development held on 3 and 4 October 2013;<sup>23</sup>

13. *Recognizes* the importance of the contribution of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Chair of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the human rights of migrants, as well as other key actors, to the discussion on international migration;

14. *Invites* the Chair of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families to present an oral report on the work of the Committee and to engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its seventy-first session, under the item entitled “Promotion and protection of human rights”, as a way to enhance communication between the Assembly and the Committee;

15. *Invites* the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants to submit his report to the General Assembly and to engage in an interactive dialogue at its seventy-first session, under the item entitled “Promotion and protection of human rights”;

16. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the promotion and protection of human rights, including ways and means to promote the human rights of migrants,<sup>24</sup> and notes the recommendations on migrant domestic workers contained therein;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly and Human Rights Council at their seventy-first and thirty-third sessions, respectively, a comprehensive report entitled “Human rights of migrants”, covering all aspects of the implementation of the present resolution;

18. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

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<sup>23</sup> Resolution 68/4.

<sup>24</sup> A/70/259.

## **Draft resolution II**

### **Protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Reaffirming also* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>1</sup>

*Reaffirming further* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,<sup>2</sup>

*Reaffirming* the fundamental importance, including in response to terrorism and the fear of terrorism, of respecting all human rights and fundamental freedoms and the rule of law,

*Reaffirming also* that States are under the obligation to protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons,

*Reaffirming further* that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

*Reiterating* the important contribution of measures taken at all levels against terrorism, consistent with international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law, to the functioning of democratic institutions and the maintenance of peace and security and thereby to the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as the need to continue this fight, including by strengthening international cooperation and the role of the United Nations in this respect,

*Reaffirming its unequivocal condemnation* of all acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, wherever and by whomsoever committed, regardless of their motivation, as criminal and unjustifiable, and renewing its commitment to strengthen international cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism,

*Deeply deploring* the occurrence of violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the context of the fight against terrorism, as well as violations of international refugee and humanitarian law,

*Noting with concern* measures that can undermine human rights and the rule of law, such as the detention of persons suspected of acts of terrorism in the absence of a legal basis for detention and due process guarantees, the deprivation of liberty that amounts to placing a detained person outside the protection of the law, the trial of suspects without fundamental judicial guarantees, the illegal deprivation of liberty and transfer of individuals suspected of terrorist activities, the return of suspects to countries without individual assessment of the risk of there being substantial grounds for believing that they would be in danger of subjection to torture and limitations to effective scrutiny of counter-terrorism measures,

*Expressing its concern* at the increasing use, in a globalized society, by terrorists and their supporters, of information and communications technologies, in particular the Internet and other media, and the use of such technologies to commit,

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<sup>1</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>2</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

incite, recruit for, fund or plan terrorist acts, notes the importance of cooperation among stakeholders in the implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,<sup>3</sup> including among Member States, international, regional and subregional organizations, the private sector and civil society, to address this issue, while respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms and complying with international law and the purposes and principles of the Charter, and reiterates that such technologies can be powerful tools in countering the spread of terrorism, including by promoting tolerance, dialogue among peoples and peace,

*Stressing* that all measures used in the fight against terrorism, including the profiling of individuals and the use of diplomatic assurances, memorandums of understanding and other transfer agreements or arrangements, must be in compliance with the obligations of States under international law, including international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

*Stressing also* that a criminal justice system based on respect for human rights and the rule of law, including due process and fair trial guarantees, is one of the best means for effectively countering terrorism and ensuring accountability,

*Recalling* article 30 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and reaffirming that acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations are activities aimed at the destruction of human rights, fundamental freedoms and democracy, threatening the territorial integrity and security of States and destabilizing legitimately constituted Governments, and that the international community should take the steps necessary to enhance cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism,<sup>4</sup>

*Alarmed* by the increasing number of terrorist acts targeting ethnic, religious and cultural groups, and seriously concerned at all attacks upon religious places, sites and shrines, including any deliberate destruction of relics and monuments,

*Recognizing* that respect for all human rights, respect for democracy and respect for the rule of law are interrelated and mutually reinforcing,

*Emphasizing* the importance of properly interpreting and implementing the obligations of States with respect to torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and of abiding strictly by the definition of torture contained in article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment<sup>5</sup> in the fight against terrorism,

*Recalling* its resolution 68/178 of 18 December 2013, Human Rights Council resolutions 25/7 of 27 March 2014<sup>6</sup> and 29/9 of 2 July 2015,<sup>7</sup> as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions, as stated in the preamble to General Assembly resolution 65/221 of 21 December 2012, and welcoming the efforts of all relevant stakeholders to implement those resolutions,

*Recalling also* its resolution 60/288 of 8 September 2006, by which it adopted the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and its resolution 68/276 of

<sup>3</sup> Resolution 60/288.

<sup>4</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III, sect. I, para. 17.

<sup>5</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1465, No. 24841.

<sup>6</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/69/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, *Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/70/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

24 June 2014 on the review of the Strategy, reaffirming that the promotion and protection of human rights for all and the rule of law are essential to the fight against terrorism, recognizing that effective counter-terrorism measures and the protection of human rights are not conflicting goals but are complementary and mutually reinforcing, and stressing the need to promote and protect the rights of victims of terrorism,

*Recalling further* Human Rights Council resolution 22/8 of 21 March 2013,<sup>8</sup> by which the Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism,

*Recalling* its resolution 64/115 of 16 December 2009 and the annex thereto, entitled “Introduction and implementation of sanctions imposed by the United Nations”, in particular the provisions of the annex regarding listing and delisting procedures,

1. *Reaffirms* that States must ensure that any measure taken to combat terrorism complies with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law;

2. *Deeply deplores* the suffering caused by terrorism to the victims and their families, expresses its profound solidarity with them, and stresses the importance of providing them with assistance and other appropriate measures to protect, respect and promote their human rights;

3. *Expresses serious concern* at the occurrence of violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as of international refugee and humanitarian law, committed in the context of countering terrorism;

4. *Reaffirms* that all counter-terrorism measures should be implemented in accordance with obligations under international law, including international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law, thereby taking into full consideration the human rights of all, including persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, and that such measures in this regard must not be discriminatory on grounds such as race, colour, sex, language, religion or social origin;

5. *Also reaffirms* the obligation of States, in accordance with article 4 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>9</sup> to respect certain rights as non-derogable under any circumstances, recalls, in regard to all other Covenant rights, that any measures derogating from the provisions of the Covenant must be in accordance with that article in all cases, underlines the exceptional and temporary nature of any such derogations,<sup>10</sup> and in this regard calls upon States to raise awareness about the importance of these obligations among national authorities involved in combating terrorism;

6. *Urges* States, while countering terrorism:

(a) To fully comply with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law, with regard to

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/68/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>9</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>10</sup> See, for example, general comment No. 29 on states of emergency adopted by the Human Rights Committee on 24 July 2001 (CCPR/C/21/Rev.1/Add.11).

the absolute prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;

(b) To take all steps necessary to ensure that persons deprived of liberty, regardless of the place of arrest or detention, benefit from the guarantees to which they are entitled under international law, including the review of the detention and other fundamental judicial guarantees;

(c) To ensure that no form of deprivation of liberty places a detained person outside the protection of the law, and to respect the safeguards concerning the liberty, security and dignity of the person, in accordance with international law, including international human rights and humanitarian law;

(d) To take all steps necessary to ensure the right of anyone arrested or detained on a criminal charge to be brought promptly before a judge or other officer authorized by law to exercise judicial power and the entitlement to trial within a reasonable time or release;

(e) To treat all prisoners in all places of detention in accordance with international law, including international human rights and humanitarian law;

(f) To respect the right of persons to equality before the law, courts and tribunals and to a fair trial as provided for in international law, including international human rights law, such as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and international humanitarian and refugee law;

(g) To safeguard the work of civil society by ensuring that counter-terrorism laws and measures are consistent with and are applied in a manner that fully respects human rights, particularly the rights of freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association;

(h) To safeguard the right to privacy in accordance with international law, in particular international human rights law,<sup>11</sup> and to take measures to ensure that interferences with or restrictions on that right are not arbitrary, are adequately regulated by law and are subject to effective oversight and appropriate redress, including through judicial review or other means;

(i) To review their procedures, practices and legislation regarding the surveillance and interception of communications and the collection of personal data, including mass surveillance, interception and collection, with a view to upholding the right to privacy by ensuring the full and effective implementation of all their obligations under international human rights law, and to take measures to ensure that interference with the right to privacy is regulated by law, which must be publicly accessible, clear, precise, comprehensive and non-discriminatory, and that such interference is not arbitrary or unlawful, bearing in mind what is reasonable for the pursuance of legitimate aims;

(j) To protect all human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights, bearing in mind that certain counter-terrorism measures may have an impact on the enjoyment of these rights;

(k) To ensure that guidelines and practices in all border control operations and other pre-entry mechanisms are clear and fully respect their obligations under

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<sup>11</sup> See A/HRC/13/37 and Add.1 and 2.

international law, particularly international refugee and human rights law, towards persons seeking international protection;

(l) To fully respect non-refoulement obligations under international refugee and human rights law and, at the same time, to review, with full respect for these obligations and other legal safeguards, the validity of a refugee status decision in an individual case if credible and relevant evidence comes to light that indicates that the person in question has committed any criminal acts, including terrorist acts, falling under the exclusion clauses under international refugee law;

(m) To refrain from returning persons, including in cases related to terrorism, to their countries of origin or to a third State whenever such transfer would be contrary to their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, humanitarian and refugee law, including in cases where there are substantial grounds for believing that they would be in danger of subjection to torture, or where their life or freedom would be threatened, in violation of international refugee law, on account of their race, religion, sex, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, bearing in mind obligations that States may have to prosecute individuals not returned, and in that case to adhere to the principle of extradite or prosecute;

(n) Insofar as such an act runs contrary to their obligations under international law, not to expose individuals to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment by way of return to another country;

(o) To ensure that their laws criminalizing acts of terrorism are accessible, formulated with precision, non-discriminatory, non-retroactive and in accordance with international law, including human rights law;

(p) Not to resort to profiling based on stereotypes founded on grounds of discrimination prohibited by international law, including on racial, ethnic and/or religious grounds;

(q) To ensure that the interrogation methods used against terrorism suspects are consistent with their international obligations and are reviewed on a regular basis to prevent the risk of violations of their obligations under international law, including international human rights and refugee and humanitarian law;

(r) To ensure that any person who alleges that his or her human rights or fundamental freedoms have been violated has access to a fair procedure for seeking full, effective and enforceable remedy within a reasonable time and that where such violations have been established, victims receive adequate, effective and prompt reparation, which should include, as appropriate, restitution, compensation, rehabilitation and guarantees of non-recurrence, including where the violation constitutes a crime under international or national law, to ensure accountability for those responsible for such violations;

(s) To ensure due process guarantees, consistent with all relevant provisions of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>12</sup> and their obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Geneva Conventions of 1949<sup>12</sup> and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977,<sup>13</sup> and the 1951 Convention

<sup>12</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

relating to the Status of Refugees<sup>14</sup> and the 1967 Protocol thereto<sup>15</sup> in their respective fields of applicability;

(t) To ensure that gender equality and non-discrimination are taken into account when shaping, reviewing and implementing all counter-terrorism measures, and to promote the full and effective participation of women in those processes;

(u) To ensure that any measures taken or means employed to counter terrorism, including the use of remotely piloted aircraft, comply with their obligations under international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, human rights law and international humanitarian law, in particular the principles of distinction and proportionality;

7. *Also urges* States, while undertaking counter-terrorism activities, to respect their international obligations regarding humanitarian actors and to recognize the key role played by humanitarian organizations in areas where terrorist groups are active;

8. *Further urges* States, while countering terrorism, to take into account relevant United Nations resolutions and decisions on human rights, and encourages them to give due consideration to the recommendations of the special procedures and mechanisms of the Human Rights Council and to the relevant comments and views of United Nations human rights treaty bodies;

9. *Recognizes* the importance of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,<sup>16</sup> the implementation of which will make a significant contribution in support of the rule of law in countering terrorism, including by prohibiting places of secret detention, and encourages all States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention;

10. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to sign, ratify or accede to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,<sup>5</sup> and encourages States to consider ratifying as a matter of priority the Optional Protocol thereto,<sup>17</sup> the implementation of which will make a significant contribution in support of the rule of law in countering terrorism;

11. *Calls upon* the United Nations entities involved in supporting counter-terrorism efforts to continue to facilitate the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as due process and the rule of law, while countering terrorism;

12. *Recognizes* the need to continue to ensure that fair and clear procedures under the United Nations terrorism-related sanctions regime are strengthened in order to enhance their efficiency and transparency, and welcomes and encourages the ongoing efforts of the Security Council in support of these objectives, including by supporting the enhanced role of the Office of the Ombudsperson and continuing to review all the names of individuals and entities in the regime, while emphasizing the importance of these sanctions in countering terrorism;

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<sup>14</sup> Ibid., vol. 189, No. 2545.

<sup>15</sup> Ibid., vol. 606, No. 8791.

<sup>16</sup> Resolution 61/177, annex.

<sup>17</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2375, No. 24841.

13. *Urges* States, while ensuring full compliance with their international obligations, to ensure the rule of law and to include adequate human rights guarantees in their national procedures for the listing of individuals and entities with a view to combating terrorism;

14. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism to continue to make recommendations, in the context of his mandate, with regard to preventing, combating and redressing violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the context of countering terrorism, and to continue to report and engage in interactive dialogues on an annual basis with the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council in accordance with their programmes of work;

15. *Requests* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the performance of his mandated tasks and duties, including by reacting promptly to his urgent appeals and providing the information requested, and to give serious consideration to responding favourably to his requests to visit their countries, as well as to cooperate with other relevant procedures and mechanisms of the Human Rights Council regarding the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism;

16. *Welcomes* the work of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to implement the mandate given to him by the General Assembly in its resolution 60/158 of 16 December 2005, and requests him to continue his efforts in this regard;

17. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism;<sup>18</sup>

18. *Takes note* of the report of the Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism,<sup>19</sup> which refers, inter alia, to the negative impact that counter-terrorism legislation and other measures can have on civil society;

19. *Encourages* States, while countering terrorism, to undertake prompt, independent and impartial fact-finding inquiries whenever there are plausible indications of possible breaches of their obligations under international human rights law, with a view to ensuring accountability;

20. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Special Rapporteur to continue to contribute to the work of the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, including by raising awareness, inter alia, through regular dialogue, about the need to respect human rights and the rule of law while countering terrorism and support the exchange of best practices to promote and protect human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law in all aspects of counter-terrorism, including, as appropriate, those identified by the Special Rapporteur in his report submitted to the Human Rights Council pursuant to Council resolution 15/15;<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>18</sup> A/70/271.

<sup>19</sup> A/70/371.

<sup>20</sup> A/HRC/16/51.

21. *Welcomes* the ongoing dialogue established in the context of the fight against terrorism between the Security Council and its respective bodies, namely, the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, with the relevant bodies for the promotion and protection of human rights, and encourages the Security Council and the Counter-Terrorism Committee to strengthen the links, cooperation and dialogue with relevant human rights bodies, in particular with the Office of the High Commissioner, the Special Rapporteur, other relevant special procedures and mechanisms of the Human Rights Council and relevant treaty bodies, giving due regard to the promotion and protection of human rights and the rule of law in their ongoing work relating to counter-terrorism;

22. *Calls upon* States and other relevant actors, as appropriate, to continue to implement the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,<sup>3</sup> which, inter alia, reaffirms respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the fundamental basis of the fight against terrorism;

23. *Requests* the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force to continue its efforts to ensure that the United Nations can better coordinate and enhance its support to Member States in their efforts to comply with their obligations under international law, including international human rights and refugee and humanitarian law, while countering terrorism, and to encourage the Working Groups of the Task Force to incorporate a human rights perspective into their work;

24. *Encourages* relevant United Nations bodies and entities and international, regional and subregional organizations, in particular those participating in the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force, which provide technical assistance, upon request, consistent with their mandates, related to the prevention and suppression of terrorism, to step up their efforts to ensure respect for international human rights and refugee and humanitarian law, as well as the rule of law, as an element of technical assistance, including in the adoption and implementation of legislative and other measures by States;

25. *Urges* relevant United Nations bodies and entities and international, regional and subregional organizations, including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its mandate related to the prevention and suppression of terrorism, to step up their efforts to provide, upon request, technical assistance for building the capacity of Member States in the development and implementation of programmes of assistance and support for victims of terrorism in accordance with relevant national legislation;

26. *Calls upon* international, regional and subregional organizations to strengthen information-sharing, coordination and cooperation in promoting the protection of human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law while countering terrorism;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Human Rights Council and to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

28. *Decides* to continue the consideration of the question at its seventy-second session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

### **Draft resolution III**

## **Promotion of a democratic and equitable international order**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order, including resolution 69/178 of 18 December 2014, and Human Rights Council resolutions 18/6 of 29 September 2011<sup>1</sup> and 25/15 of 27 March 2014,<sup>2</sup>

*Reaffirming* the commitment of all States to fulfil their obligations to promote universal respect for, and observance and protection of, all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, other instruments relating to human rights and international law,

*Affirming* that the enhancement of international cooperation for the promotion and protection of all human rights should continue to be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter and international law as set forth in Articles 1 and 2 of the Charter and with full respect for, inter alia, sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence, the non-use of force or the threat of force in international relations and non-intervention in matters that are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State,

*Recalling* the Preamble to the Charter, in particular the determination to reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,

*Reaffirming* that everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>3</sup> can be fully realized,

*Reaffirming also* the determination expressed in the Preamble to the Charter to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, to establish conditions under which justice and respect for the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained, to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, to practise tolerance and good-neighbourliness and to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

*Stressing* that the responsibility for managing worldwide economic and social issues, as well as threats to international peace and security, must be shared among the nations of the world and should be exercised multilaterally, and that in this regard the central role must be played by the United Nations, as the most universal and representative organization in the world,

*Concerned* about the continued abuse by Member States of the extraterritorial application of their national legislation in a manner that affects the sovereignty of other States, the legitimate interests of entities or persons under their jurisdiction and the full enjoyment of human rights,

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<sup>1</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. II.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/69/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>3</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

*Considering* the major changes taking place on the international scene and the aspirations of all peoples for an international order based on the principles enshrined in the Charter, including promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, peace, democracy, justice, equality, the rule of law, pluralism, development, better standards of living and solidarity,

*Recognizing* that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations, including the effective promotion and protection of all human rights,

*Considering* that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaims that all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights and that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set out therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

*Reaffirming* that democracy, development and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing and that democracy is based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives,

*Recognizing* that the promotion and protection of human rights should be based on the principle of cooperation and genuine dialogue and aimed at strengthening the capacity of Member States to comply with their human rights obligations for the benefit of all human beings,

*Emphasizing* that democracy is not only a political concept, but that it also has economic and social dimensions,

*Recognizing* that democracy, respect for all human rights, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society and effective participation by civil society are an essential part of the necessary foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development,

*Noting with concern* that racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance may be aggravated by, inter alia, inequitable distribution of wealth, marginalization and social exclusion,

*Reaffirming* that dialogue among religions, cultures and civilizations could contribute greatly to the enhancement of international cooperation at all levels,

*Underlining* the fact that it is imperative for the international community to ensure that globalization becomes a positive force for all the world's people and that only through broad and sustained efforts, based on our common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable,

*Deeply concerned* that the current global economic, financial, energy and food crises, resulting from a combination of several major factors, including macroeconomic and other factors, such as environmental degradation, desertification and global climate change, natural disasters and the lack of financial resources and the technology necessary to confront their negative impact in developing countries, particularly in the least developed countries and small island

developing States, represent a global scenario that is threatening the adequate enjoyment of all human rights and widening the gap between developed and developing countries,

*Stressing* that efforts to make globalization fully inclusive and equitable must include policies and measures at the global level that correspond to the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition and are formulated and implemented with their effective participation,

*Stressing also* the need for adequate financing of, technology transfer to and capacity-building in developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, including to support their efforts to adapt to climate change,

*Having listened* to the peoples of the world, and recognizing their aspirations to justice, to equality of opportunity for all, to the enjoyment of their human rights, including the right to development, to live in peace and freedom and to equal participation without discrimination in economic, social, cultural, civil and political life,

*Recalling* Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 on institution-building of the Council and 5/2 on the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate Holders of the Council of 18 June 2007,<sup>4</sup> and stressing that all mandate holders shall discharge their duties in accordance with those resolutions and the annexes thereto,

*Emphasizing* the importance of a global and inclusive post-2015 development agenda for the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order,

*Resolved* to take all measures within its power to secure a democratic and equitable international order,

1. *Affirms* that everyone is entitled to a democratic and equitable international order;

2. *Also affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order fosters the full realization of all human rights for all;

3. *Takes note* of the report of the Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order,<sup>5</sup> and notes in this regard its focus on the adverse human rights impact of international investment agreements, bilateral investment treaties and multilateral free trade agreements on the international order;

4. *Calls upon* all Member States to fulfil their commitment expressed in Durban, South Africa, during the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to maximize the benefits of globalization through, inter alia, the strengthening and enhancement of international cooperation to increase equality of opportunities for trade, economic growth and sustainable development, global communications through the use of new technologies and increased intercultural exchange through the preservation and promotion of cultural diversity,<sup>6</sup> and reiterates that only through broad and sustained

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<sup>4</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/62/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>5</sup> A/70/285.

<sup>6</sup> See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

efforts to create a shared future based upon our common humanity and all its diversity can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable;

5. *Declares* that democracy includes respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms and is a universal value based on the freely expressed will of people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives, and reaffirms the need for universal adherence to and implementation of the rule of law at both the national and international levels;

6. *Affirms* that a democratic and equitable international order requires, inter alia, the realization of the following:

(a) The right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they can freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

(b) The right of peoples and nations to permanent sovereignty over their natural wealth and resources;

(c) The right of every human person and all peoples to development;

(d) The right of all peoples to peace;

(e) The right to an international economic order based on equal participation in the decision-making process, interdependence, mutual interest, solidarity and cooperation among all States;

(f) International solidarity, as a right of peoples and individuals;

(g) The promotion and consolidation of transparent, democratic, just and accountable international institutions in all areas of cooperation, in particular through the implementation of the principle of full and equal participation in their respective decision-making mechanisms;

(h) The right to equitable participation of all, without any discrimination, in domestic and global decision-making;

(i) The principle of equitable regional and gender-balanced representation in the composition of the staff of the United Nations system;

(j) The promotion of a free, just, effective and balanced international information and communications order based on international cooperation for the establishment of a new equilibrium and greater reciprocity in the international flow of information, in particular correcting the inequalities in the flow of information to and from developing countries;

(k) Respect for cultural diversity and the cultural rights of all, since this enhances cultural pluralism, contributes to a wider exchange of knowledge and understanding of cultural backgrounds, advances the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights across the world and fosters stable, friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;

(l) The right of every person and all peoples to a healthy environment and to enhanced international cooperation that responds effectively to the needs for assistance of national efforts to adapt to climate change, particularly in developing

countries, and that promotes the fulfilment of international agreements in the field of mitigation;

(m) The promotion of equitable access to benefits from the international distribution of wealth through enhanced international cooperation, in particular in international economic, commercial and financial relations;

(n) The enjoyment by everyone of ownership of the common heritage of mankind in connection to the public right of access to culture;

(o) The shared responsibility of the nations of the world for managing worldwide economic and social development, as well as threats to international peace and security, which should be exercised multilaterally;

7. *Stresses* the importance of preserving the rich and diverse nature of the international community of nations and peoples, as well as respect for national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds, in the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights;

8. *Also stresses* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and reaffirms that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all;

9. *Reaffirms*, among other principles, the sovereign equality of States, non-intervention and non-interference in internal affairs;

10. *Urges* all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, social justice, equality and equity, human dignity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect for cultural diversity and universal human rights and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

11. *Reaffirms* that all States should promote the establishment, maintenance and strengthening of international peace and security and, to that end, should do their utmost to achieve general and complete disarmament under effective international control, as well as to ensure that the resources released by effective disarmament measures are used for comprehensive development, in particular that of the developing countries;

12. *Underlines* that attempts to overthrow legitimate governments by force disrupt the democratic and constitutional order, the legitimate exercise of power and the full enjoyment of human rights;

13. *Reaffirms* the need to continue working urgently for the establishment of a new international economic order based on equity, sovereign equality, interdependence, common interest and cooperation among all States, irrespective of their economic and social systems, which shall correct inequalities and redress existing injustices, make it possible to eliminate the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries and ensure steadily accelerating economic and social development and peace and justice for present and future generations, in

accordance with relevant previous General Assembly resolutions, programmes of action and major conferences and summits in the economic, social and related areas;

14. *Also reaffirms* that the international community should devise ways and means to remove the current obstacles and meet the challenges to the full realization of all human rights and to prevent the continuation of human rights violations resulting therefrom throughout the world;

15. *Urges* States to continue their efforts, through enhanced international cooperation, towards the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide all the human and financial resources necessary for the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Independent Expert;

17. *Calls upon* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Independent Expert in his task, to supply all necessary information requested by him and to consider responding favourably to the requests of the Independent Expert to visit their countries to enable him to fulfil his mandate more effectively;

18. *Requests* the Human Rights Council, the human rights treaty bodies, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the special mechanisms extended by the Council and the Human Rights Council Advisory Committee to pay due attention, within their respective mandates, to the present resolution and to make contributions towards its implementation;

19. *Calls upon* the Office of the High Commissioner to build upon the issue of the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, United Nations organs, bodies and components, intergovernmental organizations, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, and non-governmental organizations and to disseminate it on the widest possible basis;

21. *Requests* the Independent Expert to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session an interim report on the implementation of the present resolution and to continue his work;

22. *Decides* to continue consideration of the matter at its seventy-first session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

**Draft resolution IV**  
**Strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights**  
**through the promotion of international cooperation and the**  
**importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity**

*The General Assembly,*

*Bearing in mind* that among the purposes of the United Nations are those of developing friendly relations among nations based on respect for the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples and taking other appropriate measures to strengthen universal peace, as well as achieving international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion,

*Desirous* of achieving further progress in international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Considering* that such international cooperation should be based on the principles embodied in international law, especially the Charter of the United Nations, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>1</sup> the International Covenants on Human Rights<sup>2</sup> and other relevant instruments,

*Deeply convinced* that United Nations action in the field of human rights should be based not only on a profound understanding of the broad range of problems existing in all societies but also on full respect for the political, economic and social realities of each of them, in strict compliance with the purposes and principles of the Charter and for the basic purpose of promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through international cooperation,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions in this regard,

*Reaffirming* the importance of ensuring the universality, objectivity and non-selectivity of the consideration of human rights issues, as affirmed in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,<sup>3</sup> and the elimination of double standards,

*Reaffirming also* the importance of the objectivity, independence, impartiality and discretion of the special rapporteurs and representatives on thematic issues and on countries, as well as of the members of the working groups, in carrying out their mandates,

*Underlining* the obligation that Governments have to promote and protect human rights and to carry out the responsibilities that they have undertaken under international law, especially the Charter, as well as various international instruments in the field of human rights,

1. *Reiterates* that, by virtue of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, all peoples

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<sup>1</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>2</sup> Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>3</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

have the right freely to determine, without external interference, their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and that every State has the duty to respect that right within the provisions of the Charter, including respect for territorial integrity;

2. *Reaffirms* that it is a purpose of the United Nations and the task of all Member States, in cooperation with the Organization, to promote and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and to remain vigilant with regard to violations of human rights wherever they occur;

3. *Calls upon* all Member States to base their activities for the promotion and protection of human rights, including the development of further international cooperation in this field, on the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>1</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>2</sup> the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>2</sup> and other relevant international instruments, and to refrain from activities that are inconsistent with that international framework;

4. *Considers* that international cooperation in this field should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing mass and flagrant violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all and to the strengthening of international peace and security;

5. *Reaffirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, as a legitimate concern of the world community, should be guided by the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity and should not be used for political ends;

6. *Requests* all human rights bodies within the United Nations system, as well as the special rapporteurs and representatives, independent experts and working groups, to take duly into account the contents of the present resolution in carrying out their mandates;

7. *Expresses its conviction* that an unbiased and fair approach to human rights issues contributes to the promotion of international cooperation as well as to the effective promotion, protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

8. *Stresses* the continuing need for impartial and objective information on the political, economic and social situations and events of all countries, and in this context highlights the role of the media in raising public awareness on issues of public interest;

9. *Invites* Member States to consider adopting, as appropriate, within the framework of their respective legal systems and in accordance with their obligations under international law, especially the Charter, and international human rights instruments, the measures that they may deem appropriate to achieve further progress in international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

10. *Requests* the Human Rights Council to continue taking duly into account the present resolution and to consider further proposals for the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of the principles of non-selectivity,

impartiality and objectivity, including in the context of the universal periodic review;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to invite Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to present further practical proposals and ideas that would contribute to the strengthening of United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation based on the principles of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity, and to submit a comprehensive report on the question to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

12. *Decides* to consider the matter at its seventy-second session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

## **Draft resolution V**

### **Human rights and unilateral coercive measures**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* all its previous resolutions on this subject, the most recent of which was resolution 69/180 of 18 December 2014, and Human Rights Council decision 18/120 of 30 September 2011<sup>1</sup> and resolutions 24/14 of 27 September 2013<sup>2</sup> and 27/21 of 26 September 2014,<sup>3</sup> as well as previous resolutions of the Council and the Commission on Human Rights,

*Reaffirming* the pertinent principles and provisions contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX) of 12 December 1974, in particular article 32 thereof, in which it declared that no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/180,<sup>4</sup> and recalling the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Assembly resolutions 52/120 of 12 December 1997<sup>5</sup> and 55/110 of 4 December 2000,<sup>6</sup>

*Stressing* that unilateral coercive measures and legislation are contrary to international law, international humanitarian law, the Charter of the United Nations and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among States,

*Recognizing* the universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated character of all human rights, and in this regard reaffirming the right to development as an integral part of all human rights,

*Recalling* the Final Document of the Sixteenth Ministerial Conference and Commemorative Meeting of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 23 to 27 May 2011,<sup>7</sup> the Final Document of the Sixteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran from 26 to 31 August 2012,<sup>8</sup> and the documents adopted at previous summits and conferences, in which States members of the Movement agreed to oppose and condemn those measures or laws and their continued application, persevere with efforts to effectively reverse them, urge other States to do likewise, as called for by the General Assembly and other organs of the United Nations, and request States applying those measures or laws to revoke them fully and immediately,

*Recalling also* that, at the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna from 14 to 25 June 1993, States were called upon to refrain from any unilateral

<sup>1</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. III.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/68/53/Add.1), chap. III.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/69/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>4</sup> A/70/345.

<sup>5</sup> A/53/293 and Add.1.

<sup>6</sup> A/56/207 and Add.1.

<sup>7</sup> A/65/896-S/2011/407, annex I.

<sup>8</sup> A/67/506-S/2012/752, annex I.

measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter that creates obstacles to trade relations among States and impedes the full realization of all human rights<sup>9</sup> and also severely threatens the freedom of trade,

*Bearing in mind* all the references to this question in the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development, adopted by the World Summit for Social Development on 12 March 1995,<sup>10</sup> the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women on 15 September 1995,<sup>11</sup> the Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements and the Habitat Agenda, adopted by the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) on 14 June 1996<sup>12</sup> and their five-year reviews, and in the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda,<sup>13</sup>

*Expressing concern* about the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on international relations, trade, investment and cooperation,

*Expressing grave concern* that, in some countries, the situation of children is adversely affected by unilateral coercive measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that create obstacles to trade relations among States, impede the full realization of social and economic development and hinder the well-being of the population in the affected countries, with particular consequences for women, children, including adolescents, the elderly and persons with disabilities,

*Deeply concerned* that, despite the recommendations adopted on this question by the General Assembly, the Human Rights Council, the Commission on Human Rights and recent major United Nations conferences, and contrary to general international law and the Charter, unilateral coercive measures continue to be promulgated and implemented, with all their negative implications for the social-humanitarian activities and economic and social development of developing countries, including their extraterritorial effects, thereby creating additional obstacles to the full enjoyment of all human rights by peoples and individuals under the jurisdiction of other States,

*Bearing in mind* all the extraterritorial effects of any unilateral legislative, administrative and economic measures, policies and practices of a coercive nature against the development process and the enhancement of human rights in developing countries, which create obstacles to the full realization of all human rights,

*Reaffirming* that unilateral coercive measures are a major obstacle to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,<sup>14</sup>

<sup>9</sup> See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

<sup>10</sup> *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>11</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>12</sup> *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

<sup>13</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>14</sup> Resolution 41/128, annex.

*Recalling* article 1, paragraph 2, common to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>15</sup> and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>15</sup> which provides, inter alia, that in no case may a people be deprived of its own means of subsistence,

*Noting* the continuing efforts of the open-ended Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council, and reaffirming in particular its criteria, according to which unilateral coercive measures are one of the obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,

1. *Urges* all States to cease adopting or implementing any unilateral measures not in accordance with international law, international humanitarian law, the Charter of the United Nations and the norms and principles governing peaceful relations among States, in particular those of a coercive nature, with all their extraterritorial effects, which create obstacles to trade relations among States, thus impeding the full realization of the rights set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>16</sup> and other international human rights instruments, in particular the right of individuals and peoples to development;

2. *Strongly urges* States to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;

3. *Condemns* the inclusion of Member States in unilateral lists under false pretexts, which are contrary to international law and the Charter, including false allegations of terrorism sponsorship, considering such lists as instruments for political or economic pressure against Member States, particularly developing countries;

4. *Urges* all States not to adopt any unilateral measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that impede the full achievement of economic and social development by the population of the affected countries, in particular children and women, that hinder their well-being and that create obstacles to the full enjoyment of their human rights, including the right of everyone to a standard of living adequate for his or her health and well-being and his or her right to food, medical care and education and the necessary social services, as well as to ensure that food and medicine are not used as tools for political pressure;

5. *Strongly objects* to the extraterritorial nature of those measures which, in addition, threaten the sovereignty of States, and in this context calls upon all Member States neither to recognize those measures nor to apply them, as well as to take administrative or legislative measures, as appropriate, to counteract the extraterritorial applications or effects of unilateral coercive measures;

6. *Condemns* the continuing unilateral application and enforcement by certain Powers of unilateral coercive measures, and rejects those measures, with all their extraterritorial effects, as being tools for political or economic pressure against any country, in particular against developing countries, adopted with a view to preventing those countries from exercising their right to decide, of their own free will, their own political, economic and social systems, and because of the negative

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<sup>15</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>16</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

effects of those measures on the realization of all the human rights of vast sectors of their populations, in particular children, women, the elderly and persons with disabilities;

7. *Expresses grave concern* that, in some countries, the situation of children is adversely affected by unilateral coercive measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter that create obstacles to trade relations among States, impede the full realization of social and economic development and hinder the well-being of the population in the affected countries, with particular consequences for women, children, including adolescents, the elderly and persons with disabilities;

8. *Reaffirms* that essential goods such as food and medicines should not be used as tools for political coercion and that under no circumstances should people be deprived of their own means of subsistence and development;

9. *Calls upon* Member States that have initiated such measures to abide by the principles of international law, the Charter, the declarations of the United Nations and world conferences and relevant resolutions and to commit themselves to their obligations and responsibilities arising from the international human rights instruments to which they are parties by revoking such measures at the earliest possible time;

10. *Reaffirms*, in this context, the right of all peoples to self-determination, by virtue of which they freely determine their political status and freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development;

11. *Recalls* that, according to the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, contained in the annex to General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, and the relevant principles and provisions contained in the Charter of Economic Rights and Duties of States, proclaimed by the Assembly in its resolution 3281 (XXIX), in particular article 32 thereof, no State may use or encourage the use of economic, political or any other type of measures to coerce another State in order to obtain from it the subordination of the exercise of its sovereign rights and to secure from it advantages of any kind;

12. *Rejects* all attempts to introduce unilateral coercive measures, and urges the Human Rights Council to take fully into account the negative impact of those measures, including through the enactment and extraterritorial application of national laws that are not in conformity with international law, in its task concerning the implementation of the right to development;

13. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in discharging his functions relating to the promotion, realization and protection of the right to development and bearing in mind the continuing impact of unilateral coercive measures on the population of developing countries, to give priority to the present resolution in his annual report to the General Assembly;

14. *Underlines* the fact that unilateral coercive measures are one of the major obstacles to the implementation of the Declaration on the Right to Development,<sup>14</sup> and in this regard calls upon all States to avoid the unilateral imposition of economic coercive measures and the extraterritorial application of national laws that run counter to the principles of free trade and hamper the development of

developing countries, as recognized by the Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council;

15. *Recognizes* that, in the Declaration of Principles adopted at the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December 2003,<sup>17</sup> States were strongly urged to avoid and refrain from any unilateral measure not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations in building the information society;

16. *Reaffirms* paragraph 30 of the outcome document of the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda,<sup>13</sup> in which States are strongly urged to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries;

17. *Recalls* the decision of the Human Rights Council, in its resolution 27/21,<sup>4</sup> to appoint a Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights, and welcomes the work done in delivering his mandate during the first year;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to provide all the human and financial resources necessary for the effective fulfilment of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur, and also requests them, in discharging their functions in relation to the promotion and protection of human rights, to pay due attention and to give urgent consideration to the present resolution;

19. *Recalls* that the Human Rights Council took note of the research-based progress report of its Advisory Committee containing recommendations on mechanisms to assess the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights and to promote accountability;<sup>18</sup>

20. *Also recalls* the convening in the Human Rights Council of the first biennial panel discussion on the issue of unilateral coercive measures and human rights, and recognizes the importance of the future review by the Council of the report on the panel discussion to be issued by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, which should take into account the practical means and mechanisms proposed during the discussion, including, in particular, with regard to the issues of remedies and redress, with a view to promoting accountability and reparation;

21. *Welcomes* the increased attention paid by the Human Rights Council and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to the negative impact of the application of unilateral coercive measures, and invites the Council to continue to explore ways to address this issue;

22. *Reiterates its support* for the invitation of the Human Rights Council to all special rapporteurs and existing thematic mechanisms of the Council in the field of economic, social and cultural rights to pay due attention, within the scope of their respective mandates, to the negative impact and consequences of unilateral coercive measures;

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<sup>17</sup> A/C.2/59/3, annex, chap. I, sect. A.

<sup>18</sup> A/HRC/28/74.

23. *Reaffirms* the request of the Human Rights Council that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights organize a workshop on the impact of the application of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights by the affected populations, in particular their socioeconomic impact on women and children, in the States targeted;

24. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session an interim report on the implementation of the present resolution and on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the full enjoyment of human rights, and reiterates its request that he focus the report on the negative impact of unilateral coercive measures on the enjoyment of human rights of victims and address in the report the issues of remedies and redress with a view to promoting accountability and reparation;

25. *Invites* Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the fulfilment of his or her mandate through, inter alia, the submission of comments and suggestions on the implications and negative effects of unilateral coercive measures on the full enjoyment of human rights;

26. *Decides* to examine the question on a priority basis at its seventy-first session, under the sub-item entitled “Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms” of the item entitled “Promotion and protection of human rights”.

**Draft resolution VI**  
**Promotion of equitable geographical distribution in the**  
**membership of the human rights treaty bodies**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on this question,

*Reaffirming* the importance of the goal of universal ratification of the United Nations human rights instruments,

*Welcoming* the significant increase in the number of ratifications of United Nations human rights instruments and the movement of some treaties towards universal ratification,

*Reiterating* the importance of the effective functioning of the treaty bodies established pursuant to United Nations human rights instruments for the full and effective implementation of those instruments,

*Recognizing* that the equitable geographical distribution of membership is an essential requirement for the effective functioning of the treaty bodies,

*Recalling* that, with regard to the election of the members of the human rights treaty bodies, the General Assembly and the former Commission on Human Rights recognized the importance of giving consideration in their membership to equitable geographical distribution, gender balance and representation of the principal legal systems and of bearing in mind that the members shall be elected and shall serve in their personal capacity, and shall be of high moral character, acknowledged impartiality and recognized competence in the field of human rights,

*Reaffirming* the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds, as well as of different political, economic and legal systems,

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>1</sup>

*Recognizing* that the United Nations pursues multilingualism as a means of promoting, protecting and preserving diversity of languages and cultures globally and that genuine multilingualism promotes unity in diversity and international understanding,

*Recalling* that the General Assembly and the former Commission on Human Rights encouraged States parties to United Nations human rights treaties, individually and through meetings of States parties, to consider how to give better effect, inter alia, to the principle of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of treaty bodies,

*Expressing its deep concern* at the regional imbalance in the current composition of the membership of the human rights treaty bodies in favour in particular of representatives of members from Western European and other States, as indicated and highlighted in the report of the Secretary-General,

*Reaffirming* the importance of increasing efforts to address that imbalance,

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<sup>1</sup> A/70/257.

*Convinced* that the goal of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of human rights treaty bodies is perfectly compatible and can be fully realized and achieved in harmony with the need to achieve gender balance and the representation of the principal legal systems in those bodies and the high moral character, acknowledged impartiality and recognized competence in the field of human rights of their members,

1. *Reiterates* that the States parties to the United Nations human rights instruments should take into account, in their nomination of members to the human rights treaty bodies, that these committees shall be composed of persons of high moral character and recognized competence in the field of human rights, consideration being given to the usefulness of the participation of persons having legal experience and to equal representation of women and men, and that members shall serve in their personal capacity, and also reiterates that, in the elections to the human rights treaty bodies, strong consideration shall be given to equitable geographical distribution of membership and to the representation of the different forms of civilization and of the principal legal systems;

2. *Urges* the States parties to the United Nations human rights instruments, including the bureau members, to include this matter in the agenda of each meeting and/or conference of States parties to those instruments in order to initiate a debate on ways and means to ensure equitable geographical distribution in the membership of the human rights treaty bodies, based on previous recommendations of the former Commission on Human Rights and the Economic and Social Council and the provisions of the present resolution;

3. *Encourages* the States parties to the United Nations human rights instruments to consider and adopt concrete actions, inter alia, the possible establishment of quotas by geographical region for membership of the treaty bodies, thereby ensuring the paramount objective of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of those human rights bodies;

4. *Recommends*, when considering the possible allocation of seats on each treaty body on a regional basis, the introduction of flexible procedures that encompass the following criteria:

(a) Each of the five regional groups established by the General Assembly is allocated seats on each treaty body in equivalent proportion to the number of States parties to the instrument in that group;

(b) There must be provision for periodic revisions of the allocation of seats in order to reflect relative changes in the level of treaty ratification in each regional group;

(c) Automatic periodic revisions should be envisaged in order to avoid amending the text of the instrument when the quotas are revised;

5. *Stresses* that the process needed to achieve the goal of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of human rights treaty bodies can contribute to raising awareness of the importance of gender balance, the representation of the principal legal systems and the principle that the members of the treaty bodies shall be elected and shall serve in their personal capacity, and shall be of high moral character, acknowledged impartiality and recognized competence in the field of human rights;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a comprehensive updated report in this regard, including information on any steps taken by States parties at meetings or conferences of States parties to address the matter of equitable geographical distribution in the membership of the human rights treaty bodies, as well as concrete recommendations on the implementation of the present resolution;

7. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its seventy-second session under the item entitled “Promotion and protection of human rights”.

## **Draft resolution VII Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming its commitment* to promoting international cooperation, as set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, in particular Article 1, paragraph 3, as well as relevant provisions of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993<sup>1</sup> for enhancing genuine cooperation among Member States in the field of human rights,

*Recalling* its adoption of the United Nations Millennium Declaration on 8 September 2000,<sup>2</sup> its resolution 69/179 of 18 December 2014, Human Rights Council resolution 28/2 of 26 March 2015<sup>3</sup> and the resolutions of the Commission on Human Rights on the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,

*Recalling also* the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, the Durban Review Conference, held in Geneva from 20 to 24 April 2009, and the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,<sup>4</sup> and their role in the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights,

*Recognizing* that the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations, including the effective promotion and protection of all human rights,

*Recognizing also* that the promotion and protection of human rights should be based on the principle of cooperation and genuine dialogue and aimed at strengthening the capacity of Member States to comply with their human rights obligations for the benefit of all human beings,

*Stressing* the importance of international cooperation for improving the living conditions of all in every country, including, in particular, in developing countries,

*Reaffirming* that dialogue among religions, cultures and civilizations in the field of human rights could contribute greatly to the enhancement of international cooperation in this field,

*Emphasizing* the need for further progress in the promotion and encouragement of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through, inter alia, international cooperation,

*Underlining* the fact that mutual understanding, dialogue, cooperation, transparency and confidence-building are important elements in all activities for the promotion and protection of human rights,

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<sup>1</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

<sup>2</sup> Resolution 55/2.

<sup>3</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/70/53)*, chap. III, sect. A.

<sup>4</sup> Resolution 66/3.

*Recalling* the adoption of resolution 2000/22 of 18 August 2000, on the promotion of dialogue on human rights issues, by the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights at its fifty-second session,<sup>5</sup>

1. *Reaffirms* that it is one of the purposes of the United Nations and the responsibility of all Member States to promote, protect and encourage respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms through, inter alia, international cooperation;

2. *Recognizes* that, in addition to their separate responsibilities to their individual societies, States have a collective responsibility to uphold the principles of human dignity, equality and equity at the global level;

3. *Reaffirms* that dialogue among cultures and civilizations facilitates the promotion of a culture of tolerance and respect for diversity, and welcomes in this regard the holding of conferences and meetings at the national, regional and international levels on dialogue among civilizations;

4. *Urges* all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, justice, equality and equity, human dignity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect for cultural diversity and universal human rights and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

5. *Reaffirms* the importance of the enhancement of international cooperation for the promotion and protection of human rights and for the achievement of the objectives of the fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

6. *Considers* that international cooperation in the field of human rights, in conformity with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations and international law, should make an effective and practical contribution to the urgent task of preventing violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

7. *Reaffirms* that the promotion, protection and full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms should be guided by the principles of universality, non-selectivity, cooperation and genuine dialogue, objectivity and transparency, in a manner consistent with the purposes and principles set out in the Charter;

8. *Emphasizes* the need for a cooperative approach on the part of all stakeholders to resolving human rights issues in international forums;

9. *Also emphasizes* the role of international cooperation in support of national efforts and in increasing the capacities of Member States in the field of human rights through, inter alia, the enhancement of their cooperation with human rights mechanisms, including through the provision of technical assistance, upon the request of and in accordance with the priorities set by the States concerned;

10. *Calls upon* Member States, the specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations to continue to carry out a constructive dialogue and consultations for the enhancement of understanding and the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and encourages non-governmental organizations to contribute actively to this endeavour;

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<sup>5</sup> See E/CN.4/2001/2-E/CN.4/Sub.2/2000/46, chap. II, sect. A.

11. *Urges* States to take measures necessary to enhance bilateral, regional and international cooperation aimed at addressing the adverse impact of consecutive and compounded global crises, such as financial and economic crises, food crises, climate change and natural disasters, on the full enjoyment of human rights;

12. *Invites* States and relevant United Nations human rights mechanisms and procedures to continue to pay attention to the importance of mutual cooperation, understanding and dialogue in ensuring the promotion and protection of all human rights;

13. *Recalls* the seminar on the enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights held in 2013, with the participation of States, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and other stakeholders, including academic experts and civil society;

14. *Also recalls* the high-level panel discussion on the theme “Enhancement of international cooperation in the field of human rights” held during the twenty-eighth session of the Human Rights Council, in March 2015;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to consult States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations on ways and means, as well as on obstacles and challenges and possible proposals to overcome them, for the enhancement of international cooperation and genuine dialogue in the United Nations human rights machinery, including the Human Rights Council;

16. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its seventy-first session.

## **Draft resolution VIII**

### **The right to food**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the Charter of the United Nations and its importance for the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

*Reaffirming also* all previous resolutions and decisions on the right to food adopted within the framework of the United Nations,

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>1</sup> which provides that everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for her or his health and well-being, including food, the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition,<sup>2</sup> the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>3</sup> in particular Millennium Development Goal 1 on eradicating extreme poverty and hunger by 2015, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>4</sup> in particular the Sustainable Development Goals on ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition and promoting sustainable agriculture and on ending poverty in all its forms everywhere,

*Recalling also* the provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>5</sup> in which the fundamental right of every person to be free from hunger is recognized,

*Bearing in mind* the Rome Declaration on World Food Security, the World Food Summit Plan of Action and the Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later, adopted in Rome on 13 June 2002,<sup>6</sup>

*Reaffirming* the importance of the concrete recommendations contained in the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in November 2004,<sup>7</sup> as well as the Rome Declaration on Nutrition<sup>8</sup> and the Framework for Action,<sup>9</sup> adopted in Rome on 21 November 2014,

*Reaffirming also* the Five Rome Principles for Sustainable Global Food Security contained in the Declaration of the World Summit on Food Security, adopted in Rome on 16 November 2009,<sup>10</sup>

*Reaffirming further* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that they must be treated globally, in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

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<sup>1</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>2</sup> *Report of the World Food Conference, Rome, 5-16 November 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.II.A.3), chap. I.

<sup>3</sup> Resolution 55/2.

<sup>4</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>5</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>6</sup> A/57/499, annex.

<sup>7</sup> E/CN.4/2005/131, annex.

<sup>8</sup> World Health Organization, document EB 136/8, annex I.

<sup>9</sup> World Health Organization, document EB 136/8, annex II.

<sup>10</sup> See Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document WSFS 2009/2.

*Reaffirming* that a peaceful, stable and enabling political, social and economic environment, at both the national and the international levels, is the essential foundation that will enable States to give adequate priority to food and nutrition security and poverty eradication,

*Reiterating*, as set out in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security, the Declaration of the World Food Summit and the Rome Declaration on Nutrition, that food should not be used as an instrument of political or economic pressure, and reaffirming in this regard the importance of international cooperation and solidarity, as well as the necessity of refraining from unilateral measures that are not in accordance with international law and the Charter and that endanger food and nutrition security,

*Convinced* that each State must adopt a strategy consistent with its resources and capacities to achieve its individual goals in implementing the recommendations contained in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security and the World Food Summit Plan of Action as well as in the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action and, at the same time, cooperate regionally and internationally in order to organize collective solutions to global issues of food and nutrition security in a world of increasingly interlinked institutions, societies and economies where coordinated efforts and shared responsibilities are essential,

*Recognizing* the complex character of the global food crisis, in which the right to adequate food has been threatened to be violated on a substantial scale, as a combination of several major factors, such as the global financial and economic crisis, environmental degradation, desertification and the impacts of global climate change, as well as natural disasters and the lack in many countries of the appropriate technology, investment and capacity-building necessary to confront its impact, particularly in developing countries, least developed countries and small island developing States, and the need for coherence and collaboration between international institutions at the global level,

*Resolved* to act to ensure that the human rights perspective is taken into account at the national, regional and international levels in measures to address the impacts of the global food crisis,

*Stressing* that improving access to productive resources and investment in rural development is essential for eradicating hunger and poverty, in particular in developing countries, through, inter alia, the promotion of investments in appropriate small-scale irrigation and water management technologies in order to reduce vulnerability to droughts and tackle water scarcity, as well as in programmes, practices and policies to scale up agroecological approaches,

*Expressing its deep concern* at the number and scale of natural disasters, diseases and pest infestations, as well as the negative impact of climate change, and their increasing impact in recent years, which have resulted in substantial loss of life and livelihood and threatened agricultural production and food and nutrition security, in particular in developing countries,

*Emphasizing* that a multisectoral approach that integrates nutrition across all sectors, including agriculture, health, water and sanitation, social protection and education, as well as a gender perspective, is critical to achieving global food and nutrition security and the realization of the right to food,

*Recalling* the endorsement of the Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security<sup>11</sup> by the Committee on World Food Security at its 38th session, held on 11 May 2012, and by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations at its 144th session,

*Recalling also* the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems,<sup>12</sup> which were endorsed by the Committee on World Food Security at its forty-first session, held in October 2014,

*Stressing* the importance of the Second International Conference on Nutrition, hosted by the World Health Organization and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome from 19 to 21 November 2014, and of its outcome documents, the Rome Declaration on Nutrition and the Framework for Action,

*Stressing also* the need to increase official development assistance devoted to agriculture, both in real terms and as a share of total official development assistance,

*Recognizing* the importance of the protection and preservation of agrobiodiversity in guaranteeing food security and the right to food for all,

*Noting* the cultural values of dietary and eating habits in different cultures and recognizing that food plays an important role in defining the identity of individuals and communities and is a cultural component that describes and gives value to a territory and its inhabitants,

*Recognizing* the role of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as the key United Nations agency for rural and agricultural development and its work in supporting the efforts of Member States to achieve the full realization of the right to food, including through its provision of technical assistance to developing countries in support of the implementation of national priority frameworks,

*Recalling* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”, and recalling the commitment therein to work together to promote sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development and environmental protection and thereby to benefit all, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012,

*Recalling also* the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030<sup>13</sup> and its guiding principles, which, inter alia, recognize the importance of promoting regular disaster preparedness and response and recovery exercises, with a view to ensuring rapid and effective response to disasters and related displacement, including access to essential food and non-food relief supplies, as appropriate to local needs, as well as of fostering collaboration across global and regional mechanisms and institutions for the implementation and coherence of instruments and tools relevant to disaster risk reduction, such as for climate change, biodiversity, sustainable development, poverty eradication, environment, agriculture, health, food and nutrition and others, as appropriate,

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<sup>11</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document CL 144/9 (C 2013/20), appendix D.

<sup>12</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, document C 2015/20, appendix D.

<sup>13</sup> Resolution 69/283, annex II.

*Acknowledging* the High-level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis established by the Secretary-General, and supporting the Secretary-General in his continuing efforts in this regard, including continued engagement with Member States and the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to food,

1. *Reaffirms* that hunger constitutes an outrage and a violation of human dignity and therefore requires the adoption of urgent measures at the national, regional and international levels for its elimination;

2. *Also reaffirms* the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the right to adequate food and the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger, so as to be able to fully develop and maintain his or her physical and mental capacities;

3. *Considers* it intolerable that, as estimated by the United Nations Children's Fund, more than one third of the children who die every year before the age of 5 die from hunger-related illness and that, as estimated by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, about 795 million people in the world remain undernourished due to the lack of sufficient food for conducting an active and healthy life, including as one of the effects derived from the global food crisis, while, according to the latter organization, the planet could produce enough food to feed everyone around the world;

4. *Expresses its concern* at the fact that the effects created by the world food crisis still continue to have serious consequences for the poorest and most vulnerable people, particularly in developing countries, which have been further aggravated by the impacts of the world financial and economic crisis, and at the particular effects of this crisis on many net food-importing countries, especially least developed countries;

5. *Expresses its deep concern* that, according to the report of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, entitled *The State of Food Insecurity in the World 2015*, the number of hungry people in the world remains unacceptably high and the vast majority of hungry people live in developing countries;

6. *Expresses its concern* that women and girls are disproportionately affected by hunger, food and nutrition insecurity and poverty, in part as a result of gender inequality and discrimination, that in many countries, girls are twice as likely as boys to die from malnutrition and preventable childhood diseases and that it is estimated that almost twice as many women as men suffer from malnutrition;

7. *Encourages* all States to take action to address gender inequality and discrimination against women, in particular when they contribute to the malnutrition of women and girls, including measures to ensure the full and equal realization of the right to food and that women have equal access to resources, including income, land and water and their ownership and agricultural inputs, as well as full and equal access to health care, education, science and technology, to enable them to feed themselves and their families, and in this regard stresses the need to empower women and strengthen their role in decision-making;

8. *Encourages* the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the right to food to continue mainstreaming a gender perspective in the fulfilment of her mandate, and encourages the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United

Nations and all other United Nations bodies and mechanisms addressing the right to food and food insecurity to continue integrating a gender perspective into their relevant policies, programmes and activities;

9. *Reaffirms* the need to ensure that programmes delivering safe and nutritious food are inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

10. *Calls upon* all States and, if appropriate, relevant international organizations to take measures and support programmes that are aimed at combating undernutrition in mothers, in particular during pregnancy, and children and the irreversible effects of chronic undernutrition in early childhood, in particular from birth to the age of 2 years;

11. *Also calls upon* all States and, where appropriate, relevant international organizations to implement policies and programmes to reduce and eliminate preventable mortality and morbidity, as a result of malnutrition, of children under 5 years of age, and in this regard urges States to disseminate the technical guidance prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in collaboration with the World Health Organization<sup>14</sup> and to apply it, as appropriate, in the design, implementation, evaluation and monitoring of laws, policies, programmes, budgets and mechanisms for remedy and redress, aimed at eliminating preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age;

12. *Encourages* all States to take steps, with a view to progressively achieving the full realization of the right to food, including steps to promote the conditions for everyone to be free from hunger and, as soon as possible, to enjoy fully the right to food, and to create and adopt national plans to combat hunger;

13. *Recognizes* the advances reached through South-South cooperation in developing countries and regions in connection with food security and the development of agricultural production for the full realization of the right to food;

14. *Stresses* that improving access to productive resources and public investment in rural development is essential for eradicating hunger and poverty, in particular in developing countries, including through the promotion of investment, including private investment, in appropriate small-scale irrigation and water management technologies in order to reduce vulnerability to droughts and to tackle water scarcity;

15. *Recognizes* the critical contribution made by the fisheries sector to the realization of the right to food and to food security and the contribution of small-scale fishers to the local food security of coastal communities;

16. *Also recognizes* that 70 per cent of hungry people live in rural areas, where nearly half a billion family farmers are located, and that these people are especially vulnerable to food insecurity given the increasing cost of inputs and the fall in farm incomes; that access to land, water, seeds and other natural resources is an increasing challenge for poor producers; that sustainable and gender-sensitive agricultural policies are important tools for promoting land and agrarian reform, rural credit and insurance, technical assistance and other associated measures to achieve food security and rural development; and that support by States for small

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<sup>14</sup> A/HRC/27/31: “Technical guidance on the application of a human rights-based approach to the implementation of policies and programmes to reduce and eliminate preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age”.

farmers, fishing communities and local enterprises, including through the facilitation of access for their products to national and international markets and empowerment of small producers, particularly women, in value chains, is a key element for food security and the provision of the right to food;

17. *Stresses* the importance of fighting hunger in rural areas, including through national efforts supported by international partnerships to stop desertification and land degradation and through investments and public policies that are specifically appropriate to the risk of drylands, and in this regard calls for the full implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;<sup>15</sup>

18. *Urges* States that have not yet done so to favourably consider becoming parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity<sup>16</sup> and to consider becoming parties to the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture<sup>17</sup> as a matter of priority;

19. *Recalls* the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,<sup>18</sup> acknowledges that many indigenous organizations and representatives of indigenous peoples have expressed in different forums their deep concerns over the obstacles and challenges they face in achieving the full enjoyment of the right to food, and calls upon States to take special actions to combat the root causes of the disproportionately high level of hunger and malnutrition among indigenous peoples and the continuous discrimination against them;

20. *Welcomes* the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples,<sup>19</sup> held on 22 and 23 September 2014, and the commitment to developing, in conjunction with the indigenous peoples concerned and where appropriate, policies, programmes and resources to support indigenous peoples' occupations, traditional subsistence activities, economies, livelihoods, food security and nutrition;

21. *Notes* the need to further examine various concepts, such as "food sovereignty", and their relation with food security and the right to food, bearing in mind the need to avoid any negative impact on the enjoyment of the right to food for all people at all times;

22. *Requests* all States and private actors, as well as international organizations, within their respective mandates, to take fully into account the need to promote the effective realization of the right to food for all, including in the ongoing negotiations in different fields;

23. *Recognizes* the need to strengthen national commitment as well as international assistance, upon the request of and in cooperation with the affected countries, towards the full realization and protection of the right to food, and in particular to develop national protection mechanisms for people forced to leave

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<sup>15</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2400, No. 43345.

<sup>18</sup> Resolution 61/295, annex.

<sup>19</sup> Resolution 69/2.

their homes and land because of hunger or humanitarian emergencies affecting their enjoyment of the right to food;

24. *Takes note with appreciation* of the growing movement, in different regions of the world, towards the adoption of framework laws, national strategies and measures in support of the full realization of the right to food for all;

25. *Stresses* the need to make efforts to mobilize and optimize the allocation and utilization of technical and financial resources from all sources, including external debt relief for developing countries, and to reinforce national actions to implement sustainable food security policies;

26. *Calls for* the conclusion and a successful, development-oriented outcome of the Doha Round of trade negotiations of the World Trade Organization as a contribution to creating international conditions that permit the full realization of the right to food;

27. *Stresses* that all States should make all efforts to ensure that their international policies of a political and economic nature, including international trade agreements, do not have a negative impact on the right to food in other countries;

28. *Recalls* the importance of the New York Declaration on Action against Hunger and Poverty, and recommends the continuation of efforts aimed at identifying additional sources of financing for the fight against hunger and poverty, as well as non-communicable diseases;

29. *Recognizes* that the promises made at the World Food Summit in 1996 to halve the number of persons who are undernourished are not being fulfilled, while recognizing the efforts of Member States in this regard, and once again invites all international financial and development institutions, as well as the relevant United Nations agencies and funds, to give priority to and provide the necessary funding to realize the right to food, as set out in the Rome Declaration on World Food Security, and to achieve the aims of Goal 2 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>4</sup> and other food and nutrition-related targets;

30. *Reaffirms* that integrating food and nutritional support, with the goal that all people at all times will have access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life, is part of a comprehensive effort to improve public health, including the response to the spread of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, malaria and other communicable diseases;

31. *Urges* States to give adequate priority in their development strategies and expenditures to the realization of the right to food;

32. *Stresses* the importance of international cooperation and development assistance as an effective contribution both to the expansion and improvement of agriculture and its environmental sustainability, food production, breeding projects on diversity of crops and livestock and institutional innovations such as community seed banks, farmer field schools and seed fairs and to the provision of humanitarian food assistance in activities related to emergency situations for the realization of the right to food and the achievement of sustainable food security, while recognizing that each country has the primary responsibility for ensuring the implementation of national programmes and strategies in this regard;

33. *Also stresses* that States parties to the World Trade Organization Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights should consider implementing that agreement in a manner that is supportive of food security, while being mindful of the obligation of Member States to promote and protect the right to food;

34. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations system and other relevant stakeholders to support national efforts aimed at responding rapidly to the food crises currently occurring across different regions, and expresses its deep concern that funding shortfalls are forcing the World Food Programme to cut operations across different regions, including Southern Africa;

35. *Invites* all relevant international organizations, including the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, to continue to promote policies and projects that have a positive impact on the right to food, to ensure that partners respect the right to food in the implementation of common projects, to support strategies of Member States aimed at the fulfilment of the right to food and to avoid any actions that could have a negative impact on its realization;

36. *Takes note with appreciation* of the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council,<sup>20</sup> which underlines, inter alia, the adverse impact of climate change on the right to food;

37. *Recognizes* the importance of giving due consideration to the adverse impact of climate change and to the full realization of the right to food, and looks forward to the outcome to be reached in Paris at the twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;

38. *Reiterates its support* for the realization of the mandate of the Special Rapporteur, and requests the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide all the human and financial resources necessary for its effective fulfilment;

39. *Welcomes* the work already done by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights in promoting the right to adequate food, in particular its general comment No. 12 (1999) on the right to adequate food (article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights),<sup>21</sup> in which the Committee affirmed, inter alia, that the right to adequate food is indivisibly linked to the inherent dignity of the human person, indispensable for the fulfilment of other human rights enshrined in the International Bill of Human Rights and inseparable from social justice, requiring the adoption of appropriate economic, environmental and social policies, at both the national and the international levels, oriented to the eradication of poverty and the fulfilment of all human rights for all;

40. *Recalls* general comment No. 15 (2002) of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on the right to water (articles 11 and 12 of the Covenant),<sup>22</sup> in which the Committee noted, inter alia, the importance of ensuring

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<sup>20</sup> See A/70/287.

<sup>21</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2000, Supplement No. 2* and corrigendum (E/2000/22 and Corr.1), annex V.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*, 2003, *Supplement No. 2* (E/2003/22), annex IV.

sustainable access to water resources for human consumption and agriculture in realization of the right to adequate food;

41. *Reaffirms* that the Voluntary Guidelines to Support the Progressive Realization of the Right to Adequate Food in the Context of National Food Security, adopted by the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 2004,<sup>7</sup> represent a useful tool to promote the realization of the right to food for all, contribute to the achievement of food security and thus provide an additional instrument in the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, and to support national Governments in the implementation of food security and nutrition policies, programmes and legal frameworks;

42. *Calls upon* all Governments to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur in her task, to supply all necessary information requested by her and to give serious consideration to responding favourably to the requests of the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries to enable her to fulfil her mandate more effectively;

43. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session an interim report on the implementation of the present resolution and to continue her work, including by examining the emerging issues with regard to the realization of the right to food within her mandate;

44. *Invites* Governments, relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, treaty bodies, civil society actors and non-governmental organizations, as well as the private sector, to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur in the fulfilment of her mandate through, inter alia, the submission of comments and suggestions on ways and means of realizing the right to food;

45. *Decides* to continue the consideration of the question at its seventy-first session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

## **Draft resolution IX**

### **The right to development**

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the Charter of the United Nations, which expresses, in particular, the determination to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom and, to that end, to employ international mechanisms for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples,

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>1</sup> as well as the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>2</sup> and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>2</sup>

*Recalling also* the outcomes of all the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

*Recalling further* the Declaration on the Right to Development, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986, which confirmed that the right to development is an inalienable human right and that equality of opportunity for development is a prerogative both of nations and of individuals who make up nations, and that the individual is the central subject and beneficiary of development,

*Stressing* the importance of the World Conference on Human Rights, held in Vienna in 1993, and that the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action<sup>3</sup> reaffirmed the right to development as a universal and inalienable right and an integral part of fundamental human rights and the individual as the central subject and beneficiary of development,

*Reaffirming* the objective of making the right to development a reality for everyone, as set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>4</sup> adopted by the General Assembly on 8 September 2000,

*Deeply concerned* that the majority of indigenous peoples in the world live in conditions of poverty, and recognizing the critical need to address the negative impact of poverty and inequity on indigenous peoples by ensuring their full and effective inclusion in development and poverty eradication programmes,

*Recalling* the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples and its outcome document,<sup>5</sup>

*Reaffirming* the universality, indivisibility, interrelatedness, interdependence and mutually reinforcing nature of all civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, including the right to development,

*Expressing deep concern* over the lack of substantial progress in the trade negotiations of the World Trade Organization, and calling upon all members of the World Trade Organization to redouble their efforts to promptly conclude the negotiations on the Doha Development Agenda, taking into account that

<sup>1</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>2</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>3</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

<sup>4</sup> Resolution 55/2.

<sup>5</sup> Resolution 69/2.

international trade is an engine for inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction and contributes to the promotion of sustainable development,

*Recalling* the outcome of the twelfth session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, held in Accra from 20 to 25 April 2008, on the theme “Addressing the opportunities and challenges of globalization for development”,<sup>6</sup>

*Recalling also* all its previous resolutions, Human Rights Council resolutions and those of the Commission on Human Rights on the right to development, in particular Commission resolution 1998/72 of 22 April 1998<sup>7</sup> on the urgent need to make further progress towards the realization of the right to development,

*Recalling further* the outcome of the eleventh session of the Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council, held in Geneva from 26 to 30 April 2010, as contained in the report of the Working Group<sup>8</sup> and as referred to in the report of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,<sup>9</sup>

*Recalling* the Sixteenth Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran from 26 to 31 August 2012, and the previous summits and conferences at which the States members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries stressed the need to operationalize the right to development as a priority, including through the elaboration of a convention on the right to development by the relevant machinery, taking into account the recommendations of relevant initiatives,

*Reiterating its continuing support* for the New Partnership for Africa’s Development<sup>10</sup> as a development framework for Africa,

*Expressing its appreciation* for the efforts of the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group on the Right to Development of the Human Rights Council and the members of the high-level task force on the implementation of the right to development in completing the 2008-2010 three-phase road map established by the Council in its resolution 4/4 of 30 March 2007,<sup>11</sup>

*Deeply concerned* about the negative impacts of the global economic and financial crises on the realization of the right to development,

*Recognizing* that, while development facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights, the lack of development may not be invoked to justify the abridgement of internationally recognized human rights,

*Recognizing also* that Member States should cooperate with one another in ensuring development and eliminating obstacles to development, that the international community should promote effective international cooperation for the realization of the right to development and the elimination of obstacles to development and that lasting progress towards the implementation of the right to

<sup>6</sup> See TD/442 and Corr.1 and 2.

<sup>7</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 3 (E/1998/23)*, chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>8</sup> A/HRC/15/23.

<sup>9</sup> A/HRC/15/24.

<sup>10</sup> A/57/304, annex.

<sup>11</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/62/53)*, chap. III, sect. A.

development requires effective development policies at the national level, as well as equitable economic relations and a favourable economic environment at the international level,

*Recognizing further* that poverty is an affront to human dignity,

*Recognizing* that extreme poverty and hunger are among the greatest global threats and require the collective commitment of the international community for their eradication, pursuant to Millennium Development Goal 1 and Sustainable Development Goals 1 and 2, and therefore calling upon the international community, including the Human Rights Council, to contribute towards achieving that goal,

*Recognizing also* that historical injustices, inter alia, have contributed to the poverty, underdevelopment, marginalization, social exclusion, economic disparity, instability and insecurity that affect many people in different parts of the world, in particular in developing countries,

*Recognizing further* that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is one of the critical elements in the promotion and realization of the right to development and is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, which requires a multifaceted and integrated approach, and committed to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner,

*Emphasizing* that all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

*Emphasizing also* that the right to development should be central to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>12</sup>

*Welcoming* the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, reaffirming that the Declaration on the Right to Development informed the 2030 Agenda, along with other relevant international instruments, and underlining the fact that the Sustainable Development Goals can be realized only through a credible, effective and universal commitment to the means of implementation by all stakeholders,

*Stressing* that the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Right to Development presents a unique opportunity for the international community to demonstrate and reiterate its unequivocal commitment to the right to development, recognizing the high profile that it deserves, and redoubling its efforts to implement this right,

1. *Takes note* of the consolidated report of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights<sup>13</sup> concerning the promotion and realization of the right to development;

2. *Recognizes* the significance of all the events held to commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration on the Right to Development,<sup>14</sup> including the panel discussion on the theme “The way forward in the realization of

<sup>12</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>13</sup> A/HRC/30/22.

<sup>14</sup> Resolution 41/128, annex.

the right to development: between policy and practice”, held during the eighteenth session of the Human Rights Council;

3. *Acknowledges* the need to strive for greater acceptance, operationalization and realization of the right to development at the international level while urging all States to undertake at the national level the necessary policy formulation and to institute the measures required for the implementation of the right to development as an integral part of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

4. *Supports* the realization of the mandate of the Working Group on the Right to Development, as renewed by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 9/3 of 24 September 2008,<sup>15</sup> and recognizes the need for renewed efforts towards intensifying deliberations in the Working Group to fulfil, at the earliest, its mandate, while welcoming the commencement of the second reading of the draft criteria and corresponding operational subcriteria;

5. *Reaffirms* the recommendations adopted by the Working Group at its fourteenth session,<sup>16</sup> and calls for their immediate, full and effective implementation by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and other relevant actors, noting also the efforts under way within the framework of the Working Group with a view to completing the tasks entrusted to it by the Council in its resolution 4/4;<sup>11</sup>

6. *Emphasizes* the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006 establishing the Human Rights Council, and in this regard calls upon the Council to implement the agreement to continue to act to ensure that its agenda promotes and advances sustainable development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and also in this regard to lead the raising of the right to development, as set out in paragraphs 5 and 10 of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,<sup>3</sup> to the same level as and on a par with all other human rights and fundamental freedoms;

7. *Stresses* that the views, criteria and corresponding operational subcriteria, once considered, revised and endorsed by the Working Group, should be used, as appropriate, in the elaboration of a comprehensive and coherent set of standards for the implementation of the right to development;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance of the Working Group taking appropriate steps to ensure respect for and practical application of the above-mentioned standards, which could take various forms, including the elaboration of guidelines on the implementation of the right to development, and evolve into a basis for the consideration of an international legal standard of a binding nature through a collaborative process of engagement;

9. *Recalls* the request made to the Working Group to consider at its seventeenth session a document, to be produced by its Chair-Rapporteur, containing a set of standards to implement the right to development based on relevant United Nations resolutions and documents, including the Declaration on the Right to Development, relevant international conventions and decisions as well as internationally agreed development goals and United Nations resolutions, in

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<sup>15</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/63/53/Add.1), chap. I.

<sup>16</sup> A/HRC/24/37.

consultation with Member States, relevant international organizations and other stakeholders;

10. *Also recalls* that the above-mentioned document would be prepared without prejudice to the ongoing discussions on the criteria and operational subcriteria, in the context of which the Working Group shall complete its second reading at its seventeenth session and decide on further action thereafter, with the objective of elaborating a comprehensive and coherent set of standards for the implementation of the right to development;

11. *Decides* to convene a two-day formal meeting of the Working Group, after the seventeenth session, to consider further and discuss the document containing the draft set of standards;

12. *Stresses* the importance of the core principles contained in the conclusions of the Working Group at its third session,<sup>17</sup> congruent with the purpose of international human rights instruments, such as equality, non-discrimination, accountability, participation and international cooperation, as critical to mainstreaming the right to development at the national and international levels, and underlines the importance of the principles of equity and transparency;

13. *Also stresses* that it is important that the Chair-Rapporteur and the Working Group, in the discharge of their mandates, take into account the need:

(a) To promote the democratization of the system of international governance in order to increase the effective participation of developing countries in international decision-making;

(b) To also promote effective partnerships such as the New Partnership for Africa's Development<sup>10</sup> and other similar initiatives with the developing countries, particularly the least developed countries, for the purpose of the realization of their right to development, including the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

(c) To strive for greater acceptance, operationalization and realization of the right to development at the international level, while urging all States to undertake at the national level the necessary policy formulation and to institute the measures required for the implementation of the right to development as an integral part of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and also while urging all States to expand and deepen mutually beneficial cooperation in ensuring development and eliminating obstacles to development in the context of promoting effective international cooperation for the realization of the right to development, bearing in mind that lasting progress towards the implementation of the right to development requires effective development policies at the national level and a favourable economic environment at the international level;

(d) To consider ways and means to continue to ensure the operationalization of the right to development as a priority;

(e) To mainstream the right to development in the policies and operational activities of the United Nations and the specialized agencies, funds and programmes, as well as in the policies and strategies of the international financial and multilateral trading systems, bearing in mind in this regard that the core

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<sup>17</sup> See E/CN.4/2002/28/Rev.1, sect. VIII.A.

principles of the international economic, commercial and financial spheres, such as equity, non-discrimination, transparency, accountability, participation and international cooperation, including effective partnerships for development, are indispensable in achieving the right to development and preventing discriminatory treatment arising from political or other non-economic considerations in addressing the issues of concern to the developing countries;

14. *Encourages* the Human Rights Council to continue to consider how to ensure follow-up to the work of the former Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights on the right to development, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights and in compliance with decisions to be taken by the Council;

15. *Reaffirms* the commitment to implement the goals and targets set out in all the outcome documents of the major United Nations conferences and summits and their review processes, in particular those relating to the realization of the right to development, recognizing that the realization of the right to development is critical to achieving the objectives, goals and targets set in those outcome documents;

16. *Also reaffirms* that the realization of the right to development is essential to the implementation of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, which regards all human rights as universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, places the human person at the centre of development and recognizes that, while development facilitates the enjoyment of all human rights, lack of development may not be invoked to justify the abridgement of internationally recognized human rights;

17. *Stresses* that the primary responsibility for the promotion and protection of all human rights lies with the State, and reaffirms that States have the primary responsibility for their own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized;

18. *Reaffirms* the primary responsibility of States to create national and international conditions favourable to the realization of the right to development, as well as their commitment to cooperate with one another to that end;

19. *Expresses concern* about the increasing cases of human rights violations and abuses by some transnational corporations and other business enterprises, underlines the need to ensure that appropriate protection, justice and remedies are provided to the victims of human rights violations and abuses resulting from their activities, and underscores the fact that these entities must contribute to the means of implementation for the realization of the right to development;

20. *Reaffirms* the need for an international environment that is conducive to the realization of the right to development;

21. *Stresses* the need to strive for greater acceptance, operationalization and realization of the right to development at the international and national levels, and calls upon all States to institute the measures required for the implementation of the right to development as an integral part of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

22. *Emphasizes* the critical importance of identifying and analysing obstacles impeding the full realization of the right to development at both the national and international levels;

23. *Affirms* that, while globalization offers both opportunities and challenges, the process of globalization remains deficient in achieving the objectives of integrating all countries into a globalized world, stresses the need for policies and measures at the national and global levels to respond to the challenges and opportunities of globalization if this process is to be made fully inclusive and equitable, recognizes that globalization has brought disparities between and within countries and that issues such as trade and trade liberalization, transfer of technology, infrastructure development and market access should be managed effectively in order to mitigate the challenges of poverty and underdevelopment and the need to make the right to development a reality for everyone;

24. *Recognizes* that, despite continuous efforts on the part of the international community, the gap between developed and developing countries remains unacceptably wide, that most of the developing countries continue to face difficulties in participating in the globalization process and that many risk being marginalized and effectively excluded from its benefits;

25. *Expresses its deep concern*, in this regard, about the negative impact on the realization of the right to development due to the further aggravation of the economic and social situation, in particular of developing countries, as a result of the ongoing international energy, food and financial crises, as well as the increasing challenges posed by global climate change and the loss of biodiversity, which have increased vulnerabilities and inequalities and have adversely affected development gains, in particular in developing countries;

26. *Recalls* the commitment in the United Nations Millennium Declaration<sup>4</sup> of halving the number of people living in poverty by 2015, notes with concern that some developing countries have failed to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, and in this regard invites Member States and the international community to take proactive measures aimed at creating a conducive environment to contribute to the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular increasing international cooperation, including partnership and commitment, between developed and developing countries towards achieving the Goals;

27. *Urges* developed countries that have not yet done so to make concrete efforts towards meeting the targets of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.2 per cent of their gross national product to least developed countries, and encourages developing countries to build on the progress achieved in ensuring that official development assistance is used effectively to help to meet development goals and targets;

28. *Recognizes* the need to address market access for developing countries, including in the sectors of agriculture, services and non-agricultural products, in particular those of interest to developing countries;

29. *Calls once again for* the implementation of a desirable pace of meaningful trade liberalization, including in areas under negotiation in the World Trade Organization, the implementation of commitments on implementation-related issues and concerns, a review of special and differential treatment provisions, with a view to strengthening them and making them more precise, effective and

operational, the avoidance of new forms of protectionism, and capacity-building and technical assistance for developing countries as important issues in making progress towards the effective implementation of the right to development;

30. *Recognizes* the important link between the international economic, commercial and financial spheres and the realization of the right to development, stresses in this regard the need for good governance and for broadening the base of decision-making at the international level on issues of development concern and the need to fill organizational gaps, as well as to strengthen the United Nations system and other multilateral institutions, and also stresses the need to broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in international economic decision-making and norm-setting;

31. *Also recognizes* that good governance and the rule of law at the national level assist all States in the promotion and protection of human rights, including the right to development, and agrees on the value of the ongoing efforts being made by States to identify and strengthen good governance practices, including transparent, responsible, accountable and participatory government, that are responsive and appropriate to their needs and aspirations, including in the context of agreed partnership approaches to development, capacity-building and technical assistance;

32. *Further recognizes* the important role and the rights of women and the application of a gender perspective as a cross-cutting issue in the process of realizing the right to development, and notes in particular the positive relationship between the education of women and their equal participation in the civil, cultural, economic, political and social activities of the community and the promotion of the right to development;

33. *Stresses* the need for the integration of the rights of children, girls and boys alike, in all policies and programmes and for ensuring the promotion and protection of those rights, especially in areas relating to health, education and the full development of their capacities;

34. *Recalls* the Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying Our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS,<sup>18</sup> adopted on 10 June 2011 at the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on HIV and AIDS, stresses that further and additional measures must be taken at the national and international levels to fight HIV and AIDS and other communicable diseases, taking into account ongoing efforts and programmes, and reiterates the need for international assistance in this regard;

35. *Welcomes* the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases,<sup>19</sup> adopted on 19 September 2011, with its particular focus on development and other challenges and social and economic impacts, particularly for developing countries;

36. *Recalls* the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>18</sup> Resolution 65/277, annex.

<sup>19</sup> Resolution 66/2, annex.

<sup>20</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

37. *Also recalls* the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>21</sup> which entered into force on 3 May 2008, and stresses the need to take into consideration the rights of persons with disabilities and the importance of international cooperation in support of national efforts in the realization of the right to development;

38. *Stresses its commitment* to indigenous peoples in the process of the realization of the right to development, reaffirms the commitment to promote their rights in the areas of education, employment, vocational training and retraining, housing, sanitation, health and social security, in accordance with recognized international human rights obligations and taking into account, as appropriate, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 61/295 of 13 September 2007, and in this regard recalls the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, held in 2014;

39. *Recognizes* the need for strong partnerships with civil society organizations and the private sector in pursuit of poverty eradication and development, as well as for corporate social responsibility;

40. *Emphasizes* the urgent need to take concrete and effective measures to prevent, combat and criminalize all forms of corruption at all levels, to prevent, detect and deter in a more effective manner international transfers of illicitly acquired assets and to strengthen international cooperation in asset recovery, consistent with the principles of the United Nations Convention against Corruption,<sup>22</sup> particularly chapter V thereof, stresses the importance of a genuine political commitment on the part of all Governments through a firm legal framework, and in this context urges States to sign and ratify the Convention as soon as possible and States parties to implement it effectively;

41. *Also emphasizes* the need to strengthen further the activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the promotion and realization of the right to development, including by ensuring the effective use of the financial and human resources necessary to fulfil its mandate, and calls upon the Secretary-General to provide the Office with the necessary resources;

42. *Reaffirms* the request to the High Commissioner, in mainstreaming the right to development, to effectively undertake activities aimed at strengthening the global partnership for development among Member States, development agencies and the international development, financial and trade institutions and to reflect those activities in detail in his next report to the Human Rights Council;

43. *Calls upon* the United Nations funds and programmes, as well as the specialized agencies, to mainstream the right to development in their operational programmes and objectives, and stresses the need for the international financial and multilateral trading systems to mainstream the right to development in their policies and objectives;

44. *Requests* the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States, United Nations organs and bodies, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes, international development and financial

<sup>21</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>22</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

institutions, in particular the Bretton Woods institutions, and non-governmental organizations;

45. *Supports* the decision of the Human Rights Council, as part of the activities to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Right to Development, to request the High Commissioner to seek the views of Member States in preparing a paper on the realization and implementation of the right to development, as elaborated in the Declaration, in particular its article 4;

46. *Decides* to convene a one-day high-level segment of the General Assembly, in the margins of the general debate of the Assembly at its seventy-first session, in order to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Right to Development;

47. *Encourages* Member States, individually and collectively, to convene events with their own resources for the commemoration of the thirtieth anniversary of the Declaration on the Right to Development;

48. *Also encourages* Member States to give particular consideration to the right to development in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

49. *Notes* that the theme of the Human Rights Council High-level Panel on Human Rights Mainstreaming, to be held during the thirty-first session of the Human Rights Council, in March 2016, will be “The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and human rights, with an emphasis on the right to development”;

50. *Encourages* relevant bodies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, including United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, relevant international organizations, including the World Trade Organization and relevant stakeholders, including civil society organizations, to give due consideration to the right to development in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to contribute further to the work of the Working Group and to cooperate with the High Commissioner in the fulfilment of his mandate with regard to the implementation of the right to development;

51. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session and an interim report to the Human Rights Council on the implementation of the present resolution, including efforts undertaken at the national, regional and international levels in the promotion and realization of the right to development, and invites the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group to present an oral report and to engage in an interactive dialogue with the Assembly at its seventy-first session.

## **Draft resolution X**

### **Human rights and cultural diversity**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>1</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights<sup>2</sup> and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>2</sup> as well as other pertinent human rights instruments,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 54/160 of 17 December 1999, 55/91 of 4 December 2000, 57/204 of 18 December 2002, 58/167 of 22 December 2003, 60/167 of 16 December 2005, 62/155 of 18 December 2007, 64/174 of 18 December 2009, 66/154 of 19 December 2011 and 68/159 of 18 December 2013, and recalling further its resolutions 54/113 of 10 December 1999, 55/23 of 13 November 2000 and 60/4 of 20 October 2005 concerning the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations,

*Noting* that numerous instruments within the United Nations system promote cultural diversity, as well as the conservation and development of culture, in particular the Declaration of the Principles of International Culture Cooperation proclaimed on 4 November 1966 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its fourteenth session,<sup>3</sup>

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>4</sup> which highlighted the importance of preserving and protecting a rich cultural diversity and reflected different experiences and perspectives in this regard,

*Recalling* that, as stated in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, contained in the annex to its resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970, States have the duty to cooperate with one another, irrespective of the differences in their political, economic and social systems, in the various spheres of international relations, in the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, and in the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination and all forms of religious intolerance,

*Welcoming* the adoption, by its resolution 56/6 of 9 November 2001, of the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations,

*Welcoming also* the contribution of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, the Durban Review Conference, held in Geneva from 20 to 24 April 2009, and the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, held on 22 September 2011, to the promotion of respect for cultural diversity,

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<sup>1</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>2</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>3</sup> See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Fourteenth Session, Paris, 1966, Resolutions*.

<sup>4</sup> A/70/167.

*Welcoming further* the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,<sup>5</sup> together with its Action Plan,<sup>6</sup> adopted on 2 November 2001 by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-first session, in which member States invited the United Nations system and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned to cooperate with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the promotion of the principles set forth in the Declaration and its Action Plan, with a view to enhancing the synergy of actions in favour of cultural diversity,

*Recalling* the Ministerial Meeting on Human Rights and Cultural Diversity of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, held in Tehran on 3 and 4 September 2007,

*Reaffirming* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis, and that, while the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds must be borne in mind, it is the duty of States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Expressing concern* over the adverse impacts of lack of respect for and recognition of cultural diversity on human rights, justice, friendship and the fundamental right to development,

*Recognizing* that cultural diversity and the pursuit of cultural development by all peoples and nations are a source of mutual enrichment for the cultural life of humankind,

*Recognizing also* the contribution that diverse cultures have been making to the development and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Taking into account* that a culture of peace actively fosters non-violence and respect for human rights and strengthens solidarity among peoples and nations and dialogue between cultures,

*Reaffirming* that discriminatory treatment against different cultures and religions is detrimental to the principle of the equality of human beings,

*Recognizing* that all cultures and civilizations share a common set of universal values,

*Recognizing also* that the promotion of the rights of indigenous people and their cultures and traditions will contribute to the respect for and observance of cultural diversity among all peoples and nations,

*Considering* that tolerance of cultural, ethnic, religious and linguistic diversities, as well as dialogue among and within civilizations, is essential for peace, understanding and friendship among individuals and people of different cultures and nations of the world, while manifestations of cultural prejudice,

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<sup>5</sup> United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October-3 November 2001*, vol. 1 and corrigendum, *Resolutions*, sect. V, resolution 25, annex I.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

intolerance and xenophobia towards different cultures and religions generate hatred, violence and extremism among peoples and nations throughout the world,

*Recognizing* in each culture a dignity and value that deserve recognition, respect and preservation, and convinced that, in their rich variety and diversity, and in the reciprocal influences that they exert on one another, all cultures form part of the common heritage belonging to all humankind,

*Convinced* that the promotion of cultural pluralism and tolerance towards and dialogue among various cultures and civilizations would contribute to the efforts of all peoples and nations to enrich their cultures and traditions by engaging in a mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and intellectual, moral and material achievements,

*Acknowledging* the diversity of the world, recognizing that all cultures and civilizations contribute to the enrichment of humankind, acknowledging the importance of respect and understanding for religious and cultural diversity throughout the world, and, in order to promote international peace and security, committing itself to advancing human welfare, freedom and progress everywhere, as well as to encouraging tolerance, respect, dialogue and cooperation among different cultures, civilizations and peoples,

1. *Affirms* the importance for all peoples and nations to hold, develop and preserve their cultural heritage and traditions in a national and international atmosphere of peace, tolerance and mutual respect;

2. *Emphasizes* the important contribution of culture to development and the achievement of national development objectives and internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

3. *Welcomes* the adoption on 25 September 2015 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>7</sup> in which Member States acknowledged the natural and cultural diversity of the world and recognized that all cultures and civilizations can contribute to, and are crucial enablers of, sustainable development;

4. *Recognizes* the importance given to cultural diversity in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including in Sustainable Development Goal 4, related to ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all;

5. *Also recognizes* the right of everyone to take part in cultural life and to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications;

6. *Affirms* that the international community should strive to respond to the challenges and opportunities posed by globalization in a manner that ensures respect for the cultural diversity of all;

7. *Expresses its determination* to prevent and mitigate cultural homogenization in the context of globalization, through increased intercultural exchange guided by the promotion and protection of cultural diversity;

8. *Affirms* that intercultural dialogue essentially enriches the common understanding of human rights and that the benefits to be derived from the

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<sup>7</sup> Resolution 70/1.

encouragement and development of international contacts and cooperation in the cultural fields are important;

9. *Welcomes* the recognition at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance of the necessity of respecting and maximizing the benefits of diversity within and among all nations in working together to build a harmonious and productive future by putting into practice and promoting values and principles such as justice, equality and non-discrimination, democracy, fairness and friendship, tolerance and respect within and among communities and nations, in particular through public information and educational programmes to raise awareness and understanding of the benefits of cultural diversity, including programmes in which the public authorities work in partnership with international and non-governmental organizations and other sectors of civil society;

10. *Emphasizes* that dialogue among religions, cultures and civilizations on the basis of equal dignity should be enhanced, through supporting efforts made at the international level towards reducing confrontation, suppressing xenophobia and promoting respect for diversity, and in that regard also emphasizes that States should oppose all attempts at uniculturalism or the imposition of particular models of social or cultural systems and promote dialogue among civilizations, a culture of peace and interfaith dialogue, which will contribute towards peace, security and development;

11. *Welcomes* the activities of the Non-Aligned Movement Centre for Human Rights and Cultural Diversity in Tehran, and acknowledges the important role that the Centre plays in the promotion of the universality of all human rights as well as their realization;

12. *Recognizes* that respect for cultural diversity and the cultural rights of all enhances cultural pluralism, contributing to a wider exchange of knowledge and understanding of cultural background, advancing the application and enjoyment of universally accepted human rights throughout the world and fostering stable, friendly relations among peoples and nations worldwide;

13. *Emphasizes* that the promotion of cultural pluralism and tolerance at the national, regional and international levels is important for enhancing respect for cultural rights and cultural diversity;

14. *Also emphasizes* that tolerance and respect for diversity facilitate the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including gender equality and the enjoyment of all human rights by all, and underlines the fact that tolerance and respect for cultural diversity and the universal promotion and protection of human rights are mutually supportive;

15. *Urges* all actors on the international scene to build an international order based on inclusion, justice, equality and equity, human dignity, mutual understanding and promotion of and respect for cultural diversity and universal human rights, and to reject all doctrines of exclusion based on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance;

16. *Calls upon* States, relevant international organizations and non-governmental organizations to support and embark on intercultural initiatives

on human rights in order to promote all human rights, thereby enriching their universality;

17. *Urges* States to ensure that their political and legal systems reflect the multicultural diversity within their societies and, where necessary, to improve democratic institutions so that they are more fully participatory and avoid marginalization and exclusion of, and discrimination against, specific sectors of society;

18. *Calls upon* States, international organizations and United Nations agencies, and invites civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to recognize and promote respect for cultural diversity for the purpose of advancing the objectives of peace, development and universally accepted human rights;

19. *Stresses* the necessity of freely using the media and new information and communications technologies to create the conditions for a renewed dialogue among cultures and civilizations;

20. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to bear in mind fully the issues raised in the present resolution in the course of its activities for the promotion and protection of human rights;

21. *Also requests* the Office of the High Commissioner, and invites the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to support initiatives aimed at promoting intercultural dialogue on human rights;

22. *Urges* relevant international organizations to conduct studies on how respect for cultural diversity contributes to fostering international solidarity and cooperation among all nations;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including efforts undertaken at the national, regional and international levels regarding the recognition and importance of cultural diversity among all peoples and nations in the world and taking into account the views of Member States, relevant United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations, and to submit the report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

24. *Decides* to continue consideration of the question at its seventy-second session under the sub-item entitled "Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms" of the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

**Draft resolution XI**  
**Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping, stigmatization, discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons, based on religion or belief**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the commitment made by all States under the Charter of the United Nations to promote and encourage universal respect for and observance of all human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction as to, inter alia, religion or belief,

*Reaffirming also* the obligation of States to prohibit discrimination and violence on the basis of religion or belief and to implement measures to guarantee the equal and effective protection of the law,

*Reaffirming further* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated,

*Reaffirming* that the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>1</sup> provides, inter alia, that everyone shall have the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, which shall include freedom to have or to adopt a religion or belief of one's choice and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest one's religion or belief in worship, observance, practice and teaching,

*Reaffirming also* the positive role that the exercise of the right to freedom of opinion and expression and full respect for the freedom to seek, receive and impart information can play in strengthening democracy and combating religious intolerance, and reaffirming further that the exercise of the right to freedom of expression carries with it special duties and responsibilities, in accordance with article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,

*Expressing deep concern* at those acts that advocate religious hatred and thereby undermine the spirit of tolerance,

*Reaffirming* that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group,

*Condemning* the criminal acts committed by terrorist and extremist groups and movements against persons based on their religion or belief, and deeply regretting attempts to link these acts to any one specific religion or belief,

*Reaffirming* that violence can never be an acceptable response to acts of intolerance on the basis of religion or belief,

*Welcoming* Human Rights Council resolutions 16/18 of 24 March 2011,<sup>2</sup> 19/25 of 23 March 2012,<sup>3</sup> 22/31 of 22 March 2013<sup>4</sup> and 28/29 of 27 March 2015 and

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<sup>1</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>2</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/66/53)*, chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. III, sect. A.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/68/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

General Assembly resolutions 67/178 of 20 December 2012, 68/169 of 18 December 2013 and 69/174 of 18 December 2014,

*Recalling* the adoption of resolutions 69/140 of 15 December 2014 on the promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace and 69/312 of 6 July 2015 on the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations,

*Deeply concerned* about continuing incidents of intolerance, discrimination and violence against persons based on their religion or belief in all regions of the world,

*Deploring* any advocacy of discrimination or violence on the basis of religion or belief,

*Strongly deploring* all acts of violence against persons on the basis of their religion or belief, as well as any such acts directed against their homes, businesses, properties, schools, cultural centres or places of worship,

*Strongly deploring also* all attacks on and in religious places, sites and shrines in violation of international law, in particular human rights law and international humanitarian law, including any deliberate destruction of relics and monuments,

*Deeply concerned* about the prevalence of impunity in some instances, and the lack of accountability in some cases, in addressing violence against persons on the basis of religion or belief in public and private spheres, and stressing the importance of making necessary efforts to raise awareness to address the spread of hate speech against persons on the basis of religion or belief,

*Concerned* about actions that wilfully exploit tensions or target individuals on the basis of their religion or belief,

*Expressing deep concern* at the instances of intolerance, discrimination and acts of violence occurring in the world, including cases motivated by discrimination against persons belonging to religious minorities, in addition to the negative projection of the followers of religions and the enforcement of measures that specifically discriminate against persons on the basis of religion or belief,

*Expressing concern* at the growing manifestations of intolerance based on religion or belief, which can generate hatred and violence among individuals from and within different nations and which may have serious implications at the national, regional and international levels, and in this regard emphasizing the importance of respect for religious and cultural diversity, as well as interreligious, interfaith and intercultural dialogue aimed at promoting a culture of tolerance and respect among individuals, societies and nations,

*Recognizing* the valuable contribution of people of all religions or beliefs to humanity and the contribution that dialogue among religious groups can make towards an improved awareness and understanding of the common values shared by all humankind,

*Underlining* the fact that States, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, religious bodies and the media have an important role to play in promoting tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity and in the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including freedom of religion or belief,

*Underlining also* the importance of raising awareness about different cultures and religions or beliefs and of education in the promotion of tolerance, which involves the acceptance by the public of and its respect for religious and cultural diversity, including with regard to religious expression, and underlining further the fact that education, in particular at school, should contribute in a meaningful way to promoting tolerance and the elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief,

*Recognizing* that working together to enhance the implementation of existing legal regimes that protect individuals against discrimination and hate crimes, increasing interreligious, interfaith and intercultural efforts and expanding human rights education are important first steps in combating incidents of intolerance, discrimination and violence against individuals on the basis of religion or belief,

*Recalling* its resolution 68/127, entitled “A world against violence and violent extremism”, adopted by consensus on 18 December 2013, welcoming the leading role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in promoting intercultural dialogue, the work of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, the work of the Anna Lindh Euro-Mediterranean Foundation for Dialogue between Cultures in Alexandria, Egypt, and the work of the King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz International Centre for Interreligious and Intercultural Dialogue in Vienna, and recalling also its resolution 65/5 of 20 October 2010 on World Interfaith Harmony Week, proposed by King Abdullah II of Jordan,

*Welcoming*, in this regard, all international, regional and national initiatives aimed at promoting interreligious, intercultural and interfaith harmony and combating discrimination against individuals on the basis of religion or belief, noting the initiative of the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide on the role of religious leaders in preventing incitement that could lead to atrocity crimes and the draft declaration of its forum held in Fez, Morocco, on 23 and 24 April 2015, the launch of “Appeal for Peace 2015” at the twenty-eighth annual international, interreligious gathering of religious leaders from 60 countries on the theme “Peace is always possible: religions and cultures in dialogue”, held in Tirana from 6 to 8 September 2015, and the Istanbul Process for Combating Intolerance, Discrimination and Incitement to Hatred and/or Violence on the Basis of Religion or Belief, and taking note of the initiative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and its outcome document, the Rabat Plan of Action on the prohibition of advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, adopted in Rabat on 5 October 2012,<sup>5</sup>

*Taking note with appreciation* of the continuation of the organization of workshops and meetings within the framework of the Istanbul Process and the promotion of effective implementation of Human Rights Council resolution 16/18 to counter global violence, religious discrimination and intolerance, in particular the recent fifth implementation meeting of the Process, hosted by the General Secretariat of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, on 3 and 4 June 2015,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> A/HRC/22/17/Add.4, appendix.

<sup>6</sup> A/70/415.

2. *Expresses deep concern* at the continued serious instances of derogatory stereotyping, negative profiling and stigmatization of persons based on their religion or belief, as well as programmes and agendas pursued by extremist individuals, organizations and groups aimed at creating and perpetuating negative stereotypes about religious groups, in particular when condoned by Governments;

3. *Expresses concern* that the number of incidents of religious intolerance, discrimination and related violence, as well as of negative stereotyping of individuals on the basis of religion or belief, continues to rise around the world, which may have serious implications at the national, regional and international levels, condemns, in this context, any advocacy of religious hatred against individuals that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, and urges States to take effective measures, as set forth in the present resolution and consistent with their obligations under international human rights law, to address and combat such incidents;

4. *Condemns* any advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audiovisual or electronic media or any other means;

5. *Recognizes* that the open public debate of ideas, as well as interreligious, interfaith and intercultural dialogue, at the local, national and international levels, can be among the best protections against religious intolerance and can play a positive role in strengthening democracy and combating religious hatred, and expresses its conviction that a continuing dialogue on these issues can help to overcome existing misperceptions;

6. *Also recognizes* the strong need for global awareness about the possible serious implications of incitement to discrimination and violence, which may have serious implications at the national, regional and international levels, and urges all Member States to make renewed efforts to develop educational systems that promote all human rights and fundamental freedoms that enhance tolerance for religious and cultural diversity, which is fundamental to promoting tolerant, peaceful and harmonious multicultural societies;

7. *Calls upon* all States to take the following actions, as called for by the Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, to foster a domestic environment of religious tolerance, peace and respect by:

(a) Encouraging the creation of collaborative networks to build mutual understanding, promoting dialogue and inspiring constructive action towards shared policy goals and the pursuit of tangible outcomes, such as servicing projects in the fields of education, health, conflict prevention, employment, integration and media education;

(b) Creating an appropriate mechanism within Governments to, inter alia, identify and address potential areas of tension between members of different religious communities and assisting with conflict prevention and mediation;

(c) Encouraging the training of government officials in effective outreach strategies;

(d) Encouraging the efforts of leaders to discuss within their communities the causes of discrimination and developing strategies to counter those causes;

(e) Speaking out against intolerance, including advocacy of religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence;

(f) Adopting measures to criminalize incitement to imminent violence based on religion or belief;

(g) Understanding the need to combat denigration and the negative religious stereotyping of persons, as well as incitement to religious hatred, by strategizing and harmonizing actions at the local, national, regional and international levels through, inter alia, education and awareness-raising;

(h) Recognizing that the open, constructive and respectful debate of ideas, as well as interreligious, interfaith and intercultural dialogue, at the local, national, regional and international levels, can play a positive role in combating religious hatred, incitement and violence;

8. *Also calls upon* all States:

(a) To take effective measures to ensure that public functionaries, in the conduct of their public duties, do not discriminate against an individual on the basis of religion or belief;

(b) To foster religious freedom and pluralism by promoting the ability of members of all religious communities to manifest their religion and to contribute openly and on an equal footing to society;

(c) To encourage the representation and meaningful participation of individuals, irrespective of their religion or belief, in all sectors of society;

(d) To make a strong effort to counter religious profiling, which is understood to be the invidious use of religion as a criterion in conducting questioning, searches and other investigative law enforcement procedures;

9. *Further calls upon* all States to adopt measures and policies to promote full respect for and protection of places of worship and religious sites, cemeteries and shrines and to take protective measures in cases where they are vulnerable to vandalism or destruction;

10. *Calls for* strengthened international efforts to foster a global dialogue for the promotion of a culture of tolerance and peace at all levels, based on respect for human rights and diversity of religions and beliefs;

11. *Encourages* all States to consider providing updates on efforts made in this regard as part of ongoing reporting to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and in this respect requests the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to include those updates in his reports to the Human Rights Council;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a report that includes information provided by the High Commissioner on steps taken by States to combat intolerance, negative stereotyping, stigmatization, discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against persons, based on religion or belief, as set forth in the present resolution.

## Draft resolution XII Freedom of religion or belief

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 36/55 of 25 November 1981, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

*Recalling also* article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>1</sup> article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights<sup>2</sup> and other relevant human rights provisions,

*Recalling further* its previous resolutions on freedom of religion or belief and on the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief, including resolution 69/175 of 18 December 2014, and Human Rights Council resolution 28/18 of 27 March 2015,<sup>3</sup>

*Recognizing* the important work carried out by the Human Rights Committee in providing guidance with respect to the scope of freedom of religion or belief,

*Noting* the conclusions and recommendations of the expert workshops organized by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and contained in the Rabat Plan of Action on the prohibition of advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, adopted in Rabat on 5 October 2012,<sup>4</sup>

*Considering* that religion or belief, for those who profess either, is one of the fundamental elements in their conception of life and that freedom of religion or belief, as a universal human right, should be fully respected and guaranteed,

*Seriously concerned* at continuing acts of intolerance and violence based on religion or belief against individuals, including against persons belonging to religious communities and religious minorities around the world, and at the increasing number and intensity of such incidents, which are often of a criminal nature and may have international characteristics,

*Deeply concerned* at the limited progress that has been made in the elimination of all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief, and believing that further intensified efforts are therefore required to promote and protect the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief and to eliminate all forms of hatred, intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief, as noted at the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, held in Durban, South Africa, from 31 August to 8 September 2001, as well as at the Durban Review Conference, held in Geneva from 20 to 24 April 2009,

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<sup>1</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>2</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>3</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/70/53)*, chap. III, sect. A.

<sup>4</sup> A/HRC/22/17/Add.4, appendix.

*Recalling* that States have the primary responsibility to promote and protect human rights, including the human rights of persons belonging to religious minorities, including their right to exercise their religion or belief freely,

*Concerned* that official authorities sometimes tolerate or encourage acts of violence, or credible threats of violence, against persons belonging to religious communities and religious minorities,

*Concerned also* at the increasing number of laws and regulations that limit the freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief and at the implementation of existing laws in a discriminatory manner,

*Convinced* of the need to urgently address the rapid rise in various parts of the world of religious extremism that affects the human rights of individuals, in particular persons belonging to religious communities and religious minorities, the situations of violence and discrimination that affect many individuals, particularly women and children, on the basis of or in the name of religion or belief or in accordance with cultural and traditional practices, and the misuse of religion or belief for ends inconsistent with the principles set out in the Charter of the United Nations and in other relevant instruments of the United Nations,

*Seriously concerned* about all attacks on religious places, sites and shrines that violate international law, in particular international human rights law and international humanitarian law, including any deliberate destruction of relics and monuments,

*Emphasizing* that States, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations, religious bodies, the media and civil society as a whole have an important role to play in promoting tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity and in the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including freedom of religion or belief,

*Underlining* the importance of education, including human rights education, in the promotion of tolerance, which involves the acceptance by the public of, and its respect for, diversity, including with regard to religious expression, and underlining also the fact that education, in particular at school, should contribute in a meaningful way to promoting tolerance and the elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief,

1. *Stresses* that everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, which includes the freedom to have or not to have, or to adopt, a religion or belief of one's own choice and the freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest one's religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance, including the right to change one's religion or belief;

2. *Emphasizes* that the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief applies equally to all persons, regardless of their religion or belief and without any discrimination as to their equal protection by the law;

3. *Strongly condemns* violations of freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief as well as all forms of intolerance, discrimination and violence based on religion or belief;

4. *Recognizes with deep concern* the overall rise in instances of discrimination, intolerance and violence, regardless of the actors, directed against

members of many religious and other communities in various parts of the world, including cases motivated by Islamophobia, anti-Semitism and Christianophobia and prejudices against persons of other religions or beliefs;

5. *Reaffirms* that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion or belief as this may have adverse consequences for the enjoyment of the right to freedom of religion or belief of all members of the religious communities concerned;

6. *Strongly condemns* violence and acts of terrorism, which are increasing in number and intensity, targeting individuals, including persons belonging to religious minorities, on the basis of or in the name of religion or belief;

7. *Recalls* that States have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and punish acts of violence against persons belonging to religious minorities, regardless of the perpetrator, and that failure to do so may constitute a human rights violation;

8. *Emphasizes* that freedom of religion or belief and freedom of expression are interdependent, interrelated and mutually reinforcing, and stresses the role that these rights can play in the fight against all forms of intolerance and of discrimination based on religion or belief;

9. *Strongly condemns* any advocacy of hatred based on religion or belief that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, whether it involves the use of print, audiovisual or electronic media or any other means;

10. *Expresses concern* at the persistence of institutionalized social intolerance and discrimination practised against many on the grounds of religion or belief, and emphasizes that legal procedures pertaining to religious or belief-based groups and places of worship are not a prerequisite for the exercise of the right to manifest one's religion or belief and that such procedures, when legally required at the national or local level, should be non-discriminatory in order to contribute to the effective protection of the right of all persons to practise their religion or belief, either individually or in community with others and in public or private;

11. *Recognizes with concern* the situation of persons in vulnerable situations, including persons deprived of their liberty, refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons, children, persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and migrants, as regards their ability to freely exercise their right to freedom of religion or belief;

12. *Emphasizes* that, as underlined by the Human Rights Committee, restrictions on the freedom to manifest one's religion or belief are permitted only if limitations are prescribed by law, are necessary to protect public safety, order, health or morals or the fundamental rights and freedoms of others, are non-discriminatory and are applied in a manner that does not vitiate the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief;

13. *Expresses deep concern* at continued obstacles to the enjoyment of the right to freedom of religion or belief as well as the increasing number of instances of intolerance, discrimination and violence based on religion or belief, including:

(a) Acts of violence and intolerance directed against individuals based on their religion or belief, including religious persons and persons belonging to religious minorities and other communities in various parts of the world;

(b) The rise of religious extremism in various parts of the world that affects the human rights of individuals, including persons belonging to religious minorities;

(c) Incidents of hatred, discrimination, intolerance and violence based on religion or belief, which may be associated with or manifested by the derogatory stereotyping, negative profiling and stigmatization of persons based on their religion or belief;

(d) Attacks on or destruction of religious places, sites and shrines that violate international law, in particular international human rights law and international humanitarian law, as they have more than material significance for the dignity and lives of persons holding spiritual or religious beliefs;

(e) Instances, both in law and practice, that constitute violations of the human right to freedom of religion or belief, including of the individual right to publicly express one's spiritual and religious beliefs, taking into account the relevant articles of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>1</sup> as well as other international instruments;

(f) Constitutional and legislative systems that fail to provide adequate and effective guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief to all without distinction;

14. *Urges* States to step up their efforts to protect and promote freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, and to this end:

(a) To ensure that their constitutional and legislative systems provide adequate and effective guarantees of freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief to all without distinction by, inter alia, providing access to justice, including by facilitating legal assistance and effective remedies in cases where the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief or the right to freely choose and practise one's religion or belief is violated, paying particular attention to persons belonging to religious minorities;

(b) To implement all accepted universal periodic review recommendations related to the promotion and protection of freedom of religion or belief;

(c) To ensure that no one within their territory and subject to their jurisdiction is deprived of the right to life, liberty and security of person because of religion or belief, to provide adequate protection to persons at risk of violent attack on the grounds of their religion or belief, to ensure that no one is subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment or arbitrary arrest or detention on that account and to bring to justice all perpetrators of violations of these rights;

(d) To end violations of the human rights of women and to devote particular attention to appropriate measures modifying or abolishing existing laws, regulations, customs and practices that discriminate against women, including in the exercise of their right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion or belief, and to foster practical ways to ensure equality between men and women;

(e) To ensure that existing legislation is not implemented in a discriminatory manner or does not result in discrimination based on religion or belief, that no one is

discriminated against on the basis of his or her religion or belief when accessing, inter alia, education, medical care, employment, humanitarian assistance or social benefits and that everyone has the right and the opportunity to have access, on general terms of equality, to public services in their country, without any discrimination based on religion or belief;

(f) To review, whenever relevant, existing registration practices in order to ensure that such practices do not limit the right of all persons to manifest their religion or belief, either alone or in community with others and in public or private;

(g) To ensure that no official documents are withheld from the individual on the grounds of religion or belief and that everyone has the right to refrain from disclosing information concerning their religious affiliation in such documents against their will;

(h) To ensure, in particular, the right of all persons to worship, assemble or teach in connection with a religion or belief, their right to establish and maintain places for these purposes and the right of all persons to seek, receive and impart information and ideas in these areas;

(i) To ensure that, in accordance with appropriate national legislation and in conformity with international human rights law, the freedom of all persons and members of groups to establish and maintain religious, charitable or humanitarian institutions is fully respected and protected;

(j) To ensure that all public officials and civil servants, including members of law enforcement bodies, and personnel of detention facilities, the military and educators, in the course of fulfilling their official duties, respect freedom of religion or belief and do not discriminate for reasons based on religion or belief, and that they receive all necessary and appropriate awareness-raising, education or training on respect for freedom of religion or belief;

(k) To take all necessary and appropriate action, in conformity with international standards of human rights, to combat hatred, discrimination, intolerance and acts of violence, intimidation and coercion motivated by intolerance based on religion or belief, as well as incitement to hostility and violence, with particular regard to persons belonging to religious minorities in all parts of the world;

(l) To promote, through education and other means, mutual understanding, tolerance, non-discrimination and respect in all matters relating to freedom of religion or belief by encouraging, in society at large, a wider knowledge of the diversity of religions and beliefs and of the history, traditions, languages and cultures of the various religious minorities existing within their jurisdiction;

(m) To prevent any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference based on religion or belief that impairs the recognition, enjoyment or exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis and to detect signs of intolerance that may lead to discrimination based on religion or belief;

15. *Welcomes and encourages* initiatives by the media to promote tolerance and respect for religious and cultural diversity and the universal promotion and protection of human rights, including freedom of religion or belief, and stresses the importance of unhindered participation in the media and in public discourse for all persons, regardless of their religion or belief;

16. *Stresses* the importance of a continued and strengthened dialogue in all its forms, including among and within religions or beliefs, and with broader participation, including of women, to promote greater tolerance, respect and mutual understanding, and welcomes different initiatives in this regard, including the Alliance of Civilizations initiative and the programmes led by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

17. *Welcomes and encourages* the continuing efforts of all actors in society, including non-governmental organizations and bodies and groups based on religion or belief, to promote the implementation of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,<sup>5</sup> and further encourages their work in promoting freedom of religion or belief, in highlighting cases of religious intolerance, discrimination and persecution and in promoting religious tolerance;

18. *Recommends* that States, the United Nations and other actors, including non-governmental organizations and bodies and groups based on religion or belief, in their efforts to promote freedom of religion or belief, ensure the widest possible dissemination of the text of the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief in as many different languages as possible, and promote its implementation;

19. *Takes note with appreciation* of the work and the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on freedom of religion or belief on the rights of the child and his or her parents in the area of freedom of religion or belief,<sup>6</sup> and encourages States to consider addressing violations and abuses highlighted in the interim report of the Special Rapporteur, including the forcible abduction and conversion of children from religious minorities;

20. *Urges* all Governments to cooperate fully with the Special Rapporteur, to respond favourably to his requests to visit their countries and to provide all information and follow-up necessary for the effective fulfilment of his mandate;

21. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that the Special Rapporteur receives the resources necessary to fully discharge his mandate;

22. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit an interim report to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session;

23. *Decides* to consider the question of the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance at its seventy-first session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights".

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<sup>5</sup> Resolution 36/55.

<sup>6</sup> See A/70/286.

## **Draft resolution XIII**

### **Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and expressing, in particular, the need to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction,

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>1</sup> as well as the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,<sup>2</sup> the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance on 8 September 2001,<sup>3</sup> the outcome document of the Durban Review Conference, adopted on 24 April 2009,<sup>4</sup> and the political declaration of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action, entitled “United against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance”, of 22 September 2011,<sup>5</sup>

*Recalling also* the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>6</sup> and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>6</sup>

*Recalling further* the Declaration on the Right to Development adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/128 of 4 December 1986,

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration<sup>7</sup> and the outcome documents of the twenty-third<sup>8</sup> and twenty-fourth<sup>9</sup> special sessions of the General Assembly, held in New York from 5 to 10 June 2000 and in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000, respectively,

*Recalling also* its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,

*Recalling further* its resolutions 66/154 of 19 December 2011, 67/165 of 20 December 2012, 68/168 of 18 December 2013 and 69/173 of 18 December 2014,

*Recalling* Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/17 of 14 April 2005 on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights,<sup>10</sup>

*Recalling also* Human Rights Council resolutions 21/5 of 27 September 2012<sup>11</sup> on the contribution of the United Nations system as a whole to the advancement of the

<sup>1</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>2</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

<sup>3</sup> See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

<sup>4</sup> See A/CONF.211/8, chap. I.

<sup>5</sup> Resolution 66/3.

<sup>6</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>7</sup> Resolution 55/2.

<sup>8</sup> Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

<sup>9</sup> Resolution S-24/2, annex.

<sup>10</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>11</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. III.

business and human rights agenda and the dissemination and implementation of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework,<sup>12</sup> 26/9 of 26 June 2014<sup>13</sup> on the elaboration of an international legally binding instrument on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights and 26/22 of 27 June 2014<sup>14</sup> on human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises,

*Recognizing* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and that the international community must treat human rights globally in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

*Realizing* that globalization affects all countries differently and makes them more exposed to external developments, positive as well as negative, inter alia, in the field of human rights,

*Realizing also* that globalization is not merely an economic process, but that it also has social, political, environmental, cultural and legal dimensions, which have an impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Emphasizing* the need to fully implement the global partnership for development and enhance the momentum generated by the 2005 World Summit in order to operationalize and implement the commitments made in the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the 2005 World Summit, in the economic, social and related fields, and reaffirming in particular the commitment contained in paragraphs 19 and 47 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome<sup>15</sup> to promote fair globalization and the development of the productive sectors in developing countries to enable them to participate more effectively in and benefit from the process of globalization,

*Realizing* the need to undertake a thorough, independent and comprehensive assessment of the social, environmental and cultural impact of globalization on societies,

*Recognizing* in each culture a dignity and value that deserve recognition, respect and preservation, convinced that, in their rich variety and diversity and in the reciprocal influences that they exert on one another, all cultures form part of the common heritage belonging to all humankind, and aware of the risk that globalization poses more of a threat to cultural diversity if the developing world remains poor and marginalized,

*Recognizing also* that multilateral mechanisms have a unique role to play in meeting the challenges and opportunities presented by globalization,

*Realizing* the need to consider the challenges and opportunities linked to globalization with a view to addressing such challenges and building on possible opportunities in order to achieve the full enjoyment of all human rights,

*Emphasizing* the global character of the migratory phenomenon, the importance of international, regional and bilateral cooperation and the need to protect the human

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<sup>12</sup> A/HRC/17/31, annex.

<sup>13</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/69/53)*, chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>15</sup> Resolution 60/1.

rights of migrants, particularly at a time when migration flows have increased in the globalized economy,

*Expressing grave concern* at the negative impact of international financial turmoil on social and economic development and on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly in the light of the continuing global financial and economic crisis, which may have an adverse impact on the ability of Member States to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and recognizing that developing countries are in a more vulnerable situation when facing such impact and that regional economic cooperation and development strategies and programmes can play a role in mitigating such impact,

*Expressing deep concern* at the negative impact of the continuing global food and energy crises and climate change challenges on social and economic development and on the full enjoyment of all human rights for all,

*Recognizing* that globalization should be guided by the fundamental principles that underpin the corpus of human rights, such as equity, participation, accountability, non-discrimination, transparency, inclusivity and equality at both the national and the international levels, respect for diversity, tolerance and international cooperation and solidarity,

*Emphasizing* that the existence of widespread extreme poverty inhibits the full realization and effective enjoyment of human rights and that its immediate alleviation and eventual elimination must remain a high priority for the international community,

*Acknowledging* that there is greater acceptance that the increasing debt burden faced by the most indebted developing countries is unsustainable and constitutes one of the principal obstacles to achieving sustainable development and poverty eradication and that, for many developing countries, excessive debt servicing has severely constrained their capacity to promote social development and to provide basic services to realize economic, social and cultural rights,

*Strongly reiterating* the determination to ensure the timely and full realization of the sustainable development goals and objectives agreed at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including those agreed at the United Nations summit for the adoption of the post-2015 sustainable development agenda, which aim to galvanize efforts towards poverty eradication,

*Gravely concerned* at the inadequacy of measures to narrow the widening gap between the developed and the developing countries, and within countries, which has contributed to, inter alia, deepening poverty and has adversely affected the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular in developing countries,

*Emphasizing* that transnational corporations and other business enterprises have a responsibility to respect all human rights,

*Emphasizing also* that human beings strive for a world that is respectful of human rights and cultural diversity and that, in this regard, they work to ensure that all activities, including those affected by globalization, are consistent with those aims,

1. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Heads of State and Government and High Representatives, meeting at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 25 to 27 September 2015, of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>16</sup>

2. *Recognizes* that, while globalization, through its impact on, inter alia, the role of the State, may affect human rights, the promotion and protection of all human rights is first and foremost the responsibility of the State;

3. *Emphasizes* that development should be at the centre of the international economic agenda and that coherence between national development strategies and international obligations and commitments is imperative for an enabling environment for development and an inclusive and equitable globalization;

4. *Reaffirms* that narrowing the gap between rich and poor, both within and between countries, is an explicit goal at the national and international levels, as part of the effort to create an enabling environment for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

5. *Also reaffirms* the commitment to create an environment at both the national and the global levels that is conducive to development and to the eradication of poverty by, inter alia, promoting good governance within each country and at the international level, eliminating protectionism, enhancing transparency in the financial, monetary and trading systems and committing to an open, equitable, rules-based, predictable and non-discriminatory multilateral trading and financial system;

6. *Recognizes* the impacts that the global financial and economic crisis is still having on the ability of countries, particularly developing countries, to mobilize resources for development and to address the impact of this crisis, and in this context calls upon all States and the international community to alleviate, in an inclusive and development-oriented manner, any negative impacts of this crisis on the realization and the effective enjoyment of all human rights;

7. *Also recognizes* that, while globalization offers great opportunities, the fact that its benefits are very unevenly shared and its costs unevenly distributed represents an aspect of the process that affects the full enjoyment of all human rights, in particular in developing countries;

8. *Welcomes* the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of human rights,<sup>17</sup> which focuses on the liberalization of agricultural trade and its impact on the realization of the right to development, including the right to food, and takes note of the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

9. *Reaffirms* the international commitment to eliminating hunger and to securing food for all, today and tomorrow, and reiterates that the relevant United Nations organizations should be assured the resources needed to expand and enhance their food assistance and support social safety net programmes designed to address hunger and malnutrition, when appropriate, through the use of local or regional purchase;

10. *Calls upon* Member States, relevant agencies of the United Nations system, intergovernmental organizations and civil society to promote inclusive,

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<sup>16</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>17</sup> E/CN.4/2002/54.

equitable and environmentally sustainable economic growth for managing globalization so that poverty is systematically reduced and the international development targets are achieved;

11. *Recognizes* that the responsible operations of transnational corporations and other business enterprises can contribute to the promotion, protection and fulfilment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular economic, social and cultural rights;

12. *Also recognizes* that only through broad and sustained efforts, including policies and measures at the global level to create a shared future based upon our common humanity in all its diversity, can globalization be made fully inclusive and equitable and have a human face, thus contributing to the full enjoyment of all human rights;

13. *Underlines* the urgent need to establish an equitable, transparent and democratic international system to strengthen and broaden the participation of developing countries in international economic decision-making and norm-setting;

14. *Affirms* that globalization is a complex process of structural transformation, with numerous interdisciplinary aspects, which has an impact on the enjoyment of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development;

15. *Also affirms* that the international community should strive to respond to the challenges and opportunities posed by globalization in a manner that promotes and protects human rights while ensuring respect for the cultural diversity of all;

16. *Underlines*, therefore, the need to continue to analyse the consequences of globalization for the full enjoyment of all human rights;

17. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>18</sup> and requests him to continue to seek further the views of Member States and relevant agencies of the United Nations system and to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a substantive report on the subject based on those views, including recommendations on ways to address the impact of globalization on the full enjoyment of all human rights.

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<sup>18</sup> A/70/154.

## **Draft resolution XIV International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its resolution 61/177 of 20 December 2006, by which it adopted and opened for signature, ratification and accession the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,

*Recalling* its resolution 47/133 of 18 December 1992, by which it adopted the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance as a body of principles for all States,

*Recalling also* all its other resolutions on the matter, including resolution 69/169 of 18 December 2014, as well as relevant resolutions adopted by the Human Rights Council, including resolution 27/1 of 25 September 2014,<sup>1</sup>

*Recalling further* its resolution 68/165 of 18 December 2013 on the right to the truth, as well as Human Rights Council resolution 27/3 of 25 September 2014 on the Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence,<sup>1</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 68/268 of 9 April 2014 on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system,

*Recalling also* that no one shall be subjected to enforced disappearance,

*Recalling further* that no exceptional circumstance whatsoever may be invoked as a justification for enforced disappearance,

*Recalling* that no one shall be held in secret detention,

*Deeply concerned,* in particular, by the increase in enforced or involuntary disappearances in various regions of the world, including arrest, detention and abduction, when these are part of or amount to enforced disappearances, and by the growing number of reports concerning harassment, ill-treatment and intimidation of witnesses of disappearances or relatives of persons who have disappeared,

*Recalling* that the Convention sets out the right of victims to know the truth regarding the circumstances of the enforced disappearance, the progress and results of the investigation and the fate of the disappeared person, and sets forth State party obligations to take appropriate measures in this regard,

*Recalling also* that the Convention defines the victim of enforced disappearance as the disappeared person and any individual who has suffered harm as the direct result of an enforced disappearance,

*Acknowledging* that the widespread or systematic practice of enforced disappearance is recognized in the Convention as a crime against humanity, as defined in applicable international law,

*Stressing* the importance of the work of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances,

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<sup>1</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

*Acknowledging* the valuable work of the International Committee of the Red Cross in promoting compliance with international humanitarian law in this field,

1. *Welcomes* the fifth anniversary of the entry into force of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance;<sup>2</sup>

2. *Recognizes* the importance of the Convention, the ratification and the implementation of which will be a significant contribution to ending impunity and to promoting and protecting all human rights for all;

3. *Welcomes* the fact that 94 States have signed the Convention and 51 have ratified or acceded to it, and calls upon States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying or acceding to the Convention as a matter of priority, as well as to consider the option provided for in articles 31 and 32 of the Convention regarding the Committee on Enforced Disappearances;

4. *Also welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>3</sup>

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to increase their intensive efforts to assist States in becoming parties to the Convention, including by supporting the actions of States to ratify the Convention, providing technical and capacity-building assistance to States and civil society and raising awareness about the Convention, with a view to achieving universal adherence;

6. *Requests* United Nations agencies and organizations, and invites intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances, to continue to make efforts to disseminate information on the Convention, to promote understanding of it and to assist States parties in implementing their obligations under this instrument;

7. *Welcomes* the work achieved by the Committee, and encourages all States parties to the Convention to submit their reports, to support and promote the work of the Committee and to implement its recommendations;

8. *Recognizes* the importance of the Declaration on the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance<sup>4</sup> as a body of principles for all States designed to punish enforced disappearances, to prevent their commission and to help victims of such acts and their families to seek fair, prompt and adequate reparation;

9. *Welcomes* the cooperation established between the Working Group and the Committee, within the framework of their respective mandates, and encourages further cooperation in the future;

10. *Takes note with interest* of all the general comments of the Working Group, including the most recent comments on children<sup>5</sup> and women<sup>6</sup> affected by enforced disappearances, and recognizes in this regard that enforced disappearances have special consequences for women and vulnerable groups, especially children, as they most often bear the serious economic hardships that usually accompany such

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<sup>2</sup> Resolution 61/177, annex.

<sup>3</sup> A/70/261.

<sup>4</sup> Resolution 47/133.

<sup>5</sup> A/HRC/WGEID/98/1 and Corr.1.

<sup>6</sup> A/HRC/WGEID/98/2.

disappearances and, when subjected to enforced disappearances themselves, may become particularly vulnerable to sexual and other forms of violence;

11. *Welcomes* the fact that the Committee held its annual meeting with the Working Group, as an opportunity to take stock of the activities of the two parallel organs, which are complementary and reinforce each other within the framework of their respective mandates;

12. *Decides* to devote one high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly, within existing resources, at its seventy-first session to the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention, and requests the President of the General Assembly to conduct consultations with Member States in order to determine the modalities for that meeting;

13. *Invites* the Chair of the Committee and the Chair of the Working Group to address and engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its seventy-first and seventy-second sessions under the item entitled “Promotion and protection of human rights”;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first and seventy-second sessions a report on the status of the Convention and the implementation of the present resolution;

15. *Decides* to give its full consideration to the subject matter at its seventy-second session.

**Draft resolution XV**  
**Human rights defenders in the context of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms**

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Guided also* by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>1</sup> the International Covenants on Human Rights<sup>2</sup> and other relevant instruments,

*Recalling* its resolution 53/144 of 9 December 1998, by which it adopted by consensus the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms,

*Recalling also* all other previous resolutions on this subject, including its resolutions 66/164 of 19 December 2011 and 68/181 of 18 December 2013 and Human Rights Council resolutions 22/6 of 21 March 2013 and 25/18 of 28 March 2014,

*Reaffirming* the importance of the Declaration and its implementation, and that promoting respect and support for the activities of human rights defenders is essential to the overall enjoyment of human rights,

*Welcoming* the steps taken by some States to promote and give full effect to the Declaration, as well as by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and some regional organizations in making the Declaration available and known to all stakeholders at the national and local levels in their respective languages, and underlining the need to promote and give effect to the Declaration, including through its translation into the various languages and its further dissemination with a view to its implementation in all regions,

*Emphasizing* the important role that individuals and civil society institutions, including non-governmental organizations, groups and national human rights institutions, play at the local, national, regional and international levels in the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all,

*Recognizing* the substantial role that human rights defenders can play in supporting efforts to strengthen conflict prevention, peace and development through dialogue, openness, participation and justice, including by monitoring, reporting on and contributing to the promotion and protection of human rights,

*Recognizing also* the vital work of human rights defenders in promoting, protecting and advocating the realization of economic, social and cultural rights, and concerned that threats and attacks against human rights defenders, and hindrance of their work, have a negative impact on the realization of these rights, including as they relate to environmental and land issues as well as development,

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<sup>1</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>2</sup> Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

*Mindful* that domestic law and administrative provisions and their application should not hinder, but enable the work of human rights defenders, including by avoiding any criminalization or stigmatization of the important activities and legitimate role of human rights defenders and the communities of which they are a part or on whose behalf they work, and by avoiding impediments, obstructions, restrictions or selective enforcement thereof contrary to the obligations and commitments of States under international human rights law,

*Reaffirming* that States have the primary responsibility and are under the obligation to protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons,

*Reaffirming also* that national legislation consistent with the Charter of the United Nations and other international obligations of the State in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms is the juridical framework within which human rights defenders conduct their activities,

*Gravely concerned* that national security and counter-terrorism legislation as well as measures in other areas, such as laws regulating civil society organizations, are in some instances misused to target human rights defenders or hinder their work, endangering their safety in a manner contrary to international law,

*Recognizing* the urgent need to address, and to take concrete steps to prevent and stop, the use of legislation which hinders or limits unduly the ability of human rights defenders to exercise their work, including by reviewing and, where necessary, amending relevant legislation and its implementation in order to ensure compliance with the obligations and commitments of States under international human rights law,

*Gravely concerned* by the considerable and increasing number of allegations and communications of a serious nature received by special procedures of the Human Rights Council on the risks faced by human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders, and the prevalence of impunity for violations and abuses against them in many countries, where they face threats, harassment and attacks and suffer insecurity, including through restrictions on the rights to freedom of opinion, expression, association or peaceful assembly, abuse of criminal or civil proceedings, or acts of intimidation and reprisal intended to prevent their cooperation with the United Nations and other international bodies in the field of human rights,

*Gravely concerned also* about incidents of human rights defenders being subjected to attacks, threats and other abuses by non-State actors, and underlining the need for the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons, including human rights defenders, to be respected and protected,

*Welcoming* the steps taken by some States, including in follow-up to relevant resolutions, the universal periodic review under the Human Rights Council, special procedures, treaty bodies and regional human rights mechanisms, towards the improvement of dialogue between authorities and civil society and towards the adoption of national policies and legislation that serve to create a safe and enabling environment and to protect human rights defenders, in particular from being prosecuted, in contravention of the obligations and commitments of States under international human rights law, for peaceful activities, and against threats, harassment, intimidation, duress, arbitrary detention or arrest, enforced disappearance, violence and attacks by State and non-State actors,

*Recognizing* that dissenting views, including views on government and corporate policies related to or with an impact on human rights, may be expressed peacefully and communicated freely in society, online and offline, in accordance with the obligations and commitments of States under international human rights law, and thereby emphasizing the importance of respecting all human rights of all, and stressing in this regard the importance of independent voices of civic activity, human rights education and independent, impartial and competent national judicial systems,

*Stressing in particular* that information and communication technologies are important tools for the promotion of human rights and reporting on human rights violations and abuses, and concerned that such technologies are increasingly being used to monitor and hamper the work of human rights defenders,

*Strongly reaffirming* that everyone has the right, individually and in association with others, to promote and strive for the protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms at the national and international levels, as laid out in the Declaration,

1. *Stresses* that the right of everyone to promote and strive for the protection and realization of human rights and fundamental freedoms without retaliation or fear thereof is an essential element in building and maintaining sustainable, open and democratic societies;

2. *Calls upon* all States to take all measures necessary to ensure the rights and safety of human rights defenders who exercise the rights to freedom of opinion, expression, peaceful assembly and association, which are essential for the promotion and protection of human rights;

3. *Welcomes* the work and takes note of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the situation of human rights defenders;<sup>3</sup>

4. *Urges* States to acknowledge through public statements, policies or laws the important and legitimate role of individuals, groups and organs of society, including human rights defenders in the promotion of human rights, democracy and the rule of law, as essential components of ensuring their recognition and protection, including by condemning publicly all cases of violence and discrimination against human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders, underlining that such practices can never be justified;

5. *Strongly condemns* the violence against and the targeting, criminalization, intimidation, torture, disappearance, and killing of any individuals, including human rights defenders, for reporting and seeking information on human rights violations and abuses, and stresses the need to combat impunity by ensuring that those responsible for violations and abuses against human rights defenders, including against their legal representatives, associates and family members, are promptly brought to justice through impartial investigations;

6. *Condemns* all acts of intimidation and reprisal by State and non-State actors against individuals, groups and organs of society, including against human rights defenders and their legal representatives, associates and family members, who seek to cooperate, are cooperating or have cooperated with subregional, regional

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<sup>3</sup> See A/70/217.

and international bodies, including the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms, in the field of human rights;

7. *Urges* non-State actors to respect and promote the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all persons and to refrain from undermining the capacity of human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders, to operate free from hindrance and insecurity;

8. *Calls upon* States to take concrete steps to prevent and put an end to the arbitrary arrest and detention of human rights defenders, and in this regard strongly urges the release of persons detained or imprisoned, in violation of the obligations and commitments of States under international human rights law, for exercising their human rights and fundamental freedoms, such as the rights to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association, including in relation to cooperation with the United Nations or other international mechanisms in the area of human rights;

9. *Reaffirms* the urgent need to respect, protect, facilitate and promote the work of those promoting and defending economic, social and cultural rights, as a vital factor contributing towards the realization of those rights, including as they relate to environmental and land issues as well as development;

10. *Calls upon* all States to create and maintain a safe and enabling environment for the realization of human rights and specifically to ensure that:

(a) The promotion and protection of human rights are not criminalized or met with limitations in contravention of the obligations and commitments of States under international human rights law;

(b) Human rights defenders, their family members, associates and legal representatives are not prevented from enjoying universal human rights owing to their work, including by ensuring that all legal provisions, administrative measures and policies affecting them, including those aimed at preserving public safety, public order and public morals, are minimally restrictive, clearly defined, determinable, non-retroactive and compatible with the obligations and commitments of States under international human rights law;

(c) Measures to combat terrorism and preserve national security are in compliance with their obligations and commitments under international law, in particular under international human rights law, and do not jeopardize the safety or arbitrarily hinder the work of individuals, groups and organs of society engaged in promoting and defending human rights, while clearly identifying which offences qualify as terrorist acts by defining transparent and foreseeable criteria;

(d) Where legislation and procedures governing the registration and funding of civil society organizations exist, they are transparent, non-discriminatory, expeditious, inexpensive, allow for the possibility to appeal and avoid requiring re-registration, with national legislation being in compliance with international human rights law;

(e) Procedural safeguards, including in criminal cases, are in place in accordance with international human rights law in order to eliminate unreliable evidence, unwarranted investigations and procedural delays, thereby effectively contributing to the expeditious closing of unsubstantiated cases, including against human rights defenders, and individuals are afforded the opportunity to lodge

complaints directly with the appropriate authority, and respecting, inter alia, the right to be informed promptly and in detail of charges, the right to the presumption of innocence, the right to a fair and public hearing, the right to choose and communicate with counsel in confidence, the right to present witnesses and evidence and cross-examine prosecution witnesses and the right to appeal;

(f) Information, such as evidence of serious violations of human rights, held by public authorities is not unnecessarily classified or otherwise withheld from the public, and States adopt transparent, clear and expedient laws and policies that provide for the effective disclosure of information held by public authorities and a general right to request and receive such information, for which public access should be granted, except within narrow and clearly defined limitations;

(g) Provisions do not prevent public officials from being held accountable, and penalties for defamation are limited in order to ensure proportionality and reparation commensurate with the harm done;

(h) Information and communications technologies are not used in a manner that amounts to arbitrary or unlawful interference with the privacy of individuals or the intimidation of human rights defenders;

11. *Recognizes* that, in the exercise of the rights and freedoms referred to in the Declaration, human rights defenders, acting individually and in association with others, shall be subject only to such limitations as are in accordance with applicable international obligations and are determined by law solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order and the general welfare in a democratic society;

12. *Encourages* States to develop and put in place sustainable public policies or programmes that support and protect human rights defenders at all stages of their work in a comprehensive manner;

13. *Reaffirms* the utility and benefit of consultations and dialogue with human rights defenders related to public policies and programmes, including for protection purposes, and encourages States to appoint focal points or to employ other relevant mechanisms for human rights defenders within the public administration;

14. *Continues to express particular concern* about systemic and structural discrimination and violence faced by women human rights defenders of all ages, and reiterates its strong call upon States to take appropriate, robust and practical steps to protect them and to integrate a gender perspective into their efforts to create a safe and enabling environment for the defence of human rights, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/181 of 18 December 2013;

15. *Expresses concern* about stigmatization and discrimination that target or affect individuals and associations defending the rights of persons belonging to minorities or espousing minority beliefs or views, or other groups vulnerable to discrimination, and calls upon States to ensure that legislation does not target the activities of individuals and associations defending the rights of persons belonging to minorities or espousing minority beliefs;

16. *Reaffirms* the right of everyone, individually and in association with others, to unhindered access to and communication with international bodies, in particular the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of

human rights, including the Human Rights Council, its special procedures, the universal periodic review mechanism and the treaty bodies, as well as regional human rights mechanisms;

17. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on cooperation with the United Nations, its representatives and mechanisms in the field of human rights;

18. *Welcomes* the efforts made by States to investigate allegations of intimidation or reprisal and to bring perpetrators to justice, and encourages Governments to support such efforts;

19. *Strongly calls upon* all States:

(a) To refrain from, and ensure adequate protection from, any act of intimidation or reprisal against human rights defenders who cooperate, have cooperated or seek to cooperate with international institutions, including their family members and associates;

(b) To end impunity for acts of intimidation or reprisals by bringing the perpetrators to justice and by providing an effective remedy for their victims;

(c) To avoid legislation and practices that have the effect of undermining the right reaffirmed in paragraph 16 of the present resolution;

20. *Encourages* all relevant regional organizations to consider the situation of human rights defenders and to develop and employ appropriate and effective measures for their protection, inter alia, by addressing violations and abuses by State and non-State actors;

21. *Encourages* leaders in all sectors of society and in their respective communities, including political, military, social and religious leaders and leaders in business and the media, to express public support for the important and legitimate role of human rights defenders in society, including women human rights defenders, and in any cases of violence and discrimination against them to take a clear stance in rejection of such practices;

22. *Underscores* the responsibility of all transnational and other business enterprises to respect human rights, including the rights of human rights defenders to freedom of expression, peaceful assembly and association, and participation in public affairs, which are essential for the promotion and protection of human rights, including economic, social and cultural rights and the right to development, urges enterprises to identify and address any adverse human rights impacts related to their activities through meaningful consultation with potentially affected groups and other relevant stakeholders in a manner consistent with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework,<sup>4</sup> and underlines the importance of accountability, including of all transnational and other business enterprises, including their provision of, or cooperation in, remediation;

23. *Underlines* the value of national human rights institutions, established and operating in accordance with the Paris Principles, in the continued monitoring of existing legislation and consistently informing the State about its impact on the

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<sup>4</sup> A/HRC/17/31, annex.

activities of human rights defenders, including by making relevant and concrete recommendations;

24. *Encourages* national human rights institutions to pay due attention to the situation of human rights defenders, including through consultations with relevant stakeholders on issues such as legislation, policies and administrative measures that affect the defence of human rights, and to develop and support the documentation of violations and abuses against human rights defenders in a comprehensive manner;

25. *Encourages* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the special procedures, within their respective mandates, to continue the efforts related to the protection of human rights defenders, as laid out in relevant resolutions, including by offering technical assistance for the consideration of States in bringing their legislation and its application into line with the obligations and commitments of States under international human rights law;

26. *Encourages* United Nations bodies, agencies and other entities, within their respective mandates and in cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Special Rapporteur, to address the situation of human rights defenders in their work in order to contribute to the effective implementation of the Declaration on the Right and Responsibility of Individuals, Groups and Organs of Society to Promote and Protect Universally Recognized Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms;<sup>5</sup>

27. *Requests* all concerned United Nations agencies and organizations, within their mandates, to provide all possible assistance and support to the Special Rapporteur for the effective fulfilment of his or her mandate, including in the context of country visits and through suggestions on ways and means of ensuring the protection of human rights defenders, including women human rights defenders;

28. *Urges* States to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur in the performance of his or her mandate, including by responding without undue delay to the communications transmitted to them by the Special Rapporteur, and reiterates its call upon States to give favourable consideration to the requests of the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries and to enter into a constructive dialogue with respect to the follow-up and implementation of recommendations, so as to enable the Special Rapporteur to fulfil his or her mandate even more effectively;

29. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to continue to report annually on his or her activities to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council, in accordance with the mandate, and invites the Special Rapporteur to take into account progress on the implementation of the present resolution in his or her reporting;

30. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

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<sup>5</sup> Resolution 53/144, annex.

## Draft resolution XVI

### The safety of journalists and the issue of impunity

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,*

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>1</sup> and recalling relevant international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>2</sup> and the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,<sup>3</sup> as well as the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949<sup>4</sup> and the Additional Protocols thereto,<sup>5</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 68/163 of 18 December 2013 on the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity, in which it proclaimed 2 November as the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists, as well as its resolution 69/185 of 18 December 2014 on the same issue,

*Welcoming* the latest report of the Secretary-General on the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity,<sup>6</sup> and recalling his previous report on this topic,<sup>7</sup>

*Taking note with appreciation* of the United Nations Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity, endorsed by the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination on 12 April 2012, in which United Nations agencies, funds and programmes were invited to work with Member States towards a free and safe environment for journalists and media workers in both conflict and non-conflict situations, with a view to strengthening peace, democracy and development worldwide,

*Recalling* Human Rights Council resolutions 21/12 of 27 September 2012<sup>8</sup> and 27/5 of 25 September 2014<sup>9</sup> on the safety of journalists, 26/13 of 14 July 2014 on the promotion, protection and enjoyment of human rights on the Internet<sup>10</sup> and 27/12 of 25 September 2014 on the World Programme for Human Rights Education,<sup>9</sup> as well as Security Council resolutions 1738 (2006) of 23 December 2006 and 2222 (2015) of 27 May 2015,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the summary report on the panel discussion of the Human Rights Council on the issue of the safety of journalists, held on 11 June 2014, submitted to the Council at its twenty-seventh session,<sup>11</sup> as well as the 2015 publication of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural

<sup>1</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>2</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>3</sup> Resolution 61/177, annex.

<sup>4</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

<sup>6</sup> A/70/290.

<sup>7</sup> A/69/268.

<sup>8</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. III.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/69/53), chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>11</sup> A/HRC/27/35.

Organization entitled *World Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development*,

*Taking note* of all relevant reports of the special procedures of the Human Rights Council with regard to the safety of journalists, as well as the reports of the Special Rapporteurs on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression<sup>12</sup> and on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions,<sup>13</sup> submitted to the Council at its twenty-ninth session, and the interactive dialogue thereon,

*Commending* the role and the activities of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization with regard to the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity, and their facilitation of the commemoration of the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists, in consultation with relevant entities within the United Nations system, Governments and relevant stakeholders,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights on good practices concerning the safety of journalists,<sup>14</sup> submitted to the Human Rights Council at its twenty-fourth session, as well as its report on the right to privacy in the digital age, submitted to the Council at its twenty-seventh session,<sup>15</sup>

*Mindful* that the right to freedom of opinion and expression is a human right guaranteed to all, in accordance with article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and that it constitutes one of the essential foundations of a democratic society and one of the basic conditions for its progress and development,

*Acknowledging* that journalism is continuously evolving to include input from media institutions, private individuals and a range of organizations that seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, online as well as offline, in the exercise of freedom of opinion and expression, in accordance with article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, thereby contributing to the shaping of public debate,

*Recognizing* the importance of freedom of expression and of free media, online as well as offline, in building inclusive and peaceful knowledge societies and democracies and in fostering intercultural dialogue, peace and good governance, as well as understanding and cooperation,

*Recognizing also* that the work of journalists often puts them at specific risk of intimidation, harassment and violence,

*Noting* the good practices of different countries aimed at the protection of journalists, as well as, inter alia, those designed for the protection of human rights defenders that can, where applicable, be relevant to the protection of journalists,

*Recognizing* the efforts by States to review and, where necessary, amend laws, policies and practices that limit the ability of journalists to perform their work

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<sup>12</sup> A/HRC/29/32.

<sup>13</sup> A/HRC/29/37 and Add.1-7.

<sup>14</sup> A/HRC/24/23.

<sup>15</sup> A/HRC/27/37.

independently and without undue interference and to bring them fully in line with their obligations under international law,

*Emphasizing* the role of international cooperation in support of national efforts to prevent attacks and violence against journalists and in raising the capacities of States in the field of human rights, including in preventing attacks and violence against journalists, including through the provision of technical assistance, upon the request of and in accordance with the priorities set by the States concerned,

*Recognizing* that the number of people whose lives are influenced by the way information is presented is significant and that journalism influences public opinion,

*Bearing in mind* that impunity for attacks against journalists remains one of the greatest challenges to the safety of journalists and that ensuring accountability for crimes committed against journalists is a key element in preventing future attacks,

*Recalling* in this regard that journalists, media professionals and associated personnel engaged in dangerous professional missions in areas of armed conflict shall be considered as civilians and shall be respected and protected as such, provided that they take no action adversely affecting their status as civilians,

*Deeply concerned* by all human rights violations and abuses committed in relation to the safety of journalists and media workers, including killing, torture, enforced disappearance, arbitrary arrest and arbitrary detention, expulsion, intimidation, harassment, threats and other forms of violence,

*Expressing deep concern* at the increased number of journalists and media workers who have been killed, tortured or detained in recent years as a direct result of their profession,

*Expressing deep concern also* at the growing threat to the safety of journalists posed by non-State actors, including terrorist groups and criminal organizations,

*Acknowledging* the specific risks faced by women journalists in the exercise of their work, and underlining, in this context, the importance of taking a gender-sensitive approach when considering measures to address the safety of journalists,

*Acknowledging also* the particular vulnerability of journalists to becoming targets of unlawful or arbitrary surveillance or interception of communications in violation of their rights to privacy and to freedom of expression,

1. *Condemns unequivocally* all attacks and violence against journalists and media workers, such as torture, extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrest and arbitrary detention, as well as intimidation and harassment in both conflict and non-conflict situations;

2. *Strongly condemns* the prevailing impunity for attacks and violence against journalists, and expresses grave concern that the vast majority of these crimes go unpunished, which in turn contributes to the recurrence of these crimes;

3. *Calls upon* States to implement more effectively the applicable legal framework for the protection of journalists and media workers in order to combat the pervasive impunity, including through enforcement mechanisms with the capacity to pay systematic attention to their safety;

4. *Urges* the immediate and unconditional release of journalists and media workers who have been taken as hostages or who have become victims of enforced disappearances;

5. *Calls upon* all States to pay attention to the safety of journalists covering events in which persons are exercising their rights to peaceful assembly and freedom of expression, taking into account their specific role, exposure and vulnerability;

6. *Encourages* States to take the opportunity of the proclamation of 2 November as the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists to raise awareness regarding the issue of the safety of journalists and to launch concrete initiatives in this regard;

7. *Requests* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in consultation with relevant entities of the United Nations system, and mindful of the provisions of the annex to Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980, to continue facilitating the implementation of the International Day in collaboration with Governments and relevant stakeholders;

8. *Urges* Member States to do their utmost to prevent violence, threats and attacks against journalists and media workers, to ensure accountability through the conduct of impartial, speedy, thorough, independent and effective investigations into all alleged violence, threats and attacks against journalists and media workers falling within their jurisdiction, to bring perpetrators, including those who command, conspire to commit, aid and abet or cover up such crimes to justice, and to ensure that victims and their families have access to appropriate remedies;

9. *Calls upon* States to create and maintain, in law and in practice, a safe and enabling environment for journalists to perform their work independently and without undue interference, including by means of: (a) legislative measures; (b) supporting the judiciary in considering training and awareness-raising and supporting training and awareness-raising among law enforcement officers and military personnel, as well as among journalists and civil society, regarding international human rights and humanitarian law obligations and commitments relating to the safety of journalists; (c) the regular monitoring and reporting of attacks against journalists; (d) publicly and systematically condemning violence and attacks; and (e) dedicating the resources necessary to investigate and prosecute such attacks and to develop and implement strategies for combating impunity for attacks and violence against journalists, including by using, where appropriate, good practices such as those identified in Human Rights Council resolution 27/5;<sup>9</sup>

10. *Also calls upon* States to ensure that measures to combat terrorism and preserve national security are in compliance with their obligations under international law and do not arbitrarily hinder the work and safety of journalists;

11. *Stresses* the need to ensure better cooperation and coordination at the international and regional levels, including through technical assistance and capacity-building, with regard to helping to improve the safety of journalists at national and local levels;

12. *Calls upon* States to cooperate with relevant United Nations entities, in particular the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as well as international and regional human rights mechanisms, including the relevant

special procedures of the Human Rights Council, and to share information on a voluntary basis on the status of investigations into attacks and violence against journalists;

13. *Invites* the relevant agencies, organizations, funds and programmes of the United Nations system to actively exchange information, including through already identified focal points, about the implementation of the United Nations Plan of Action on the Safety of Journalists and the Issue of Impunity, in cooperation with Member States and under the overall coordination of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session and to the Human Rights Council at its thirty-seventh session on the safety of journalists and the issue of impunity.

## **Draft resolution XVII National institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, the most recent of which was resolution 68/171 of 18 December 2013, and those of the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council concerning national institutions and their role in the promotion and protection of human rights, the most recent of which were Council resolutions 20/14 of 5 July 2012,<sup>1</sup> 23/17 of 13 June 2013<sup>2</sup> and 27/18 of 7 October 2014,<sup>3</sup>

*Welcoming* the rapidly growing interest throughout the world in the creation and strengthening of independent, pluralistic national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights,

*Recalling* the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles),<sup>4</sup>

*Reaffirming* the important role that such national institutions play and will continue to play in promoting and protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, strengthening participation, in particular of civil society organizations, and promoting the rule of law and developing and enhancing public awareness of those rights and freedoms,

*Recalling* its resolution 69/168 of 18 December 2014 on the role of the Ombudsman, mediator and other national human rights institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights,

*Recognizing* the important role of the United Nations, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in assisting the development of independent and effective national human rights institutions, guided by the Paris Principles, and recognizing also in this regard the potential for strengthened and complementary cooperation among the United Nations, the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights and those national institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights,

*Recalling* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,<sup>5</sup> which reaffirmed the important and constructive role played by national human rights institutions, in particular in their advisory capacity to the competent authorities and their role in preventing and remedying human rights violations, in disseminating information on human rights and in education in human rights,

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<sup>1</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53*, addendum and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II.

<sup>4</sup> Resolution 48/134, annex.

<sup>5</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

*Reaffirming* that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing and that all human rights must be treated in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

*Bearing in mind* the significance of national and regional particularities and various historical, cultural and religious backgrounds, and that all States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, have the duty to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Recalling* the programme of action adopted by national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights at their meeting held in Vienna in June 1993 during the World Conference on Human Rights, in which it was recommended that United Nations activities and programmes should be reinforced to meet the requests for assistance from States wishing to establish or strengthen their national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights<sup>6</sup> and on the process currently utilized by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights to accredit national institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles,<sup>7</sup>

*Welcoming* the strengthening in all regions of regional cooperation among national human rights institutions, and noting with appreciation the continuing work of the Network of African National Human Rights Institutions, the Network of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights in the Americas, the Asia-Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions and the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>8</sup>
2. *Reaffirms* the importance of the development of effective, independent and pluralistic national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, in accordance with the Paris Principles;<sup>4</sup>
3. *Recognizes* the role of independent national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights in working together with Governments to ensure full respect for human rights at the national level, including by contributing to follow-up actions, as appropriate, to the recommendations resulting from the international human rights mechanisms;
4. *Welcomes* the increasingly important role of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights in supporting cooperation between their Governments and the United Nations in the promotion and protection of human rights;
5. *Underlines* the value of national human rights institutions, established and operating in accordance with the Paris Principles, in the continued monitoring of existing legislation and in consistently informing the State about the impact of such legislation on the activities of human rights defenders, including by making relevant and concrete recommendations;

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<sup>6</sup> A/HRC/27/39.

<sup>7</sup> A/HRC/16/77.

<sup>8</sup> A/70/347.

6. *Recognizes* the role that national human rights institutions can play in preventing and addressing cases of reprisals as part of supporting the cooperation between their Governments and the United Nations in the promotion of human rights, including by contributing to follow-up actions, as appropriate, to recommendations made by international human rights mechanisms;

7. *Also recognizes* that, in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,<sup>5</sup> it is the right of each State to choose the framework for national institutions that is best suited to its particular needs at the national level in order to promote human rights in accordance with international human rights standards;

8. *Encourages* Member States to establish effective, independent and pluralistic national institutions or, where they already exist, to strengthen them for the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, as outlined in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

9. *Welcomes* the growing number of States establishing or considering the establishment of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, and welcomes in particular the growing number of States that have accepted recommendations to establish national institutions compliant with the Paris Principles made through the universal periodic review and, where relevant, by treaty bodies and special procedures;

10. *Encourages* national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights established by Member States to continue to play an active role in preventing and combating all violations of human rights as enumerated in the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and relevant international human rights instruments;

11. *Stresses* that national human rights institutions and their respective members and staff should not face any form of reprisal or intimidation, including political pressure, physical intimidation, harassment or unjustifiable budgetary limitations, as a result of activities undertaken in accordance with their respective mandates, including when taking up individual cases or when reporting on serious or systematic violations in their countries, and calls upon States to promptly and thoroughly investigate cases of alleged reprisal or intimidation against members or staff of national human rights institutions or against individuals who cooperate or seek to cooperate with them;

12. *Recognizes* the role played by national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights in the Human Rights Council, including its universal periodic review mechanism, in both preparation and follow-up, and the special procedures, as well as in the human rights treaty bodies, in accordance with Council resolutions 5/1 and 5/2 of 18 June 2007<sup>9</sup> and Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/74 of 20 April 2005;<sup>10</sup>

13. *Welcomes* the strengthening of opportunities for national human rights institutions compliant with the Paris Principles to contribute to the work of the

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<sup>9</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/62/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>10</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 3 and corrigenda (E/2005/23 and Corr.1 and 2)*, chap. II, sect. A.

Human Rights Council, as stipulated in the Council review outcome document annexed to Council resolution 16/21 of 25 March 2011<sup>11</sup> adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/281 of 17 June 2011, and encourages and welcomes the increasing use made by national human rights institutions of these participatory opportunities;

14. *Also welcomes* the contribution of national human rights institutions compliant with the Paris Principles to the work of the United Nations, including of the Commission on the Status of Women, the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing and the intergovernmental process of the General Assembly on strengthening and enhancing the effective functioning of the human rights treaty body system;

15. *Encourages* national human rights institutions compliant with the Paris Principles to continue to participate in and to contribute to deliberations in all relevant United Nations mechanisms and processes in accordance with their respective mandates, including the discussions on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>12</sup>

16. *Encourages* all relevant United Nations mechanisms and processes, in accordance with their respective mandates, including the Commission on the Status of Women, the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the high-level political forum, to further enhance the participation of national human rights institutions compliant with the Paris Principles and to allow for their contribution to these United Nations mechanisms and processes, bearing in mind the relevant provisions dealing with their participation contained in General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006, Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1, 5/2 and 16/21 and Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/74;

17. *Invites* the human rights treaty bodies, within their respective mandates and in accordance with the treaties establishing these mechanisms, to provide for ways to ensure the effective and enhanced participation by national human rights institutions compliant with the Paris Principles at all relevant stages of their work;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide support to national human rights institutions compliant with the Paris Principles as they engage with relevant United Nations mechanisms and processes, with full respect for their respective mandates, and with a view to enabling their most effective contributions, in order to further the implementation of international human rights obligations and commitments;

19. *Encourages* all United Nations human rights mechanisms and relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to work, within their respective mandates, with Member States and national institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights with respect to, inter alia, projects in the area of good governance and the rule of law, and in this regard welcomes the efforts made by the High Commissioner to develop partnerships in support of national institutions,

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<sup>11</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/66/53)*, chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>12</sup> Resolution 70/1.

including the tripartite partnership between the United Nations Development Programme, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, and in this respect encourages all United Nations human rights mechanisms and relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes to enhance their interaction with national human rights institutions, including facilitating their access to relevant information and documentation;

20. *Stresses* the importance of the financial and administrative independence and stability of national human rights institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights, and notes with satisfaction the efforts of those States that have provided their national institutions with more autonomy and independence, including by giving them an investigative role or enhancing such a role, and encourages other Governments to consider taking similar steps;

21. *Urges* the Secretary-General to continue to give high priority to requests from Member States for assistance in the establishment and strengthening of national human rights institutions;

22. *Underlines* the importance of the autonomy and independence of ombudsman institutions, encourages increased cooperation between national human rights institutions and regional and international associations of ombudsmen, and also encourages ombudsman institutions to actively draw on the standards enumerated in international instruments and the Paris Principles to strengthen their independence and increase their capacity to act as national human rights protection mechanisms;

23. *Commends* the high priority given by the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to work on national human rights institutions, encourages the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in view of the expanded activities relating to national institutions, to ensure that appropriate arrangements are made and budgetary resources provided to continue and further extend activities in support of national institutions, and invites Governments to contribute additional voluntary funds to that end;

24. *Welcomes* the important role played by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, in close cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner, in assisting Governments, when requested, in the establishment and strengthening of national human rights institutions in accordance with the Paris Principles, in assessing the conformity of national human rights institutions with the Paris Principles and in providing technical assistance to strengthen national human rights institutions, upon request, with a view to enhancing their compliance with the Paris Principles, and calls upon Member States and other stakeholders, including United Nations agencies, to follow up on the recommendations of the Subcommittee on Accreditation of the International Coordinating Committee, with a view to enabling national human rights institutions to fully comply with the Paris Principles in both law and practice;

25. *Encourages* national institutions, including ombudsman and mediator institutions, to seek accreditation status through the International Coordinating Committee;

26. *Encourages* all Member States to take appropriate steps to promote the exchange of information and experience concerning the establishment and effective operation of national human rights institutions and to support the work of the International Coordinating Committee and its regional coordinating networks in this regard, including through support for the relevant technical assistance programmes of the Office of the High Commissioner;

27. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the assistance necessary for holding international and regional meetings of national institutions, including meetings of the International Coordinating Committee, in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner;

28. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution.

## Draft resolution XVIII

### Measures to enhance the promotion and protection of the human rights and dignity of older persons

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>1</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>2</sup> the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>2</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>3</sup> the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities<sup>4</sup> and other relevant human rights instruments,

*Reaffirming* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,<sup>5</sup>

*Recalling* its resolution 57/167 of 18 December 2002, in which it endorsed the Political Declaration<sup>6</sup> and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,<sup>7</sup> its resolution 58/134 of 22 December 2003, in which it took note, inter alia, of the road map for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and its resolution 60/135 of 16 December 2005 and subsequent resolutions on the follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing, and recalling also Human Rights Council resolutions 21/23 of 28 September 2012<sup>8</sup> and 24/20 of 27 September 2013<sup>9</sup> on the human rights of older persons,

*Noting with appreciation* the work of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, appointed by the Human Rights Council,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing<sup>10</sup> and the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the human rights of older persons,<sup>11</sup>

*Noting with appreciation* the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing,<sup>12</sup> and recognizing the valuable contributions of Member States, as well as relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, intergovernmental and relevant non-governmental organizations, national human rights institutions and invited panellists, during the six working sessions of the Working Group,

<sup>1</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>2</sup> Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>3</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>5</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

<sup>6</sup> *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8-12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>8</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/67/53/Add.1), chap. III.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/68/53/Add.1), chap. III.

<sup>10</sup> A/70/185.

<sup>11</sup> E/2012/51.

<sup>12</sup> See A/AC.278/2015/2.

*Welcoming* the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>13</sup> and stressing the need to ensure that no one is left behind, including older persons,

*Noting* the developments at the regional level towards the protection and promotion of the human rights of older persons, such as the Inter-American Convention on the Protection of Human Rights of Older Persons,

*Noting also* that, between 2015 and 2030, the number of persons aged 60 years or over in the world is projected to grow by 56 per cent, from 901 million to 1.4 billion,<sup>14</sup> and recognizing that the increase in the number of older people will be the greatest and the most rapid in the developing world,

*Recognizing* the essential contribution that older men and women can make to the functioning of societies and to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Concerned* at the multiple forms of discrimination that may affect older persons and at the high incidence of poverty among them, especially older women, persons with disabilities, persons of African descent, indigenous peoples, persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, rural persons, persons living on the streets and refugees, among other groups,

*Noting* that older women outnumber older men, and noting with concern that older women often face multiple forms of discrimination or can be victims of violence, resulting from their gender-based roles in society, compounded by their age or disability or on other grounds, which affects the enjoyment of their human rights,

*Recognizing* that, at the international level, the diversity of policies, standards and mechanisms aimed at protecting and promoting the rights of older persons may lead to a lack of consistent protection of their rights,

*Recognizing also* that the current approach at the international level regarding the promotion and protection of the rights and dignity of older persons may lead, on some occasions, to gaps in reporting on, and monitoring of, existing treaty obligations towards older persons,

*Recognizing further* that the issues related to ageing are often not sufficiently visible and that further progress needs to be made in the effective enjoyment and realization of all human rights of older persons, while acknowledging the importance of strengthening efforts to increase the visibility of and sensitize the population to those issues and to address ways to ensure the effective integration of older persons into society,

*Noting* that the various efforts made to increase cooperation and integration and the increasing awareness of and sensitivity to ageing issues since the adoption of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, by Governments, relevant bodies of the United Nations system and civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, should be further strengthened in order to better promote full and effective participation by and opportunities for older persons in economic, social, cultural and political life,

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<sup>13</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>14</sup> See Department of Economic and Social Affairs, *World Population Ageing Prospects: The 2015 Revision, Key Findings and Advance Tables* (ESA/P/WP.241).

*Noting also* that the situation of older persons presents a number of particular and urgent human rights challenges related to the enjoyment of their civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights that deserve in-depth analysis,

1. *Recognizes* the challenges related to the enjoyment of all human rights that older persons face in areas such as prevention of and protection against violence and abuse, social protection, food and nutrition, housing, employment, legal capacity, access to justice, health services, including physical and mental health support, and long-term and palliative care services, and that those challenges require in-depth analysis and action to better address them;

2. *Recognizes also* that the challenges faced by many older persons impede their social, economic and cultural participation and the full enjoyment of their human rights;

3. *Calls upon* all States to promote and ensure the full realization of all human rights and fundamental freedoms of older persons, including by taking measures to combat age discrimination, neglect, abuse and violence, and to address issues related to social integration and adequate health care, bearing in mind the crucial importance of strengthening intergenerational partnerships and solidarity;

4. *Recognizes* that the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, remains the only international instrument exclusively devoted to older persons, and that measures towards achieving its objectives should be strengthened so as to improve its positive impact on the promotion and protection of the human rights and dignity of older persons;

5. *Recognizes also* that there is no binding international human rights instrument exclusively devoted to older persons, notes the importance of strengthening the implementation of current arrangements at the national and international levels to protect the human rights of older persons, and encourages Member States to continue discussions to explore all alternative measures to improve the protection of the human rights of older persons, and to mainstream their human rights throughout existing mechanisms, policies and programmes;

6. *Encourages* Governments to actively address, through national, regional and international efforts, issues that affect older persons and to ensure that the social integration of older persons and the promotion and protection of their human rights form an integral part of development policies at all levels;

7. *Invites* Member States to continue to share their national experiences in developing and implementing policies and programmes aimed at strengthening the promotion and protection of the human rights of older persons, including within the framework of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing established by the General Assembly in paragraph 28 of its resolution 65/182;

8. *Recommends* that States parties to existing international human rights instruments, where appropriate, address the situation of older persons more explicitly in their reports, and encourages treaty body monitoring mechanisms and special procedures mandate holders, in accordance with their mandates, to pay more attention to the situation of older persons in their dialogue with Member States, in their consideration of reports and in their country missions;

9. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that older persons have access to information about their rights so as to enable them to participate fully and justly in their societies and to claim full enjoyment of all human rights;

10. *Invites* relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations system, including relevant human rights mandate holders and treaty bodies and the regional commissions, as well as intergovernmental and relevant non-governmental organizations with an interest in the matter, to continue to make contributions to the work entrusted to the Open-ended Working Group, as appropriate;

11. *Encourages* Member States to continue to contribute to the work of the Open-ended Working Group, in particular by presenting measures to enhance the promotion and protection of the human rights and dignity of older persons, such as best practices, lessons learned and possible content for a multilateral legal instrument, as appropriate, in order to enable it to fulfil its existing mandate;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary support to the Open-ended Working Group, within existing resources, for the organization of a seventh working session, in 2016.

## **Draft resolution XIX**

### **Protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* that internally displaced persons are persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border,<sup>1</sup>

*Recognizing* that internally displaced persons are to enjoy, in full equality, the same rights and freedoms under international and domestic law as do other persons in their country,

*Deeply disturbed* by the alarmingly high numbers of internally displaced persons throughout the world, for reasons including violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, armed conflict, persecution, violence and other reasons, including terrorism, as well as natural and human-made disasters, who receive inadequate protection and assistance, and conscious of the serious challenges that this is creating for the international community,

*Recognizing* that natural disasters are a cause of internal displacement, and concerned about factors, such as climate change, that are expected to exacerbate the impact of natural hazards and climate-related events,

*Recognizing also* that the risk of becoming displaced as a result of a natural disaster has doubled in the last four decades and that the consequences of hazards can be prevented or substantially mitigated by integrating disaster risk reduction strategies into national development policies and programmes,

*Recognizing further* that internally displaced persons can be exposed to increased vulnerability when their host communities are affected by natural disasters,

*Conscious* of the human rights, humanitarian and development dimensions, as well as the possible peacebuilding dimension, of internal displacement, including in long-term displacement situations, the often heightened vulnerability of women and children as well as older persons and persons with disabilities and the responsibilities of States and the international community to further strengthen their protection and assistance, including by respecting and protecting the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all internally displaced persons, with a view to finding durable solutions,

*Emphasizing* that States have the primary responsibility to provide protection and assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction, without discrimination, as well as to address the root causes of the displacement problem and support solutions in appropriate cooperation with the international community,

*Reaffirming* that all persons, including those who are internally displaced, have the right to freedom of movement and residence and should be protected against arbitrary displacement,

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<sup>1</sup> See Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement (E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex), introduction, para. 2.

*Noting* the need for increased awareness by the international community of the issue of internal displacement worldwide, including the situation of millions living in protracted situations of displacement, many of them outside camp settings and in urban areas, and the urgency of providing adequate humanitarian assistance to and protection for internally displaced persons, ensuring protection from landmines and other explosive remnants of war, supporting local host communities, addressing the root causes of displacement, and finding durable solutions for internally displaced persons in their countries and addressing possible obstacles in this regard, and recognizing that durable solutions include voluntary return in safety and with dignity, as well as voluntary local integration in the areas to which persons have been displaced or voluntary settlement in another part of the country, without prejudice to the right of internally displaced persons to leave their country or to seek asylum,

*Emphasizing* that ensuring durable solutions for internally displaced persons, including the right of voluntary return in safety and with dignity, should be approached from a humanitarian and development perspective,

*Recalling* the relevant norms of international law, including international human rights law, international humanitarian law and international refugee law, and recognizing that the protection of internally displaced persons has been strengthened by identifying, reaffirming and consolidating specific standards for their protection, in particular through the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement,<sup>2</sup>

*Recalling also* the relevance of international humanitarian law, including the Geneva Conventions of 1949<sup>3</sup> and the Additional Protocols thereto of 1977,<sup>4</sup> as a vital legal framework for the protection of and assistance to civilians in armed conflict and under foreign occupation, including internally displaced persons,

*Recognizing* that violations of international humanitarian law can cause displacement, and recalling that displacement could be reduced if international humanitarian law was respected by all parties to armed conflict, in particular the fundamental principles of distinction, proportionality and precaution, as well as the prohibition of forced displacement of the civilian population, unless the security of the civilians involved or imperative military reasons so demand,<sup>5</sup>

*Welcoming* the increasing dissemination, promotion, application and integration into domestic laws and policies of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement when dealing with situations of internal displacement,

*Deploring* practices of forced displacement and their negative consequences for the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms by large groups of populations, and recalling the relevant provisions of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court that define the deportation or forcible transfer of population as a crime against humanity and the unlawful deportation, transfer or ordering of the displacement of the civilian population as war crimes,<sup>6</sup>

*Expressing its appreciation* to those Governments and intergovernmental, regional and non-governmental organizations that have supported and facilitated the

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<sup>2</sup> E/CN.4/1998/53/Add.2, annex.

<sup>3</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1125, Nos. 17512 and 17513.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1125, No. 17513, arts. 13 and 17.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2187, No. 38544, art. 7, paras. 1 (d) and 2 (d), and art. 8, paras. 2 (a) (vii) and 2 (e) (viii).

work of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the human rights of internally displaced persons, and of his predecessor, the former Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons and, according to their roles and responsibilities, have helped to provide protection and assistance to internally displaced persons,

*Welcoming* the continuing cooperation between the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons and national Governments and the relevant offices and agencies of the United Nations as well as with other international and regional organizations, and encouraging further strengthening of this collaboration in order to promote better strategies for, protection of, assistance to and durable solutions for internally displaced persons,

*Acknowledging with appreciation* the important and independent contribution of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and other humanitarian agencies in protecting and assisting internally displaced persons, in cooperation with national Governments and relevant international bodies,

*Welcoming* the priorities set by the Special Rapporteur as contained in his report to the Human Rights Council at its sixteenth session<sup>7</sup> and the two strategic objectives of supporting Governments in developing national instruments and institutions on internal displacement and facilitating viable durable solutions for internally displaced persons, including through the engagement of development actors,

*Recalling* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,<sup>8</sup> regarding the need to develop global strategies to address the problem of internal displacement, and recalling also all relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council,

*Recalling also* its resolution 68/180 of 18 December 2013 and Human Rights Council resolution 23/8 of 13 June 2013,<sup>9</sup>

*Reaffirming* its resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 and the guiding principles contained in the annex thereto, other relevant General Assembly and Economic and Social Council resolutions and agreed conclusions of the Council, reaffirming also the principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence in the provision of humanitarian assistance, and reaffirming further the need for all actors engaged in the provision of humanitarian assistance in situations of complex emergencies and natural disasters to promote and fully respect these principles,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the human rights of internally displaced persons<sup>10</sup> and the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;

2. *Commends* the Special Rapporteur for the activities undertaken so far, for the catalytic role that he plays in raising the level of awareness about the plight of internally displaced persons and for his ongoing efforts to address their development and other specific needs, including through the mainstreaming of the human rights of internally displaced persons into all relevant parts of the United Nations system;

<sup>7</sup> A/HRC/16/43.

<sup>8</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

<sup>9</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. V, sect. A.

<sup>10</sup> A/70/334.

3. *Encourages* the Special Rapporteur, through continuous dialogue with Governments and all intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations concerned, to continue his analysis of the root causes of internal displacement and of the needs and human rights of those who are displaced, measures of prevention, including early warning, and ways to strengthen protection and assistance, as well as durable solutions for internally displaced persons, including, inter alia, addressing possible obstacles to the exercise of land and property rights for internally displaced persons, and, in the latter regard, to use in his activities the Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee,<sup>11</sup> and also encourages the Special Rapporteur to continue to advocate the needs of host communities and to promote comprehensive strategies, taking into account the primary responsibility of States for the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction;

4. *Recognizes* the adverse effects of climate change as contributors to environmental degradation and extreme weather events, which may, in certain instances, among other factors, contribute to human displacement, and in this regard notes the global consultation of the Nansen Initiative, held in Geneva on 12 and 13 October 2015, which discussed, inter alia, issues relevant to internal displacement, and encourages the Special Rapporteur, in close collaboration with States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to continue to explore the human rights implications and dimensions of disaster-induced internal displacement, with a view to supporting Member States in their efforts to build local resilience and capacity to prevent displacement or to provide assistance and protection to those who are forced to flee;

5. *Also recognizes* that internal displacement is not only a humanitarian but also a development challenge, calls upon States to provide durable solutions and address possible obstacles in this regard, and to include the needs, vulnerabilities and capacities of internally displaced persons in their national development plans, and in this regard takes note with appreciation of the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the human rights of internally displaced persons in the context of the post-2015 development agenda;<sup>12</sup>

6. *Urges* all countries to integrate the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>13</sup> into their respective national policies and development framework, as appropriate, and recalls that the Agenda seeks to address the needs of the most vulnerable, including internally displaced persons;

7. *Requests* Member States to strengthen their efforts to ensure the protection of and better assistance to internally displaced persons, in particular to address the challenges of long-term displacement, by adopting and implementing gender-responsive policies and strategies, in accordance with national and regional frameworks, while recognizing the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement<sup>2</sup> as an important international framework for the protection of internally displaced persons, and in this regard recognizes the central role of national and local authorities and institutions in addressing the specific needs of internally displaced persons and in finding solutions to displacement through, inter alia, continued and enhanced international support, upon request, for the capacity-building of States;

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<sup>11</sup> A/HRC/13/21/Add.4.

<sup>12</sup> A/HRC/29/34.

<sup>13</sup> Resolution 70/1.

8. *Encourages* strengthened international cooperation, in particular between humanitarian and development actors, including through the provision of resources, coherent multi-year planning that addresses long-term displacement and expertise to assist affected countries, in particular developing countries, in their national efforts and policies related to assistance, protection, resilience-building and rehabilitation for internally displaced persons and host communities, as appropriate, and the integration of the human rights and needs of internally displaced persons into both rural and urban development strategies, as well as the participation of both internally displaced persons and host communities in the design and implementation of those strategies;

9. *Recognizes* that Member States have the primary responsibility to promote durable solutions for their internally displaced persons, thus contributing to their national, economic and social development processes, and encourages the international community, the United Nations system, the Special Rapporteur, relevant international and regional organizations and donor countries to continue to support international, regional and national efforts to meet the needs of internally displaced persons on the basis of solidarity, the principles of international cooperation and the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, to ensure that humanitarian assistance, early recovery and development assistance efforts are appropriately funded;

10. *Welcomes* the initiatives undertaken by regional organizations, such as the African Union, the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, the Organization of American States and the Council of Europe, to address the protection, assistance and development needs of internally displaced persons and to find durable solutions for them, and encourages regional organizations to strengthen their activities and their cooperation with the Special Rapporteur;

11. *Expresses deep concern* at the threat caused by landmines, explosive remnants of war and improvised explosive devices to internally displaced persons fleeing conflict, impeding, in certain instances, their voluntary return, local integration and resettlement and the safe delivery of humanitarian assistance;

12. *Welcomes* the adoption and entry into force of the African Union Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala Convention), which builds on the Protocol on the Protection of and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons and the Protocol on the Property Rights of Returning Persons adopted by the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region and which marks a significant step towards strengthening the national and regional normative framework for the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons in Africa, encourages African States to sign and/or ratify the Convention, and encourages other regional mechanisms to develop their own regional normative frameworks for the protection of internally displaced persons;

13. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflict to comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law, and international human rights law, as applicable, with a view to preventing forced displacement and promoting the protection of civilians, and calls upon Governments to take measures to respect and protect the human rights of all internally displaced persons, without distinction of any kind, in accordance with their applicable obligations under international law;

14. *Expresses particular concern* that many internally displaced children, particularly girls, lack access to education in all phases of displacement owing to attacks against schools, damaged or destroyed school buildings, insecurity, loss of

documentation, language barriers and discrimination, calls upon States, in cooperation with all other relevant actors, including humanitarian and development agencies and donors, to ensure the right to a quality education, including primary and secondary education, for internally displaced children, without discrimination of any kind, as well as to support existing schools to enable them to include internally displaced persons, calls upon all parties to armed conflict to respect the civilian character of schools and other educational institutions and to refrain from undertaking actions that could adversely affect the protection of these buildings against direct attacks, and strongly condemns all attacks, as well as threats of attack, against schools, in contravention of international humanitarian law;

15. *Expresses particular concern* about the full range of threats, violations and abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law experienced by many internally displaced persons, including women and children, who are particularly vulnerable or specifically targeted especially for sexual and gender-based violence and sexual exploitation and abuse, trafficking in persons, forced recruitment and abduction, encourages the continued commitment of the Special Rapporteur to promote action to address their particular assistance and protection needs, and calls upon States, in cooperation with international agencies and other stakeholders, to provide protection and assistance to internally displaced persons who are victims of the above-mentioned violations and abuses, as well as other groups of internally displaced persons with special needs, such as severely traumatized individuals, older persons and persons with disabilities, taking into account all relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council;

16. *Emphasizes* the importance of communication and consultation with internally displaced persons and host communities by Governments and other relevant actors, in accordance with their specific mandates, during all phases of displacement, as well as the participation of internally displaced persons, where appropriate, in policies, programmes and activities pertaining to them, taking into account the primary responsibility of States for the protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons within their jurisdiction;

17. *Calls upon* States, in cooperation with international agencies and other stakeholders, to provide for and support, in particular, the full and meaningful participation of internally displaced women at all levels of decision-making processes and in all activities that have a direct impact on their lives, in all aspects of internal displacement, including the promotion and protection of human rights, the prevention of human rights violations and the design and implementation of durable solutions, peace processes, peacebuilding, transitional justice, post-conflict reconstruction and development;

18. *Notes* the importance of taking the human rights and the specific protection and assistance needs of internally displaced persons into consideration, when appropriate, in peace processes, and emphasizes that durable solutions for internally displaced persons, including through voluntary return, sustainable reintegration and rehabilitation processes and their active participation, as appropriate, in the peace process are necessary elements of effective peacebuilding;

19. *Welcomes* the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in this regard, and continues to urge the Commission to intensify its efforts, within its mandate, in cooperation with national and transitional Governments and in consultation with the relevant United Nations entities, to incorporate the rights and the specific needs of

internally displaced persons, including their voluntary return in safety and with dignity, reintegration and rehabilitation, as well as related land and property issues, when advising on or proposing country-specific peacebuilding strategies for post-conflict situations in cases under consideration;

20. *Encourages* the international community to provide technical cooperation to States affected by displacement, upon their request, including for the training of staff members of institutions in charge of registration and development of national laws and policies on internal displacement and issues related to land and property restitution and compensation;

21. *Welcomes* the fact that an increasing number of States, United Nations organizations and regional and non-governmental organizations are applying the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement as a standard, and encourages all relevant actors to make use of the Guiding Principles when dealing with situations of internal displacement;

22. *Also welcomes* the use of the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement by the Special Rapporteur in his dialogue with Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant actors, and requests him to continue his efforts to further the dissemination, promotion, application and integration into domestic laws and policies of the Guiding Principles and to provide support for efforts to promote capacity-building and the use of the Guiding Principles, as well as the development of domestic legislation and policies;

23. *Expresses its appreciation* for the fact that an increasing number of States have adopted domestic legislation and policies dealing with all stages of displacement, encourages States to continue to do so in an inclusive and non-discriminatory way, consistent with the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement, including through the identification of national focal points within Governments for issues of internal displacement and the allocation of budget resources, and encourages the international community and national actors to provide financial support and cooperation to Governments, upon request, in this regard;

24. *Urges* all Governments to continue to facilitate the activities of the Special Rapporteur, in particular Governments with situations of internal displacement, and to respond favourably to requests from the Special Rapporteur for visits so as to enable him to continue and enhance dialogue with Governments in addressing situations of internal displacement, and thanks those Governments that have already done so;

25. *Invites* Governments to give serious consideration, in dialogue with the Special Rapporteur, to the recommendations and suggestions addressed to them, in accordance with his mandate, and to inform him of measures taken thereon;

26. *Calls upon* Governments to provide protection and assistance, including reintegration and development assistance, to internally displaced persons and to facilitate the efforts of the relevant United Nations agencies and humanitarian organizations in this regard by further improving the access of humanitarian personnel and the delivery of supplies and equipment to internally displaced persons and by maintaining the civilian and humanitarian character of camps and settlements for internally displaced persons, where they exist, as well as by taking the steps necessary to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel so that they may efficiently perform their task of assisting internally displaced persons;

27. *Emphasizes* the central role of the Emergency Relief Coordinator for the coordination of, protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons, inter alia, through the inter-agency cluster system, welcomes continued initiatives taken in order to ensure better protection, assistance and development strategies for internally displaced persons, as well as better coordination of activities regarding them, and emphasizes the need to strengthen the capacities of national and local authorities, United Nations organizations and other relevant actors to meet the immense humanitarian challenges of internal displacement;

28. *Encourages* all relevant United Nations organizations and humanitarian assistance, human rights and development organizations to enhance their collaboration and coordination through the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and United Nations country teams in countries with situations of internal displacement and to provide all possible assistance and support to the Special Rapporteur, and requests the continued participation of the Special Rapporteur in the work of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and its subsidiary bodies;

29. *Encourages* Member States, humanitarian agencies, donors, development actors and other providers of development assistance to continue to work together, in close cooperation with the Special Rapporteur, to provide a more predictable response to the needs of internally displaced persons, including long-term development assistance for the implementation of durable solutions, takes note of the decision of the Policy Committee of the Secretary-General of 4 October 2011 endorsing the preliminary framework on ending displacement in the aftermath of conflict, notes the rolling out of the decision in select countries, and calls for United Nations agencies implementing the decision to cooperate closely with the Special Rapporteur in that regard and to use the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons in a manner that complements the decision of the Policy Committee;

30. *Notes with appreciation* the increased attention paid to the issue of internally displaced persons in humanitarian response plans, and encourages further efforts in this regard;

31. *Expresses deep concern* at the insufficient funding levels of humanitarian appeals, and in this respect urges all relevant actors to provide the relevant United Nations agencies and humanitarian organizations with sufficient and predictable resources to ensure adequate support for those who are forcibly displaced;

32. *Notes with appreciation* the increasing role of national human rights institutions in assisting internally displaced persons and in promoting and protecting their human rights;

33. *Recognizes* the need to collect reliable disaggregated data, including data disaggregated by sex, age and location, on internally displaced persons and the impact of long-term displacement on host communities in order to improve policy, programming and response to internal displacement and, in this respect, the relevance of the inter-agency Joint Internally Displaced Person Profiling Service and the global database on internally displaced persons maintained by the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre;

34. *Encourages* Governments, members of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee, United Nations humanitarian coordinators and country teams to ensure the provision of reliable data on internal displacement situations by collaborating with

the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, requesting the support of the Joint Internally Displaced Person Profiling Service and providing financial resources, as appropriate, in these respects;

35. *Welcomes* the call in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030<sup>14</sup> to integrate post-disaster reconstruction into the economic and social sustainable development of affected areas, as well as temporary settlements where the displaced live, to promote regular disaster preparedness, response and recovery exercises with a view to ensuring rapid and effective response to disasters and related displacement and to promote transboundary cooperation to build resilience and reduce disaster risk, including displacement risk;

36. *Also welcomes* the initiative of the Secretary-General to hold the World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul, Turkey, on 23 and 24 May 2016, and notes the opportunity the Summit presents, inter alia, to strengthen the partnerships between Member States and humanitarian and development actors in addressing the emergency and long-term needs of internally displaced persons;

37. *Further welcomes* the initiative to hold the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016, and notes the importance of addressing, as appropriate, the particular needs and vulnerabilities of internally displaced persons in urban settings;

38. *Encourages* Governments, United Nations agencies and other stakeholders to promote an inclusive approach to durable solutions that addresses the needs of internally displaced persons and their host communities, including the promotion of opportunities to fully harness the human potential of the displaced populations by promoting self-sufficiency through income-generating activities and sustainable livelihood opportunities;

39. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Special Rapporteur, from within existing resources, with all assistance necessary to strengthen and carry out his mandate effectively, and encourages the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, in close cooperation with the Emergency Relief Coordinator, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and all other relevant United Nations offices and agencies, to continue to support and cooperate with the Special Rapporteur;

40. *Encourages* the Special Rapporteur to continue to seek the contributions of States, relevant organizations and institutions in order to create a more stable basis for his work;

41. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first and seventy-second sessions a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

42. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question of protection of and assistance to internally displaced persons at its seventy-second session.

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<sup>14</sup> Resolution 69/283, annex II.

## **Draft resolution XX**

### **Effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 47/135 of 18 December 1992, by which it adopted the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities annexed to that resolution, and bearing in mind article 27 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights<sup>1</sup> as well as other relevant existing international and regional standards and national legislation,

*Recalling also* its subsequent resolutions on the effective promotion of the Declaration, as well as Human Rights Council resolutions 6/15 of 28 September 2007<sup>2</sup> and 19/23 of 23 March 2012,<sup>3</sup> by which the Council established and renewed the mandate of the Forum on Minority Issues, 16/6 of 24 March 2011<sup>4</sup> and 25/5 of 11 April 2014<sup>5</sup> on the mandate of the Independent Expert on minority issues, 18/3 of 29 September 2011 on the panel to commemorate the twentieth anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration<sup>6</sup> and 22/4 of 21 March 2013 on the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities,<sup>7</sup>

*Affirming* that the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and dialogue between these minorities and the rest of society, as well as the constructive and inclusive development of practices and institutional arrangements to accommodate diversity within societies, contribute to political and social stability and the prevention and peaceful resolution of conflicts involving the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities,

*Welcoming* the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>8</sup> of which the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development<sup>9</sup> is an integral part, recalling that the Goals and targets seek to realize the human rights of all, and stressing the need for Member States to integrate the 2030 Agenda into their respective national policies and development frameworks, as appropriate, to promote the effective implementation of, and follow-up and review to, the 2030 Agenda, in order to ensure that no one is left behind,

*Expressing concern* at the frequency and severity of disputes and conflicts involving persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities in many countries and their often tragic consequences, and that such persons often suffer disproportionately from the effects of conflicts resulting in the violation of their

<sup>1</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>2</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/63/53)*, chap. I, sect. A.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. III, sect. A.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/66/53)*, chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/69/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigendum (A/66/53/Add.1 and Corr.1), chap. II.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53 (A/68/53)*, chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>8</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>9</sup> Resolution 69/313, annex.

human rights and are particularly vulnerable to displacement through, inter alia, population transfers, revocation of previously held identity documents, refugee flows and forced relocation,

*Emphasizing* the important role that national institutions can play in the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities as well as in early warning and awareness-raising measures to address problems regarding minority situations,

*Emphasizing also* the need for reinforced efforts to meet the goal of the full realization of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, including by addressing economic and social conditions and marginalization, as well as to end any type of discrimination against them,

*Emphasizing further* the importance of recognizing and addressing multiple, aggravated and intersecting forms of discrimination against persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and the compounded negative impact upon the enjoyment of their rights,

*Emphasizing* the fundamental importance of human rights education, training and learning as well as of dialogue, including intercultural and interfaith dialogue, and interaction among all relevant stakeholders and members of society on the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities as an integral part of the development of society as a whole, including the sharing of best practices such as for the promotion of mutual understanding of minority issues, managing diversity by recognizing plural identities and promoting inclusive and stable societies as well as social cohesion therein,

*Acknowledging* that the United Nations has an important role to play regarding the protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities by, inter alia, taking due account of, and giving effect to, the Declaration,

*Welcoming* the publication entitled *Promoting and Protecting Minority Rights: A Guide for Advocates*<sup>10</sup> by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, which provides information on main actors working on the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities in the United Nations and in key regional organizations and which constitutes a valuable tool for advocates working on this issue worldwide,

*Recognizing* the important role played by the Special Rapporteur on minority issues in promoting the implementation of the Declaration,

1. *Reaffirms* the obligation of States to ensure that persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities may exercise fully and effectively all human rights and fundamental freedoms without any discrimination and in full equality before the law, as proclaimed in the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities,<sup>11</sup> and draws attention to the relevant provisions of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action,<sup>12</sup> including the provisions on forms of multiple discrimination;

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<sup>10</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. E.13.XIV.1.

<sup>11</sup> Resolution 47/135, annex.

<sup>12</sup> See A/CONF.189/12 and Corr.1, chap. I.

2. *Urges* States and the international community to promote and protect the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, as set out in the Declaration, including through the encouragement of conditions for the promotion of their identity, the provision of adequate education and the facilitation of their participation in all aspects of the political, economic, social, religious and cultural life of society and in the economic progress and development of their country, without discrimination, and to apply a gender perspective while doing so;

3. *Urges* States to take all appropriate measures, inter alia, constitutional, legislative, administrative and other measures, for the promotion and implementation of the Declaration, and appeals to States to cooperate bilaterally and multilaterally, in particular on the exchange of best practices and lessons learned, in accordance with the Declaration, in order to promote and protect the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

4. *Calls upon* States, with a view to enhancing the implementation of the Declaration and to ensuring the realization of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, to take appropriate measures by, inter alia:

(a) Reviewing any legislation, policy or practice that has a discriminatory or disproportionately negative effect on persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities with a view to considering its amendment;

(b) Developing awareness-raising and training initiatives, including for public officials, judges, prosecutors and law enforcement officials, on the rights contained in the Declaration;

(c) Dedicating departments, sections or focal points within existing institutions or considering the establishment of specialized national institutions or agencies to address the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

(d) Undertaking initiatives to ensure that persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities are aware of and able to exercise their rights as set out in the Declaration and in other international human rights obligations and commitments;

5. *Recommends* that States and other relevant actors ensure to the fullest extent possible that the Declaration is translated into all minority languages and disseminated widely;

6. *Recommends* that States ensure that all measures taken with a view to implementing the Declaration are, to the fullest extent possible, developed, designed, implemented and reviewed with the full, effective and equal participation of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

7. *Calls upon* States to give special attention to the situation and specific needs of women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities belonging to minorities while promoting and protecting the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

8. *Encourages* States, in their follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to include aspects relating to persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic

minorities in their national plans of action and, in this context, to take forms of multiple discrimination fully into account;

9. *Calls upon* States to integrate the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, as well as effective non-discrimination and equality for all, into strategies for the prevention and resolution of conflicts involving these minorities, while ensuring their full and effective participation in the design, implementation and evaluation of such strategies;

10. *Recommends* that States adopt holistic, inclusive and non-discriminatory security and policing strategies, which are important elements in preventing and combating discrimination, including racial profiling, and violence against persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, and encourages States to develop and implement these strategies in consultation with the minority communities and incorporate them into wider law enforcement and protection strategies and ensure equal and effective access to justice;

11. *Condemns* all acts of violence specifically targeting persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

12. *Recognizes* that women and girls belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities can be exposed to both gender-based violence and violence on the grounds of their belonging to minorities in conflict and post-conflict situations, urges States to take special measures to protect them from all forms of violence, including rape and other forms of sexual violence, and stresses the importance of their empowerment;

13. *Calls upon* States to take all appropriate measures to ensure the protection and care of children belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities who are at risk of or have experienced violence, in accordance with relevant obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child;<sup>13</sup>

14. *Expresses its appreciation* for the successful completion, in November 2014, of the seventh session of the Forum on Minority Issues, on the theme “Preventing and addressing violence and atrocity crimes targeted against minorities”, which, through the widespread participation of stakeholders, provided an important platform for promoting dialogue on this topic and, as part of its outcome, produced recommendations to prevent violence and related crimes, to address ongoing violence and post-violence situations,<sup>14</sup> and encourages States to take into consideration the relevant recommendations of the Forum;

15. *Invites* States, United Nations mechanisms, bodies, specialized agencies, funds and programmes, regional, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and national human rights institutions as well as academics and experts on minority issues to continue to participate actively in the sessions of the Forum;

16. *Reaffirms* that the universal periodic review, as well as the United Nations human rights treaty bodies, constitute important mechanisms for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, in that regard calls upon States to effectively follow up on accepted universal periodic review recommendations related to the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic

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<sup>13</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>14</sup> See A/HRC/28/77.

minorities, and further encourages States parties to give serious consideration to the follow-up to treaty body recommendations on the matter;

17. *Commends* the Special Rapporteur for the work that has been done and the important role played in raising the level of awareness of and in giving added visibility to the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, and for her guiding role in the preparations for and the work of the Forum, which contributes to efforts to improve cooperation and coordination among all United Nations mechanisms relating to the rights of persons belonging to minorities;

18. *Calls upon* all States to cooperate with and assist the Special Rapporteur in the performance of the tasks and duties mandated to her, to provide her with all the necessary information requested and to seriously consider responding promptly and favourably to the requests of the Special Rapporteur to visit their countries in order to enable her to fulfil her duties effectively;

19. *Encourages* the specialized agencies, regional organizations, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations to develop regular dialogue and cooperation with the mandate holder as well as to continue to contribute to the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

20. *Calls upon* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to promote, within his mandate, the implementation of the Declaration, and to engage in a dialogue with Governments for that purpose and regularly update and disseminate widely the United Nations Guide for Minorities;

21. *Welcomes* the inter-agency cooperation among United Nations agencies, funds and programmes on minority issues, led by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and urges them to further increase their coordination and cooperation by, inter alia, developing policies on the promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to minorities, drawing also on relevant outcomes of the Forum and taking into account the work of relevant regional organizations;

22. *Takes note in particular*, in this regard, of the initiatives and activities of the United Nations network on racial discrimination and the protection of minorities, coordinated by the Office of the High Commissioner and aimed at enhancing dialogue and cooperation between relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, and invites the network to continue cooperating with the Special Rapporteur on minority issues and the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and to consult and engage with persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and civil society actors;

23. *Invites* the High Commissioner to continue to seek voluntary contributions to facilitate the effective participation of representatives of non-governmental organizations and persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, in particular those from developing countries, in minority-related activities organized by the United Nations, in particular the activities of its human rights bodies and of the Forum, and in doing so to give particular attention to ensuring the participation of young people and women;

24. *Welcomes*, in this regard, the decision of the Human Rights Council to establish a special fund for the participation of civil society and other relevant stakeholders in, inter alia, the Forum on Minority Issues,<sup>15</sup> aiming to facilitate the broadest possible participation of civil society representatives and other relevant stakeholders, with particular attention being paid to participants from least developed countries, and calls upon States to support the participation of civil society and other relevant stakeholders in the Forum on Minority Issues and, to that end, to make voluntary contributions to the special fund;

25. *Calls upon* the Secretary-General to make available, at the request of Governments concerned, qualified expertise on minority issues, including in the context of the prevention and resolution of disputes and conflicts, to assist in resolving existing or potential situations involving minorities;

26. *Invites* the human rights treaty bodies, as well as special procedures of the Human Rights Council, to continue to give attention, within their respective mandates, to situations and rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and, in this regard, to take into consideration relevant recommendations of the Forum;

27. *Invites* the United Nations mechanisms and bodies, the specialized agencies and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, to continue to contribute to the protection and the prevention of violations of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, including by strengthening cooperation in respect of information gathering and improving the information flow between themselves and with States;

28. *Encourages* regional intergovernmental bodies, within their respective regions, to promote greater attention to the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities by, inter alia, actively raising awareness of and promoting the Declaration in their work, encouraging its implementation at the national level and considering the creation of thematic and/or special mechanisms on this issue;

29. *Encourages* national human rights institutions to pay due attention to the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities by, inter alia, considering the establishment of, for instance, a department, section or focal point within their secretariats to address those rights and to play a role in stopping violence, including by monitoring situations of potential threats for persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, and by investigating and reporting, in accordance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles)<sup>16</sup> and their respective mandates, episodes of targeted violence against persons belonging to minorities, including, when necessary, to regional and international bodies;

30. *Encourages* civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to promote awareness of the Declaration and to review the extent to which it integrates the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and the Declaration into its work, as well as to inform persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities about their rights;

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<sup>15</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/68/53/Add.1), chap. IV, decision 24/118.

<sup>16</sup> Resolution 48/134, annex.

31. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Special Rapporteur on minority issues and their special focus on preventing and addressing violence and other serious crimes against persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and on minorities<sup>17</sup> and the criminal justice process;<sup>18</sup>

32. *Requests* the Special Rapporteur to report annually to the General Assembly and include recommendations for effective strategies for the better implementation of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

33. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the effective promotion of the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities;<sup>19</sup>

34. *Takes note with appreciation* of the “Guidance note of the Secretary-General on racial discrimination and protection of minorities” providing guidance for the United Nations system on how to address racial discrimination and the protection of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities and aimed at, inter alia, integrating their rights into the work of the United Nations system at the global, regional and country levels, including through coordination mechanisms;

35. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including information on activities undertaken by Member States, the Office of the High Commissioner, the Special Rapporteur on minority issues, relevant United Nations entities and other relevant stakeholders to enhance the implementation of the Declaration and to ensure the realization of the rights of persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities;

36. *Decides* to continue consideration of the question at its seventy-second session under the item entitled “Promotion and protection of human rights”.

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<sup>17</sup> A/69/266.

<sup>18</sup> A/70/212.

<sup>19</sup> A/70/255.

## **Draft resolution XXI Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 55/105 of 4 December 2000 concerning regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 55/34 B of 20 November 2000 and 55/233 of 23 December 2000, section III of its resolution 55/234 of 23 December 2000, its resolution 56/253 of 24 December 2001 and its resolutions 58/176 of 22 December 2003, 59/183 of 20 December 2004, 60/151 of 16 December 2005, 61/158 of 19 December 2006, 62/221 of 22 December 2007, 63/177 of 18 December 2008, 64/165 of 18 December 2009, 66/162 of 19 December 2011 and 68/174 of 18 December 2013 on the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa,

*Recalling further* that the World Conference on Human Rights recommended that more resources be made available for the strengthening of regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights under the programme of technical cooperation in the field of human rights of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,<sup>1</sup>

*Recalling* the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights,<sup>2</sup>

*Taking note* of the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>3</sup>

*Noting* the holding of the thirty-seventh, thirty-eighth, thirty-ninth and fortieth ministerial meetings of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa, in N'Djamena from 19 to 23 December 2013, in Malabo from 29 July to 2 August 2014, in Bujumbura from 1 to 5 December 2014 and in Luanda from 1 to 5 June 2015,

*Taking note* of the decision of the High Commissioner to launch a far-reaching organizational change initiative in the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights with a view to better integrating work at Headquarters and in the field,<sup>4</sup>

*Noting* the context of deteriorating security and humanitarian conditions in the subregion, and in particular the challenges created by increasing and indiscriminate attacks and massive abuses of human rights by Boko Haram against the civilian population in many countries of the Central African subregion and in the Lake Chad Basin countries,<sup>5</sup>

*Noting also* that the effective presence of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights in the countries covered and continued dialogue

<sup>1</sup> See A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

<sup>2</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 36*, addendum (A/56/36/Add.1).

<sup>3</sup> A/70/405.

<sup>4</sup> See A/70/36.

<sup>5</sup> See A/70/405.

with the authorities have generated an increased number of requests for assistance from States,<sup>6</sup>

*Mindful* of the vastness and diversity of the needs in the field of human rights within the subregion, and taking into account the need for sufficient funding of the Centre to fully realize its significant function and crucial role in the subregion,<sup>7</sup>

1. *Welcomes* the activities of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa at Yaoundé;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* the support provided for the establishment of the Centre by the host country;

3. *Also notes with satisfaction* the increasing activities of the Centre and the improved cooperation between the Centre and the States members of the Economic Community of Central African States and Rwanda;

4. *Encourages* the Centre to take into account the requested activities, needs and demands of the countries of the subregion in the implementation of its strategic thematic priorities for the period 2014-2017;

5. *Also encourages* the Centre to strengthen its cooperation and invest in relations with subregional organizations and bodies, including the African Union, the Economic Community of Central African States, the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa and the United Nations country teams of the subregion;

6. *Encourages* the Regional Representative and Director of the Centre to continue to hold regular briefings for the ambassadors of Central African States based in Geneva and Yaoundé, as well as in countries of the subregion during visits of the Regional Representative, with the aim of exchanging information on the activities of the Centre and charting its direction;

7. *Notes* the efforts of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to ensure the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly<sup>8</sup> in order to provide sufficient funds and human resources for the missions of the Centre;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General and the High Commissioner, taking note of the organizational change initiative in the Office of the High Commissioner, to continue to provide additional funds and human resources within the existing resources of the Office to enable the Centre to respond positively and effectively to the growing needs in the promotion and protection of human rights and in developing a culture of democracy and the rule of law in the Central African subregion;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Ibid.

<sup>8</sup> Resolutions 61/158, 62/221, 63/177 and 64/165.

## **Draft resolution XXII**

### **Strengthening the role of the United Nations in enhancing periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* that democracy is a universal value based on the freely expressed will of the people to determine their own political, economic, social and cultural systems and their full participation in all aspects of their lives,

*Reaffirming also* that, while democracies share common features, there is no single model of democracy and that democracy does not belong to any country or region, and reaffirming further the necessity of due respect for sovereignty and the right to self-determination,

*Stressing* that democracy, development and respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms are interdependent and mutually reinforcing,

*Reaffirming* that Member States are responsible for organizing, conducting and ensuring transparent, free and fair electoral processes and that Member States, in the exercise of their sovereignty, may request that international organizations provide advisory services or assistance for strengthening and developing their electoral institutions and processes, including sending preliminary missions for that purpose,

*Recognizing* the importance of fair, periodic and genuine elections, including in new democracies and countries undergoing democratization, in order to empower citizens to express their will and to promote successful transition to long-term sustainable democracies,

*Recognizing also* that Member States are responsible for ensuring transparent, free and fair elections, free of intimidation, coercion and tampering of vote counts, and that all such acts are sanctioned accordingly,

*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the subject, in particular resolution 68/164 of 18 December 2013,

*Recalling also* all relevant Human Rights Council resolutions on the topic, including resolutions 19/11 of 22 March 2012,<sup>1</sup> 19/36 of 23 March 2012,<sup>1</sup> 22/10 of 21 March 2013<sup>2</sup> and 24/8 of 26 September 2013,<sup>3</sup>

*Reaffirming* that United Nations electoral assistance and support for the promotion of democratization are provided only at the specific request of the Member State concerned,

*Noting with satisfaction* that increasing numbers of Member States are using elections as a peaceful means of discerning the will of the people, which builds confidence in representational governance and contributes to greater national peace and stability, and which may contribute to regional peace and stability,

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<sup>1</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 53* and corrigendum (A/67/53 and Corr.1), chap. III, sect. A.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/68/53), chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 53A* (A/68/53/Add.1), chap. III.

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted on 10 December 1948,<sup>4</sup> in particular the principle that the will of the people, as expressed through periodic and genuine elections, shall be the basis of government authority, as well as the right freely to choose representatives through periodic and genuine elections, which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures,

*Reaffirming* the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>5</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>6</sup> the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination<sup>7</sup> and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>8</sup> and reaffirming also that no distinctions are permitted among citizens in the enjoyment of the right to participate in the conduct of public affairs on any grounds, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status, or on the basis of disability, directly or through freely chosen representatives, and to vote and to be elected in genuine periodic elections, which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret ballot, guaranteeing the free expression of the will of the electors,

*Reaffirming also* that the full and effective participation of women, on equal terms with men, at all levels of decision-making is essential to the achievement of equality and social inclusion, sustainable development, peace and democracy,

*Stressing* the importance, generally and in the context of promoting free and fair elections, of respect for the freedoms of peaceful assembly and association and expression, including the freedom to seek, receive and impart information, in accordance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and noting in particular the fundamental importance of access to information and media freedom, including through accessible and easy to understand formats for new information and communications technologies,

*Noting* that some countries are beginning to use online technology for balloting purposes, and reaffirming the right to privacy, according to which no one shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his or her privacy, family, home or correspondence, and the right to the protection of the law against such interference, as set out in article 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and that the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online,

*Recognizing* the need for strengthening democratic processes, electoral institutions and national capacity-building in requesting countries, including the capacity to administer fair elections, promote voter education, the development of electoral expertise and technology and the participation of women on equal terms with men, take all appropriate measures to ensure the effective and full participation of all persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others, increase citizen participation and provide civic education, including to youth, in requesting countries in order to

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<sup>4</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>5</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>6</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

consolidate and regularize the achievements of previous elections and support subsequent elections,

*Noting* the importance of ensuring orderly, open, fair and transparent democratic processes that protect the rights to peaceful assembly, association and freedom of expression and opinion,

*Noting also* that the international community can contribute to the creation of conditions which could foster stability and security throughout the pre-election, election and post-election periods in transitional and post-conflict situations,

*Reiterating* that transparency is a fundamental basis for free and fair elections, which contribute to the accountability of Governments to their citizens, which, in turn, is an underpinning of democratic societies,

*Acknowledging*, in this regard, the importance of international observation of elections for the promotion of free and fair elections and its contribution to enhancing the integrity of election processes in requesting countries, to promoting public confidence and electoral participation and to mitigating the potential for election-related disturbances,

*Acknowledging also* that extending invitations regarding international electoral assistance and/or observation is the sovereign right of Member States, and welcoming the decisions of those States that have requested such assistance and/or observation,

*Recalling* its resolution 60/1 of 16 September 2005, entitled “2005 World Summit Outcome”, in which it welcomed the establishment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Democracy Fund,

*Welcoming* the support provided by Member States to the electoral assistance activities of the United Nations, inter alia, through the provision of electoral experts, including electoral commission staff, and observers, as well as through contributions to the United Nations Trust Fund for Electoral Assistance, the Democratic Governance Thematic Trust Fund of the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Democracy Fund,

*Recognizing* that electoral assistance, particularly through appropriate, sustainable, accessible and cost-effective electoral technology, can facilitate full access for persons with disabilities and supports the electoral processes of developing countries,

*Recognizing also* the coordination challenges posed by the multiplicity of actors involved in electoral assistance both within and outside the United Nations,

*Welcoming* the contributions made by international and regional organizations and also by non-governmental organizations to enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of periodic and genuine elections and the promotion of democratization,

*Recognizing* the importance of the links that exist between development, peace, human rights, the rule of law, democracy and good governance, including the holding of free and fair elections, and in this regard welcoming the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>9</sup>

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

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>10</sup>
2. *Commends* the electoral assistance provided upon request to Member States by the United Nations, and requests that such assistance continue on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the evolving needs and legislation of requesting countries to develop, improve and refine their electoral institutions and processes, including ensuring full access to all stages of the elections process for persons with disabilities, recognizing that the responsibility for organizing free and fair elections lies with Governments;
3. *Reaffirms* that the electoral assistance provided by the United Nations should continue to be carried out in an objective, impartial, neutral and independent manner;
4. *Requests* the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, in his role as United Nations focal point for electoral assistance matters, to continue to regularly inform Member States about the requests received and the nature of any assistance provided;
5. *Requests* that the United Nations continue its efforts to ensure, before undertaking to provide electoral assistance to a requesting State, that there is adequate time to organize and carry out an effective mission providing such assistance, including the provision of long-term technical cooperation, that conditions exist to allow a free and fair election and that the results of the mission will be reported comprehensively and consistently;
6. *Notes* the importance of adequate resources for the administration of efficient and transparent elections at the national and local levels, and recommends that Member States provide adequate resources for those elections, including considering the possibility of establishing internal funding, where feasible;
7. *Reaffirms* the obligation of all States to take all appropriate measures to ensure that every citizen has the effective right and opportunity to participate in elections on an equal basis;
8. *Calls upon* all States to ensure that persons with disabilities can effectively and fully participate in political and public life on an equal basis with others, directly or through freely chosen representatives, including the right and opportunity for persons with disabilities to vote and to be elected;
9. *Also calls upon* all States to enhance the political participation of women, accelerate the achievement of equality between men and women and, in all situations, promote and protect the human rights of women with respect to voting in elections and public referendums and being eligible for election to publicly elected bodies on equal terms with men;
10. *Recommends* that, throughout the timespan of the entire electoral cycle, including before and after elections, as appropriate, on the basis of a needs assessment and in accordance with the evolving needs of requesting Member States, bearing in mind sustainability and cost-effectiveness, the United Nations continue to provide technical advice and other assistance to requesting States and electoral institutions in order to help to strengthen their democratic processes, also bearing in mind that the

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<sup>10</sup> A/70/306.

relevant office may provide additional assistance in the form of mediation and good offices, upon the request of Member States;

11. *Notes with appreciation* the additional efforts being made to enhance cooperation with other international, governmental and non-governmental organizations in order to facilitate more comprehensive and needs-specific responses to requests for electoral assistance, encourages those organizations to share knowledge and experience in order to promote best practices in the assistance they provide and in their reporting on electoral processes, and expresses its appreciation to those Member States, regional organizations and non-governmental organizations that have provided observers or technical experts in support of United Nations electoral assistance efforts;

12. *Acknowledges* the aim of harmonizing the methods and standards of the many intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations engaged in observing elections, and in this regard expresses appreciation for the Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation and the Code of Conduct for International Election Observers, which elaborate guidelines for international electoral observation;

13. *Recalls* the establishment by the Secretary-General of the United Nations Trust Fund for Electoral Assistance, and, bearing in mind that the Fund is currently close to depletion, calls upon Member States to consider contributing to the Fund;

14. *Encourages* the Secretary-General, through the United Nations focal point for electoral assistance matters and with the support of the Electoral Assistance Division of the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, to continue responding to the evolving nature of requests for assistance and the growing need for specific types of medium-term expert assistance aimed at supporting and strengthening the existing capacity of the requesting Government, in particular by enhancing the capacity of national electoral institutions;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Electoral Assistance Division with adequate human and financial resources to allow it to carry out its mandate, including to enhance the accessibility and diversity of the roster of electoral experts and the Organization's electoral institutional memory, and to continue to ensure that the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights is able to respond, within its mandate and in close coordination with the Division, to the numerous and increasingly complex and comprehensive requests from Member States for advisory services;

16. *Reiterates* the need for ongoing comprehensive coordination, under the auspices of the United Nations focal point for electoral assistance matters, between the Electoral Assistance Division, the United Nations Development Programme, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support of the Secretariat and the Office of the High Commissioner to ensure coordination and coherence and avoid duplication of United Nations electoral assistance;

17. *Requests* the United Nations Development Programme to continue its democratic governance assistance programmes in cooperation with other relevant organizations, in particular those that promote the strengthening of democratic institutions and linkages between civil society and Governments;

18. *Reiterates* the role of civil society and the importance of its active engagement in the promotion of democratization, and invites Member States to facilitate the full participation of civil society in electoral processes;

19. *Also reiterates* the importance of reinforced coordination within and outside the United Nations system, and reaffirms the clear leadership role within the United Nations system of the United Nations focal point for electoral assistance matters, including in ensuring system-wide coherence and consistency and in strengthening the institutional memory and the development, dissemination and issuance of United Nations electoral assistance policies;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session on the implementation of the present resolution, in particular on the status of requests from Member States for electoral assistance, and on his efforts to enhance support by the Organization for the democratization process in Member States.

## Draft resolution XXIII

### The human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution 64/292 of 28 July 2010, in which it recognized the right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as a human right that is essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights, and 68/157 of 18 December 2013 entitled “The human right to safe drinking water and sanitation”,

*Reaffirming* the previous resolutions of the Human Rights Council regarding the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation, inter alia, Council resolutions 24/18 of 27 September 2013<sup>1</sup> and 27/7 of 24 September 2014,<sup>2</sup>

*Recalling* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>3</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>4</sup> the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>4</sup> the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,<sup>5</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>6</sup> the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>7</sup> and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>8</sup>

*Welcoming* the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>9</sup> including the reaffirmation of commitments regarding the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation therein,

*Recalling* the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development of June 1992<sup>10</sup> and its resolution 66/288 of 27 July 2012, entitled “The future we want”, and emphasizing the critical importance of water and sanitation within the three dimensions of sustainable development,

*Reaffirming also* its resolutions 58/217 of 23 December 2003, by which it proclaimed the period from 2005 to 2015 the International Decade for Action, “Water for Life”, 61/192 of 20 December 2006, by which it established 2008 as the International Year for Sanitation, and 65/153 of 20 December 2010, by which it called upon Member States to support “Sustainable sanitation: the five-year drive to 2015”, and recalling its resolution 65/154 of 20 December 2010, by which it declared 2013 the International Year of Water Cooperation,

*Recalling* the designation of 19 November as World Toilet Day, in the context of Sanitation for All, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 67/291 of 24 July 2013, in

<sup>1</sup> *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/68/53/Add.1), chap. III.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, *Sixty-ninth Session, Supplement No. 53A* and corrigenda (A/69/53/Add.1 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. IV, sect. A.

<sup>3</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>4</sup> Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>5</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 660, No. 9464.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

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

<sup>10</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.

which the Assembly encouraged all Member States, as well as the organizations of the United Nations system and international organizations and other stakeholders, to approach the sanitation issue in a much broader context and to encompass all its aspects, including hygiene promotion, the provision of basic sanitation services, sewerage and wastewater treatment and reuse in the context of integrated water management,

*Taking note* of the relevant commitments and initiatives promoting the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation, including the Panama Declaration, adopted at the third Latin American Sanitation Conference, in 2013, the Kathmandu Declaration, adopted at the fifth South Asian Conference on Sanitation, in 2013, the 2015 Dushanbe Declaration of the High-level International Conference on the Implementation of the International Decade for Action “Water for Life”, 2005-2015, the commitments made on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation at the high-level meeting of the Sanitation and Water for All partnership in 2014 and the Ngor Declaration on Sanitation and Hygiene adopted at the fourth AfricaSan Conference in 2015,

*Recalling* general comment No. 15 (2002) of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on the right to water (articles 11 and 12 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights)<sup>11</sup> and the statement on the right to sanitation of the Committee of 19 November 2010, as well as the reports of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation,

*Welcoming* the work of the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children’s Fund in the 2015 update<sup>12</sup> published by their Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation,

*Welcoming also* the fact that, according to Joint Monitoring Programme reports of the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children’s Fund, the target on safe drinking water of the Millennium Development Goals was formally met, while being deeply concerned, however, that, according to the 2015 Joint Monitoring Programme update, 663 million people still lack access to improved drinking water sources and that eight out of ten people still without improved drinking water sources live in rural areas,

*Deeply concerned* that the world missed the sanitation component of Millennium Development Goal 7 by almost 700 million people and that more than 2.4 billion people still do not have access to improved sanitation facilities, including more than 946 million people who still practise open defecation, which is one of the clearest manifestations of poverty and extreme poverty,

*Deeply concerned also* that women and girls often face particular barriers in accessing water and sanitation and that they shoulder the main burden of collecting household water in many parts of the world, restricting their time for other activities, such as education and leisure, or for women earning a livelihood,

*Deeply concerned further* that the lack of access to adequate water and sanitation services, including for menstrual hygiene management, especially in

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<sup>11</sup> E/C.12/2002/11.

<sup>12</sup> World Health Organization/United Nations Children’s Fund, *Progress on Sanitation and Drinking Water*, Geneva, 2015.

schools, contributes to reinforcing the widespread stigma associated with menstruation, negatively affecting gender equality and women's and girls' enjoyment of human rights, including the right to education,

*Deeply concerned* that women and girls are particularly at risk and exposed to attacks, sexual and gender-based violence, harassment and other threats to their safety while collecting household water and when accessing sanitation facilities outside of their homes or practising open defecation,

*Deeply alarmed* that, every year, almost 700,000 children under 5 years of age die as a result of water and sanitation related diseases, and underscoring that progress on reducing child mortality, morbidity and stunting is linked to children's and women's access to safe drinking water and sanitation,

*Deeply concerned* that official figures do not fully capture the dimensions of drinking water availability, safety, affordability of services and safe management of excreta and wastewater, as well as of inequality and discrimination in the access to safe drinking water and sanitation and therefore underestimate the numbers of those without access to safe and affordable drinking water and safely managed and affordable sanitation, and highlighting in this context the need to adequately monitor the safety of drinking water and sanitation in order to obtain data that capture those dimensions,

*Deeply concerned also* that inexistent or inadequate sanitation facilities as well as serious deficiencies in water management and wastewater treatment can negatively affect water provision and the sustainable access to safe drinking water, and recognizing that, in progressively realizing the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation as well as other human rights, States should increasingly pursue integrated approaches and strengthen their water resource management, including by improving their wastewater treatment and by preventing and reducing surface and groundwater pollution,

*Affirming* the importance of regional and international technical cooperation, where appropriate, as a means to promote the progressive realization of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, without any prejudice to questions of international water law, including international watercourse law,

*Reaffirming* the responsibility of States to ensure the promotion and protection of all human rights, which are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated, and must be treated globally, in a fair and equal manner, on the same footing and with the same emphasis,

*Recalling* the understanding by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the Special Rapporteur on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation that the rights to safe drinking water and sanitation are closely related, but have distinct features which warrant their separate treatment in order to address specific challenges in their implementation and that sanitation too often remains neglected, if not addressed as a separate right, while being a component of the right to an adequate standard of living,

*Recalling also* that the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation are derived from the right to an adequate standard of living and are inextricably related to the right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, as well as to the right to life and human dignity,

*Acknowledging* the importance of equal access to safe drinking water and sanitation as an integral component of the realization of all human rights,

1. *Affirms* that the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation as components of the right to an adequate standard of living are essential for the full enjoyment of the right to life and all human rights;

2. *Recognizes* that the human right to safe drinking water entitles everyone, without discrimination, to have access to sufficient, safe, acceptable, physically accessible and affordable water for personal and domestic use, and that the human right to sanitation entitles everyone, without discrimination, to have physical and affordable access to sanitation, in all spheres of life, that is safe, hygienic, secure, socially and culturally acceptable and that provides privacy and ensures dignity, while reaffirming that both rights are components of the right to an adequate standard of living;

3. *Welcomes* Goal 6 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>9</sup> on ensuring the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, which includes important dimensions related to the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation;

4. *Also welcomes* the work of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation, and takes note with appreciation in particular of his first reports on affordability of water and sanitation services<sup>13</sup> and on the analysis of the different types of water and sanitation services from the perspective of the human right to safe drinking water and sanitation;<sup>14</sup>

5. *Calls upon* States:

(a) To ensure the progressive realization of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation for all in a non-discriminatory manner while eliminating inequalities in access, including for individuals belonging to groups at risk and to marginalized groups, on the grounds of race, gender, age, disability, ethnicity, culture, religion and national or social origin or on any other grounds, with a view to progressively eliminating inequalities based on factors such as rural-urban disparities, residence in a slum, income levels and other relevant considerations;

(b) To give due consideration to the commitments regarding the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation when implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through the full implementation of Goal 6;

(c) To continuously monitor and regularly analyse the status of the realization of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation;

(d) To identify patterns of failure to respect, protect or fulfil the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation for all persons without discrimination and to address their structural causes in policymaking and budgeting within a broader framework, while undertaking holistic planning aimed at achieving sustainable universal access, including in instances where the private sector, donors and non-governmental organizations are involved in service provision;

(e) To promote both women's leadership and their full, effective and equal participation in decision-making on water and sanitation management and to ensure that a gender-based approach is adopted in relation to water and sanitation

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<sup>13</sup> A/HRC/30/39.

<sup>14</sup> A/70/203.

programmes, including measures, inter alia, to reduce the time spent by women and girls in collecting household water, in order to address the negative impact of inadequate water and sanitation services on the access of girls to education and to protect women and girls from being physically threatened or assaulted, including from sexual violence, while collecting household water and when accessing sanitation facilities outside of their home or practising open defecation;

(f) To progressively eliminate open defecation by adopting policies to increase access to sanitation, including for individuals belonging to vulnerable and marginalized groups;

(g) To approach the sanitation issue in a much broader context, taking into account the need to pursue integrated approaches;

(h) To consult and coordinate with local communities and other stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, on adequate solutions to ensure sustainable access to safe drinking water and sanitation;

(i) To provide for effective accountability mechanisms for all water and sanitation service providers to ensure that they respect human rights and do not cause human rights violations or abuses;

6. *Calls upon* non-State actors, including business enterprises, both transnational and others, to comply with their responsibility to respect human rights, including the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, including by cooperating with State investigations into allegations of abuses of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation, and by progressively engaging with States to detect and remedy abuses of the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation;

7. *Invites* regional and international organizations to complement efforts by States to progressively realize the human rights to safe drinking water and sanitation;

8. *Calls upon* Member States to enhance global partnerships for sustainable development as a means to achieve and sustain the Goal and the targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and highlights the need to develop adequate follow-up and review of progress on the agenda including on ensuring availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all;

9. *Reaffirms* that States have the primary responsibility to ensure the full realization of all human rights and to endeavour to take steps, individually and through international assistance and cooperation, especially economic and technical cooperation, to the maximum of their available resources, with a view to progressively achieving the full realization of the rights to safe drinking water and sanitation by all appropriate means, including, in particular, the adoption of legislative measures;

10. *Stresses* the important role of the international cooperation and technical assistance provided by States, specialized agencies of the United Nations system and international and development partners, as well as by donor agencies, and urges development partners to adopt a human rights-based approach when designing and implementing development programmes in support of national initiatives and plans of action related to the rights to safe drinking water and sanitation;

11. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the question at its seventy-second session.

**Draft resolution XXIV  
Towards the full realization of an inclusive and accessible  
United Nations for persons with disabilities**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which it adopted on 13 December 2006 and which entered into force on 3 May 2008, a landmark convention affirming the human rights and fundamental freedoms of persons with disabilities, and recognizing that it is both a human rights and a development instrument,

*Recalling* its resolution 67/160, in which it requested the Secretary-General to take further actions to promote the rights of persons with disabilities in the United Nations system in accordance with the Convention, including the retention and recruitment of persons with disabilities,

*Recalling* its previous relevant resolutions, in which it requested the Secretary-General to continue to improve full inclusion of persons with disabilities and continue the progressive implementation of standards and guidelines with respect to the accessibility of facilities and services of the United Nations system, taking into account the relevant provisions of the Convention,

*Noting with appreciation* the efforts of the Secretary-General in this regard, including the opening of the accessibility centres at the United Nations offices in New York and Bangkok,

*Noting* that improvement in accessibility has been a core goal of the capital master plan since the commencement of the renovation of United Nations Headquarters, and recalling its resolution 69/250, in which it requested the Secretary-General to continue to address issues related to the accessibility of conference facilities as a matter of priority and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventieth session,

*Noting also* that the Secretariat-wide Inter-Departmental Task Force on Accessibility has contributed to promoting inclusive and accessible built environments, facilities, human resources, conferences and services at all United Nations premises,

1. *Affirms* that the United Nations has an important role to play in protecting and promoting the rights of persons with disabilities, including by taking all appropriate measures to ensure that it provides accessibility and reasonable accommodation, bearing in mind that, in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, reasonable accommodation is defined as necessary and appropriate modification and adjustments not imposing a disproportionate or undue burden, where needed in a particular case, to ensure to persons with disabilities the enjoyment or exercise on an equal basis with others of all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to raise awareness about protecting and promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and to improve relevant regulations, facilities and services within the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, and regional offices to create non-discriminatory and accessible environments for persons with disabilities, including staff members, delegates and visitors with disabilities, bearing in mind the

full range of disabilities as defined in article 1 of the Convention, and encourages Member States to support the Secretary-General in this regard;

3. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to further promote awareness and understanding among United Nations staff members towards persons with disabilities, including recognition of their full potential and their contribution to the work of the United Nations;

4. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session, a comprehensive report, to be prepared from within existing resources, on:

(a) The status and application of existing regulations relating to reasonable accommodation and the status of facilities and services relating thereto and areas that need improvement to ensure full accessibility, following universal design, and reasonable accommodation within the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, and regional offices;

(b) Best practices and views of Member States, other international organizations and other relevant stakeholders, including the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, disabled persons' organizations and United Nations staff members with disabilities, on the provision of accessibility, following universal design, and reasonable accommodation;

(c) Recommendations on how to better coordinate, facilitate and monitor practical accessibility measures in order to provide reasonable accommodation, in a cost-effective manner, to meet the needs of persons with disabilities for their participation in meetings, conferences and services at United Nations premises.

**Draft resolution XXV**  
**United Nations Human Rights Training and Documentation**  
**Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region**

*The General Assembly,*

*Guided* by the fundamental and universal principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>1</sup>

*Recalling* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action of 1993,<sup>2</sup> which reiterated the need to consider the possibility of establishing regional and subregional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights where they do not already exist,

*Recalling also* its resolutions 32/127 of 16 December 1977 and 51/102 of 12 December 1996 and all its subsequent resolutions concerning regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights,

*Recalling further* its resolutions 60/153 of 16 December 2005, 67/162 of 20 December 2012, 68/241 of 27 December 2013 and 69/171 of 18 December 2014 on the United Nations Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region,

*Recalling* Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/51 of 9 March 1993<sup>3</sup> and all its subsequent resolutions concerning regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights,

*Reaffirming* that regional cooperation plays a fundamental role in promoting and protecting human rights and should reinforce universal human rights, as contained in international human rights instruments, and their protection,

*Noting* that the developments in the Middle East and North Africa have continued to generate growing demand for the services of the Centre, and recognizing that the report of the Secretary-General<sup>4</sup> indicates that regular budget resources have been allocated to reinforce the staffing capacity of the Centre, thereby enabling it to better respond to training and documentation demands in a more timely and adequate manner, and to help to fill the gaps in terms of expertise and relevant Arabic-language training materials,

*Mindful* of the vastness and the diversity of the needs in the field of human rights within South-West Asia and the Arab region, and taking into account the need for appropriate and sustainable funding of the Centre to fully realize its significant function and crucial role in the region,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>4</sup>
2. *Notes with appreciation* the successful assistance that the United Nations Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab Region has provided through human rights capacity-building activities, technical assistance programmes and training programmes on combating human trafficking,

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<sup>1</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>2</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

<sup>3</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1993, Supplement No. 3* and corrigenda (E/1993/23 and Corr.2, 4 and 5), chap. II, sect. A.

<sup>4</sup> A/70/414.

human rights and media, human rights and diplomacy, human rights education and police training on human rights, as well as support to national human rights institutions and regional consultations on the topics of United Nations human rights mechanisms;

3. *Underlines* the Centre's role as a source for regional expertise and the need to meet an increasing number of requests for training and documentation, including in the Arabic language;

4. *Notes* that the increasing demand that has been placed on the Centre by Member States and other stakeholders reveals a growing recognition of its role and impact on strengthening human rights capacities in the region;

5. *Encourages* the continued engagement of the Centre to work with other United Nations regional offices to strengthen its work and to avoid duplication;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session a report, in accordance with existing rules and procedures, on the implementation of the present resolution.

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