



# General Assembly

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## Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development

### Report of the Second Committee

*Rapporteur:* Mr. David Mulet Lind (Guatemala)

#### I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 20 September 2019, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled “Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development” and to allocate it to the Second Committee.

2. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on the item at its 6th and 7th meetings, on 10 October 2019. Action on the item was taken at its 23rd and 26th meetings, on 21 and 27 November. An account of the Committee’s discussion of the item is contained in the relevant summary records.<sup>1</sup> Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 2nd to 5th meetings, on 7 and 8 October.<sup>2</sup>

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

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development (A/74/260);

(b) Summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the forum on financing for development follow-up, including the special high-level meeting with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (New York, 15–18 April 2019) (A/74/87-E/2019/71).

<sup>1</sup> A/C.2/74/SR.6, A/C.2/74/SR.7, A/C.2/74/SR.23 and A/C.2/74/SR.26.

<sup>2</sup> See A/C.2/74/SR.2, A/C.2/74/SR.3, A/C.2/74/SR.4 and A/C.2/74/SR.5.



4. At the 6th meeting, on 10 October, the Director of the Financing for Sustainable Development Office, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, made an introductory statement.
5. At the 23rd meeting, on 21 November, the representative of the United States of America made a statement with regard to the draft resolutions before the Committee.<sup>3</sup>

## II. Consideration of draft resolutions [A/C.2/74/L.13](#) and [A/C.2/74/L.13/Rev.1](#)

6. At the 23rd meeting, on 21 November, the observer for the State of Palestine, on behalf of the States that are members of the Group of 77 and China, taking into account also the provisions of General Assembly resolution [73/5](#) of 16 October 2018, introduced a draft resolution entitled “Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development” ([A/C.2/74/L.13](#)).
7. At its 26th meeting, on 27 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled “Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development” ([A/C.2/74/L.13/Rev.1](#)), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution [A/C.2/74/L.13](#).
8. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution [A/C.2/74/L.13/Rev.1](#) did not entail programme budget implications.
9. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.2/74/L.13/Rev.1](#) (see para. 11).
10. Also at the 26th meeting, following the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Canada and Australia.

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<sup>3</sup> See [A/C.2/74/SR.23](#).

### III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

11. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

#### **Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [70/192](#) of 22 December 2015, [71/217](#) of 21 December 2016, [72/208](#) of 20 December 2017 and [73/223](#) of 20 December 2018 on the follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development and its resolution [70/299](#) of 29 July 2016 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level,

*Reaffirming* its resolution [69/313](#) of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>1</sup> supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

*Recalling* the International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Monterrey, Mexico, from 18 to 22 March 2002, the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008, and the third International Conference on Financing for Development, held in Addis Ababa from 13 to 16 July 2015,

*Reaffirming* its resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

*Reaffirming also* the Paris Agreement<sup>2</sup> and its early entry into force, encouraging all its parties to fully implement the Agreement, and parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>3</sup> that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

*Reiterating* the affirmation in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda that achieving gender equality, empowering all women and girls and attaining the full realization of their human rights are essential to achieving sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development,

<sup>1</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>2</sup> Adopted under the UNFCCC in [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21.

<sup>3</sup> United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

*Reaffirming* the importance of addressing the diverse needs of and challenges faced by countries in special situations, in particular African countries, the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States and countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, as well as the specific challenges faced by middle-income countries,

*Taking note* of the holding of preparatory meetings for the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up, such as the annual retreat of the Group of Friends of Monterrey,

*Welcoming* the convening of the fourth annual Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up from 15 to 18 April 2019,

*Recalling* the intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations of the forum,<sup>4</sup> which decided that the fifth Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up would convene from 20 to 23 April 2020 and would include the special high-level meeting of the Council with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and also that the 2020 forum would consider and report in its outcome document on the need to hold a follow-up conference,

*Recalling also* Economic and Social Council decision 2017/206 of 5 October 2016,

*Noting* the sixth biennial high-level meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum, held in New York on 21 and 22 May 2018, and its outcomes,<sup>5</sup>

*Welcoming* the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development held on 26 September 2019, back-to-back with the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the General Assembly,

*Taking note* of the establishment by the Secretary-General of the Global Investors for Sustainable Development Alliance and the publication of the road map for financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and looking forward to further updates on the implementation of the strategy of the Secretary-General for financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2018–2021),

*Welcoming* the outcome document of the second High-level United Nations Conference on South-South Cooperation, held in Buenos Aires from 20 to 22 March 2019,<sup>6</sup>

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

*Recommitting* to ensuring that no country or person is left behind and to focusing our effort where the challenges are greatest, including by ensuring the inclusion and participation of those who are furthest behind,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>7</sup>

2. *Emphasizes* the need to work towards the full and timely implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development;<sup>8</sup>

<sup>4</sup> See [E/FFDF/2019/3](#).

<sup>5</sup> See [E/2018/73](#).

<sup>6</sup> Resolution [73/291](#), annex.

<sup>7</sup> [A/74/260](#).

<sup>8</sup> Resolution [69/313](#), annex.

3. *Takes note* of the report of the Inter-Agency Task Force on Financing for Development,<sup>9</sup> and notes that progress, though uneven, has been reported in all seven action areas of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, while acknowledging that many implementation gaps persist;

4. *Welcomes* the intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations of the 2019 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up,<sup>2</sup> urges their full, effective and timely implementation, and looks forward to staying engaged so as to assess progress, identify obstacles and challenges in the implementation of the financing for development outcomes and in the delivery of the means of implementation, promote the sharing of lessons learned from experiences at the national and regional levels, address new and emerging topics of relevance to the implementation of this agenda as the need arises and provide policy recommendations for action by the international community in substantive intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations at the 2020 forum;

5. *Also welcomes* in this regard the further development of integrated national financing frameworks, in support of nationally owned sustainable development strategies, in order to further implement the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, aimed at effectively mobilizing and aligning a wide range of financing sources and instruments with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and making use of the full potential of all means of implementation;

6. *Looks forward* to the summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the 2020 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up, as well as the summary by the President of the General Assembly of the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development, held on 26 September 2019;<sup>10</sup>

7. *Emphasizes* that timely and adequate planning for the 2020 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up is of paramount importance to its substantive work and outcome;

8. *Invites* the President of the Economic and Social Council to take into consideration the deliberations of the 2019 High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development, in the preparation of the 2020 Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up;

9. *Recalls* that decisions relating to the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up are to be contained within the forum's intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations;

10. *Takes note* of the work of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters and the initial contributions made by India to the voluntary trust fund, by Norway to a multi-donor project aimed at supporting the work of the Committee, its subcommittees and related capacity development activities, as well as the contributions by the European Union and other countries in support of the Committee's subsidiary bodies, and urges Member States to come forward to contribute more to the trust fund in order to further support the participation of developing countries;

11. *Looks forward* to the holding of the 2020 Global Infrastructure Forum in Washington, D.C., on the sidelines of the annual meetings of the Boards of Governors of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund, invites the multilateral development banks to provide a briefing to Member States on the

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<sup>9</sup> *Financing for Sustainable Development Report 2019* (United Nations publications, Sales No. E.19.I.7).

<sup>10</sup> [A/74/559](#).

outcome of the Global Infrastructure Forum, and reiterates that the Global Infrastructure Forum is mandated to identify and address infrastructure and capacity gaps in developing countries, particularly in the least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and African countries;

12. *Welcomes* the progress made in operationalizing the three components of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, and looks forward to the prompt establishment of the online platform as part of the Mechanism;

13. *Also welcomes* the operationalization of the Technology Bank for the Least Developed Countries, and invites Member States, as well as international organizations, foundations and the private sector, to provide increased voluntary financial contributions and technical assistance to ensure its full and effective implementation;

14. *Notes with appreciation* the convening of the fourth annual multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals in New York on 14 and 15 May 2019, whose Co-Chairs' summary<sup>11</sup> served as an input to the high-level political forum on sustainable development and highlighted, inter alia, the promotion of networking and matchmaking among relevant stakeholders, especially innovators, funders and other supporters, to bridge the technology gap for the Sustainable Development Goals;

15. *Recalls* that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda provides a global framework for financing sustainable development and is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it and helps to contextualize the means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, the implementation of which requires following up on, that relate to its seven action areas, namely domestic public resources; domestic and international private business and finance; international development cooperation; international trade as an engine for development; debt and debt sustainability; addressing systemic issues and science, technology, innovation and capacity-building; and data, monitoring and follow-up;

16. *Reiterates* that States will not be able to achieve the ambitious Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development without a revitalized and enhanced global partnership and comparably ambitious means of implementation, and reaffirms the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind and commit to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first;

17. *Notes* the policy recommendations of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Financing for Development of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, and that the agreed policy recommendations serve as an input to the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up in accordance with the terms of reference of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-fifth session an action-oriented report, which also takes into account the 2019 High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development, presenting emerging challenges and key accelerators that may be relevant for future discussion in the framework of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up;

19. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fifth session the item entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development".

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<sup>11</sup> See [E/HLPF/2019/6](#).