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Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Greece, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Turkey: draft resolution

Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution [54/5](#) of 8 October 1999, by which it granted observer status to the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, as well as its previous resolutions on cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, including resolution [73/13](#) of 26 November 2018,

Reaffirming its pledge to international cooperation and multilateralism, as the United Nations commemorates its seventy-fifth anniversary,

Recalling that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social or humanitarian nature,

Recalling also the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage activities through regional cooperation for the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Reaffirming its resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, and its resolution [69/313](#) of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,

Recalling its Declaration on the Enhancement of Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Arrangements or Agencies in the Maintenance of International Peace and Security of 9 December 1994,¹

Recognizing that any dispute or conflict in the region impedes cooperation, and stressing the need to solve such a dispute or conflict on the basis of the norms and principles of international law,

¹ Resolution [49/57](#), annex.



Recalling that, in the Charter of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization expressed the desire of their countries and peoples for constructive and fruitful collaboration in wide-ranging fields of economic activity with the aim of turning the Black Sea economic cooperation region into one of peace, stability and prosperity,

Reaffirming that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic requires a global response based on unity, solidarity and renewed multilateral cooperation,

Convinced that the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and other organizations contributes to the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General submitted pursuant to resolution 73/13,²

1. *Recalls* the Declaration adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization on the occasion of the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Summit of the Organization, held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 22 May 2017;

2. *Reiterates* the conviction that multilateral economic cooperation contributes to enhancing peace, stability and security to the benefit of the wider Black Sea area;

3. *Welcomes* the ongoing commitment of the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to the implementation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Agenda, “Towards an enhanced Black Sea Economic Cooperation Partnership”, endorsed by the Heads of State and Government of the States members of the Organization at its Twentieth Anniversary Summit, held in Istanbul, in which the member States had reiterated their commitment to enhancing the economic mission and the project-oriented dimension of the Organization;

4. *Takes note* of the initiatives of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization aimed at mitigating the adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic for the member States, as well as of its activities for strengthening regional cooperation in such fields as energy, including renewable energy and energy efficiency, transport, institutional renewal and good governance, trade and economic development, banking and finance, emergency assistance, environmental protection, sustainable development of the small and medium-sized enterprises sector and entrepreneurship, communications, including the information and communications technology sector and digitalization, culture, education, tourism, science and technology, exchange of statistical data and economic information, collaboration among customs authorities and combating organized crime and trafficking in drugs, weapons and radioactive material, acts of terrorism and illegal migration and in other related spheres;

5. *Welcomes* the efforts of the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization aimed at increasing its efficiency and effectiveness;

6. *Underlines* the importance of taking further coordinated and active steps for the implementation of the joint regional projects in the field of transport under the Memorandum of Understanding for the Coordinated Development of the Black Sea Ring Highway and the Memorandum of Understanding on the Development of Motorways of the Sea at the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization Region, which will contribute to the further development of Euro-Asian transport links;

7. *Greets* the ongoing efforts of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization under the Memorandum of Understanding on Facilitation of Road Transport of Goods in the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization Region,

² See A/75/345-S/2020/898, sect. II.

aimed at facilitating international road transport of goods on the basis of removing barriers hampering mutually beneficial participation of road transport operators in bilateral and transit transportation;

8. *Welcomes* the efforts carried out by the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization for the implementation of the Green Energy Strategy, which affords States members of the Organization new opportunities with regard to the elaboration and adoption of their green energy policies and the strengthening of regional cooperation in the field of green energy, endorsed at the thirty-eighth meeting of the Council of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, held in Yerevan on 27 June 2018;

9. *Greets* also the recently established practice of holding annually by the Institute for Energy and Finance of the Russian Federation, with the support of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, the International conference entitled “Risk Management in Energy”, aimed at mitigating various risk factors in the field of energy and ensuring stable and predictable functioning of energy markets, and the outcomes of its third meeting held in Istanbul on 28 March 2020 via videoconference mode;

10. *Welcomes* the “75 UN – 75 trees UNAI SDG 7” initiative, marking the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations, proposed by the Energy Policy and Development Centre of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens as the United Nations Academic Impact Hub for Sustainable Development Goal 7 and as the Coordinator of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization Green Energy Network in order to contribute to the fight against the negative effects of climate change;

11. *Notes* the activities undertaken by the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization Green Energy Network with regard to exchanging information, sharing experiences and good practices, elaborating and implementing regional energy efficiency projects and promoting investments in green energy in the Black Sea region;

12. *Also notes* the activities aimed at developing effective policies and concrete measures to support the sustainable development of small and medium-sized enterprises in the Black Sea region and to help them to improve their performance through, inter alia, the assistance of the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank;

13. *Calls for* greater cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and international financial institutions in co-financing feasibility and pre-feasibility studies for projects in all countries of the wider Black Sea area;

14. *Takes note* of the consultations between the World Bank and the Permanent International Secretariat of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization concerning the implementation of the “Blueing the Black Sea Programme (BBSEA)” and expects it to catalyse investments in the blue economy sector in the Black Sea region with due regard and alignment with their national priorities and strategies;

15. *Acknowledges* the interest of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,³ bearing in mind the importance of the regional and subregional dimensions, regional economic integration and interconnectivity in sustainable development and that regional and subregional frameworks can facilitate

³ Resolution 70/1.

the effective translation of sustainable development policies into concrete action at the national level;

16. *Calls upon* the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to support the efforts aimed at promoting robust economies and enhanced land and maritime connectivity solutions as an essential prerequisite for overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic, providing for economic recovery and growth, and getting back on track towards advancing sustainable development;

17. *Notes* the ongoing contributions of the related bodies of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, namely, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Business Council, the Black Sea Trade and Development Bank and the International Centre for the Black Sea Studies, to the strengthening of multifaceted regional cooperation in the region;

18. *Welcomes* the ongoing commitment of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to promoting and implementing fruitful cooperation with the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, in particular to developing practical and goal-oriented projects, in areas of common interests, as reiterated in the Black Sea Economic Agenda, "Toward an Enhanced Black Sea Economic Cooperation Partnership", endorsed at the Twentieth Anniversary Summit of the Organization;

19. *Also welcomes* the ongoing cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic Commission for Europe, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Organization for Migration, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the World Health Organization, the World Tourism Organization, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization;

20. *Further welcomes* the efforts of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in strengthening the project-oriented dimension of the Organization, in particular by further reinvigorating the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Project Development Fund;

21. *Takes note* of the ongoing activities and practical outcomes of the Black Sea Project Promotion Facility in support of regional projects in the fields of renewable energy, energy efficiency, green technologies, the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, the advancement of the knowledge economy, capacity-building and the promotion of the export potential of the States members of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization;

22. *Underlines* the advancement of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization/Black Sea Trade and Development Bank-related project implementation and technical cooperation activities in the fields of energy, transport, public utilities, manufacturing, municipal services, environmental protection, small and medium-sized enterprises, telecommunications and the financial sector;

23. *Notes* the willingness of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization to continue to implement sustainable development strategies based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs and economic activities and to encourage measures to rehabilitate, protect and preserve the environment in the Black Sea region, and in this regard welcomes its cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme and the Commission on the Protection of the Black Sea against Pollution;

24. *Also notes* the ongoing cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and within this framework welcomes the positive results of the ongoing projects to strengthen the criminal justice response to trafficking in persons in the Black Sea region;

25. *Welcomes* the ongoing multifaceted and fruitful cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the Economic Commission for Europe, especially in the area of transport, within the framework of the Cooperation Agreement signed by the two organizations;

26. *Encourages* the full implementation of the Cooperation Agreement between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme of 20 February 2002 and the Relationship Agreement between the Organization and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization;

27. *Also encourages* deeper cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the World Health Organization and the World Tourism Organization in order to respond to, overcome and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and build preparedness for future similar crises, while facilitating the safe movement of people and supporting the tourist industry, jobs, and small and medium-sized enterprises, without compromising health conditions;

28. *Notes* that the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization is a member of the Group of Friends of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, and welcomes the commitment to broaden cooperation in the accomplishment of the mission of the Alliance, as established by the Secretary-General, and in the promotion of understanding and reconciliation among cultures, globally and regionally, as set out in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, which was approved in Bucharest and signed in Baku;

29. *Welcomes* the enhanced cooperation between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and the European Union in the Black Sea region alongside mutually agreed priorities and fields of cooperation, through a joint action and bottom-up, project-oriented approach, in a balanced and mutually beneficial way;

30. *Takes note* of the cooperation established between the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization and other regional organizations and initiatives, and in this regard encourages the further development of cooperation with the regional organizations and integration unions concerned, in particular those in Eastern Europe and Central Asia;

31. *Invites* the Secretary-General to strengthen dialogue with the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization with a view to promoting cooperation and coordination between the secretariats of the two organizations;

32. *Invites* the funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system to cooperate with the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization in order to continue joint projects and programmes with the Organization and its related bodies for the achievement of their objectives;

33. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

34. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-seventh session, under the item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations”, the sub-item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization”.