United Nations E/2020/L.18



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited 1 July 2020

Original: English

2020 session
25 July 2019–22 July 2020
Agenda item 7
Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation

Guyana:*,** draft resolution

Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 71/243 of 21 December 2016 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including its general guidelines,

Reaffirming also General Assembly resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Reaffirming further General Assembly resolutions 73/248 of 20 December 2018 and 74/238 of 19 December 2019 on the operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Recognizing the unprecedented effects of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, including the severe disruption to societies and economies, as well as to global travel and commerce, and the devastating impact on the livelihood of people, especially the poorest and most vulnerable and that the impact will reverse hard-won development gains and hamper progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, ¹

¹ See General Assembly resolution 70/1.





^{*} On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

^{**} In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

Recognizing also the central role of the United Nations system in catalysing and providing support to the global response under way to control, contain and mitigate the spread and effects of the pandemic, as well as a sustainable and resilient recovery,

- 1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 71/243 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, 2020;²
- 2. Also takes note of the report of the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group on the work of the Development Coordination Office, ³ including on the operational, administrative and financing aspects of the activities of the Office, and encourages the Office to continue with the evidence-based approach and detailed information presented in the report on the implementation of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system;
- 3. Welcomes the progress achieved by the Secretary-General, notes the challenges on the repositioning of the United Nations development system, and looks forward to the timely implementation of outstanding mandates pertaining to the repositioning of the regional assets and the multi-country office review, under national ownership and leadership;
- 4. Also welcomes the efforts of the Secretary-General in formulating the recommendations to harness the regional assets of the United Nations development system, requests the Secretary-General, as part of the implementation process, to continue to conduct transparent and inclusive consultations with the countries of the region under the purview of the regional assets of the United Nations, including, as appropriate, through the regional economic commissions intergovernmental processes, to ensure that the longer-term reprofiling and restructuring of the regional assets of the United Nations is addressed on a region-by-region basis and in accordance with their specific needs and priorities, reaffirms that the regional repositioning should be conducted with the support and coordination of the regional economic commissions while preserving and strengthening their role and mandates, and requests the Secretary-General to continue regular follow-up, monitoring and reporting, including at the annual operational activities for development segment of the Economic and Social Council;
- 5. Further welcomes the recommendations of the Secretary-General on reinforcing support in multi-country office settings,⁴ takes note of the information contained in the multi-country office review update dated 25 March 2020 circulated to Member States,⁵ and calls upon the Secretary-General to continue inclusive consultations with all countries concerned throughout and after the implementation phase, and to conduct regular monitoring, reporting and follow-up, including at the annual operational activities for development segment, with a view to making the adjustments necessary to ensure the availability and delivery of sustainable and effective development resources and services to enable countries served by multi-country offices to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.¹

² A/75/79-E/2020/55 and A/75/79/Add.1-E/2020/55/Add.1.

2/2 20-08711

³ E/2020/54.

⁴ See A/75/79-E/2020/55, sect. V.

⁵ Circulated in the context of the third plenary briefing convened by the Deputy Secretary-General on the remaining mandates of the repositioning of the United Nations development system, held virtually on 27 March 2020.