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Social development

Report of the Third Committee

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I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 20 September 2013, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-eighth session the item entitled:

“Social development:

“(a) Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly;

“(b) Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family;

“(c) Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing;

“(d) United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all”

and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Third Committee considered the item at its 2nd to 5th, 16th, 26th, 36th, 43rd, 49th to 51st and 53rd meetings, on 7, 8, 17, 24 and 31 October and 7, 21 and from 25 to 27 November 2013. At its 2nd to 5th meetings, the Committee held a general discussion on sub-items (a) to (d). An account of the Committee’s discussion is contained in the relevant summary records ([A/C.3/68/SR.2-5](#), 16, 26, 36, 43, 49-51 and 53).

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

* Reissued for technical reasons on 19 December 2013.



(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2014 ([A/68/61-E/2013/3](#));

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the way forward: a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond ([A/68/95](#));

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing ([A/68/167](#));

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on cooperatives in social development and the observance of the International Year of Cooperatives ([A/68/168](#));

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on promoting social integration through social inclusion ([A/68/169](#));

(f) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly ([A/68/174](#));

(g) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the final evaluation of the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade ([A/68/201](#));

(h) Note by the Secretariat on the world social situation 2013: inequality matters ([A/68/215](#)).

4. At the 2nd meeting, on 7 October, the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs made a statement. The Director for the Division for Social Policy and Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Director of the New York Office of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) also made introductory statements (see [A/C.3/68/SR.2](#)).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolutions [A/C.3/68/L.10](#) and Rev.1

5. At the 26th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Senegal, on behalf of Armenia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Panama, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova and Senegal introduced a draft resolution entitled “Policies and programmes involving youth” ([A/C.3/68/L.10](#)), which read:

“The General Assembly,

“Recalling the World Programme of Action for Youth, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolutions [50/81](#) of 14 December 1995 and [62/126](#) of 18 December 2007,

“Welcoming the participation of young representatives in national delegations at the General Assembly,

“Affirming that the generation of a sufficient number of decent jobs for youth is one of the biggest challenges that needs to be tackled in order to

increase youth employment, and emphasizing the priority areas of the World Programme of Action for Youth linked to the employability of youth, including education, health and access to information and technology,

“Taking note of the resolution and conclusions on the theme of ‘The youth employment crisis: a call for action’, adopted by the International Labour Conference at its 101st session, held in Geneva in 2012, focusing on employment and economic policies for youth employment; employability, education, training and skills and the school-to-work transition; labour market policies; youth entrepreneurship and self-employment; and rights for young people,

“Welcoming the initiative of the Government of Sri Lanka to host in 2014 a world conference on youth in Colombo, with a focus on the participation and involvement of youth in achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

“Taking note of the five-year action agenda of the Secretary-General, which identifies working with and for women and young people as one of the five generational imperatives and opportunities,

“Reaffirming the importance of involving youth and youth organizations in all matters of concern to them,

“1. *Acknowledges* that the current generation of youth is the largest one ever, reaffirms, in this context, the need to promote gender equality and the empowerment of girls and young women in all aspects of development, and recognizes the vulnerability of adolescent girls and young women and the need to eliminate discrimination against them, as well as the critical role of boys and young men in ensuring gender equality in youth development;

“2. *Reaffirms* the World Programme of Action for Youth;

“3. *Emphasizes* that all 15 priority areas of the World Programme of Action for Youth are interrelated and mutually reinforcing;

“4. *Reiterates* that the primary responsibility for implementing the World Programme of Action for Youth lies with Member States, and urges Governments, in consultation with youth and youth organizations, to develop holistic and integrated youth policies based on the Programme of Action and to evaluate them regularly as part of the follow-up action on and implementation of the Programme of Action;

“5. *Calls upon* Member States to consider, on a voluntary basis, the indicators proposed in the report of the Secretary-General for their selection and adaptation in monitoring and assessing the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth, giving particular attention to young women and marginalized groups, including indigenous youth, youth in rural areas, youth with disabilities and young migrants, taking into account the national social and economic circumstances in each country;

“6. *Reiterates* that access to high-quality formal and non-formal education, health care and information and communications technology is an important factor in enabling young people to acquire relevant skills for employability and entrepreneurial development and to gain decent and

productive work, and calls upon Member States to take the actions necessary to ensure that young people, including young women, have access to those services;

“7. *Recognizes* that youth participation is important for youth development, and urges Member States to promote the full and effective participation of young people and youth-led organizations in relevant decision-making processes, including in developing, implementing and monitoring policies, programmes and activities at all times;

“8. *Urges* Member States to address the high rates of youth unemployment, underemployment, vulnerable employment and informal employment by developing and implementing targeted and integrated national youth employment policies for inclusive job creation, improved employability, skill development and vocational training to meet specific labour market needs of youth, including young migrants, and increased entrepreneurship, including the development of networks of young entrepreneurs at the local, national, regional and global levels, which foster knowledge among young people about their rights and responsibilities in society, and in this regard requests donors, specialized United Nations entities and the private sector to continue to provide assistance, including technical and funding support, as required;

“9. *Reiterates* that the eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition, particularly as they affect children and youth, is crucial for accelerating progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, recalls the commitment to eradicate poverty and promote sustained economic growth, sustainable development and global prosperity for all and the need for urgent action on all sides, including more ambitious national development strategies and efforts backed by increased international support, and calls for the increased participation of youth and youth-led organizations in the development of such national development strategies;

“10. *Emphasizes* the importance of a fair globalization, encourages Member States to take measures that minimize the negative effects of globalization and maximize the benefits thereof, offer relevant education and training for young people to meet the needs of changing labour markets, guarantee the enjoyment by young migrants of full respect for their human rights, and underlines the importance of closely consulting with and actively involving youth and youth organizations in the elaboration of the emerging post-2015 development agenda;

“11. *Urges* Member States to strengthen or establish, in collaboration with young people and youth-led organizations, youth-friendly programmes and policies to address substance abuse, youth violence and youth involvement in crime, and in this regard calls upon Member States to recognize the importance of strengthening intergenerational partnerships and solidarity among generations;

“12. *Calls upon* Member States to take concrete measures to further assist youth in situations of armed conflict, in accordance with the World Programme of Action for Youth;

“13. *Urges* Member States to consider including youth representatives in their delegations at all relevant discussions in the General Assembly, the

Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions and relevant United Nations conferences, as appropriate, bearing in mind the principles of gender balance and non-discrimination, and emphasizes that such youth representatives should be selected through a transparent process that ensures that they have a suitable mandate to represent young people in their countries;

“14. *Acknowledges* the increased collaboration through the Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development in developing the United Nations System-wide Action Plan on Youth, requests United Nations entities to continue their coordination and intensify efforts towards a more coherent, comprehensive and integrated approach to youth development, calls upon United Nations entities and relevant partners to develop additional measures to support national, regional and international efforts to address challenges hindering youth development, and in this regard encourages close collaboration with Member States as well as other relevant stakeholders, including civil society;

“15. *Calls upon* the United Nations Programme on Youth to continue to act as the focal point within the United Nations system for promoting further collaboration and coordination on youth-related matters;

“16. *Calls upon* donors, including Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to actively contribute to the United Nations Youth Fund in order to facilitate the participation of youth representatives from developing countries in the activities of the United Nations, taking into account the need for greater geographical balance of youth representation, as well as to accelerate the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth and to support the production of the *World Youth Report*, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate action to encourage contributions to the Fund;

“17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventieth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, to be prepared in consultation with Member States as well as the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes, and regional commissions, taking into account the work done by the United Nations system, and also requests the Secretariat to consult, as appropriate, with youth-led and youth-focused organizations to ensure that various youth inputs are duly shared with the General Assembly during its deliberations.”

6. At its 50th meeting, on 25 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/68/L.10/Rev.1), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/68/L.10 and Algeria, Angola, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, the Gambia, Georgia, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Mozambique, Nigeria, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uruguay. Subsequently, Andorra, Argentina, Belize, Bulgaria, Colombia, Gabon, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Kuwait, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, the Niger,

Paraguay, Suriname, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago and the United Arab Emirates joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/68/L.10/Rev.1](#) (see para. 34, draft resolution I).

8. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Belarus made a statement; after the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of El Salvador (also on behalf of Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Iceland, Israel, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Uruguay), the United States of America, Brazil, Bahrain (on behalf of the Gulf Cooperation Council), Gabon (on behalf of the Group of African States), Nigeria, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Qatar, as well as by the observer for the Holy See (see [A/C.3/68/SR.50](#)).

B. Draft resolutions [A/C.3/68/L.11](#) and [Rev.2](#)

9. At the 16th meeting, on 17 October, the representative of Peru, on behalf of Guatemala, Mongolia and Peru, introduced a draft resolution entitled “Promoting social integration through social inclusion” ([A/C.3/68/L.11](#)), which read:

“The General Assembly,

“Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly entitled ‘World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world’, held at Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

“Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2010/12 of 22 July 2010 on promoting social integration and General Assembly resolution [66/122](#) of 19 December 2011,

“Recalling further the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, in which Heads of State and Government acknowledged the significant importance of promoting comprehensive systems of social protection that provide universal access to essential social services, consistent with national priorities and circumstances, to meet internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

“Taking note with appreciation of the decisive commitment of several United Nations entities to mainstreaming social inclusion into their work and encouraging others to do the same,

“Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to realizing the universal right to work, an adequate standard of living, necessary social services and social security,

“Stressing that the promotion of sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth that can overcome the challenges of unemployment is necessary to achieve poverty eradication and inequality reduction and should

be complemented, as appropriate, by effective social protection policies, including social inclusion policies,

“Recognizing that the gains of economic growth should also benefit those who are in vulnerable or marginalized situations,

“Recognizing also that social inclusion and equity are intrinsically linked, and that focusing on and investing in the most disadvantaged and excluded populations, in particular vulnerable women and children, is critically important for the acceleration of progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the post-2015 development agenda,

“Recognizing further that social inclusion policies and systems play a critical role in promoting an inclusive society, and are also crucial for fostering stable, safe, harmonious, peaceful and just societies and for improving social cohesion and inclusion so as to create an environment for development and progress,

“Reaffirming the important role of corporate social responsibility and accountability in contributing to an enabling environment to promote inclusive economic growth and social integration,

“Recognizing that social inclusion policies also strengthen the democratic process,

“Stressing that social inclusion policies should promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and equal access to opportunities and social protection for all, in particular for those who are in vulnerable or marginalized situations,

“Acknowledging that the participation of persons in vulnerable or marginalized situations is crucial to formulating and implementing social inclusion policies that effectively achieve social integration, as appropriate,

“Recognizing the important role played by civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in promoting social integration, inter alia, through social programmes and support for the development of socially inclusive policies,

“Stressing the importance of an enabling international environment, in particular enhanced international cooperation to support national efforts towards promoting social integration through social inclusion in every country, including the fulfilment of all commitments on official development assistance, debt relief, market access, financial and technical support and capacity-building,

“Expressing concern that, in times of economic and financial crisis and ongoing concern about energy and food insecurity, social exclusion can be exacerbated; in this regard, sustainable and reliable social inclusion policies and programmes can play a positive role,

“1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;

“2. *Stresses* that States, which bear the main responsibility for social integration and social inclusion, should prioritize the creation of a ‘society for all’ based on respect for all human rights and the principles of equality among

individuals, the access to basic social services and the promotion of the active participation of every member of society, in particular those in vulnerable or marginalized situations, in all aspects of life, including civic, social, economic and political activities, as well as participation in decision-making processes;

“3. *Reaffirms* that social integration policies should seek to reduce inequalities, and that equity and social inclusion are building blocks for sustainable development, ensuring that individuals can participate and contribute to its social, economic and environmental dimensions in sustainable ways;

“4. *Stresses* the importance of eradicating illiteracy and promoting for all equal access to and opportunities for quality education, skills development and quality training as essential means for participation and integration in society;

“5. *Calls upon* States to promote a more equitable participation in and access to inclusive and sustainable growth and decent employment through, inter alia, policies that ensure inclusive labour markets and by implementing socially responsive macroeconomic policies in which employment has a key role, and social inclusion strategies which promote social integration ensuring social protection floors for those who are in vulnerable or marginalized situations, as defined by each country in accordance with its individual circumstances, including on a demand-driven basis, and the promotion and protection of their social and economic rights;

“6. *Encourages* States to consider, when appropriate, the creation of national institutions or agencies for promoting, implementing and evaluating social inclusion programmes and mechanisms at the national and local levels;

“7. *Also encourages* States, together with relevant United Nations entities, to continue monitoring progress towards the relevant Millennium Development Goals, in particular regarding their indicators, as their achievement is an essential element to shape and promote national policies for social inclusion;

“8. *Encourages* Member States, and invites relevant United Nations entities and international financial institutions, to promote social inclusion as a matter of social justice and in order to ensure that vulnerable populations are able to build resilience and adapt to stresses and shocks caused by increasing economic crises, humanitarian emergencies and climate change;

“9. *Invites* Member States, and encourages regional organizations, to support national efforts to achieve inclusive societies, in particular in developing countries, upon their request, by providing, inter alia, financial and technical cooperation for the design and implementation of sound social inclusion policies;

“10. *Encourages* Member States to mainstream social integration objectives into social inclusion policies, promoting the participation of persons in vulnerable or marginalized situations in planning, implementing and monitoring processes, in collaboration, as appropriate, with relevant organizations of the United Nations development system, regional organizations, international and regional financial institutions, development and social partners, the private sector and civil society organizations;

“11. *Invites* Member States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, regional organizations, international and regional financial institutions, development and social partners, the private sector and civil society organizations to provide information on their activities promoting social inclusion and social integration and to exchange views and share good practices and data on social inclusion policy development;

“12. *Invites* Member States to advance social integration and non-discrimination as an integral part of addressing inequality within the post-2015 development agenda;

“13. *Also invites* Member States to seize the opportunity offered by a post 2015 development agenda to reach those excluded from the progress made on the Millennium Development Goals by focusing efforts and resources on the most vulnerable and promoting their participation and that of civil society in decision-making processes, as well as developing goals, targets and indicators;

“14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report, taking into account information provided by Member States and relevant actors of the United Nations, on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventieth session;

“15. *Decides* to consider the question further at its seventieth session under the item entitled ‘Social development’.”

10. At its 49th meeting, on 21 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution ([A/C.3/68/L.11/Rev.2](#)), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution [A/C.3/68/L.11](#) and Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritius, Mexico, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, the Philippines, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). Subsequently, Antigua and Barbuda, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus and San Marino joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

11. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/68/L.11/Rev.2](#) (see para. 34, draft resolution II).

12. After the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of the United States of America made a statement (see [A/C.3/68/SR.49](#)).

C. Draft resolutions [A/C.3/68/L.12](#) and Rev.1

13. At the 26th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Mongolia, on behalf of Armenia, Australia, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Estonia, Guatemala, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Liberia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia and the former

Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, introduced a draft resolution entitled “Literacy for life: shaping future agendas” (A/C.3/68/L.12), which read:

“The General Assembly,

“Recalling its resolution 56/116 of 19 December 2001, by which it proclaimed the 10-year period beginning on 1 January 2003 the United Nations Literacy Decade, its resolution 57/166 of 18 December 2002, in which it welcomed the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade, and its resolutions 59/149 of 20 December 2004, 61/140 of 19 December 2006, 63/154 of 18 December 2008 and 65/183 of 21 December 2010,

“Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration, in which Member States resolved to ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that girls and boys will have equal access to all levels of education, which requires a renewed commitment to promote literacy for all,

“Reaffirming the Education for All goals, in particular goal 3, on ensuring that the learning needs of all young people and adults are met through equitable access to appropriate learning and life-skills programmes, and goal 4, on achieving a 50 per cent improvement in levels of adult literacy by 2015, especially for women, and equitable access to basic and continuing education for all adults,

“Convinced that literacy is crucial to the acquisition by every child, young person and adult of the essential life skills that will enable them to address the challenges that they may face in life and represents an essential condition of lifelong learning, which is an indispensable means for effective participation in the knowledge societies and economies of the twenty-first century,

“Reaffirming the right of indigenous peoples to have non-discriminatory access to all levels and forms of education provided by States, and recognizing the importance of effective measures to promote access for indigenous individuals, in particular children, to education in their own language, when possible, as addressed in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,

“Noting with deep concern that, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 774 million adults do not have basic literacy skills and 57 million children of primary school age remain out of school, that millions more young people leave school without a level of literacy adequate for productive and active participation in their societies, that the issue of literacy may not be sufficiently high on national agendas to generate the kind of political and economic support required to address global literacy challenges and that the world is unlikely to meet those challenges if the present trends continue,

“Deeply concerned about the persistence of the gender gap in education, which is reflected by the fact that, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, nearly two thirds of the world’s non-literate adults are women,

“Concerned that, according to United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization estimates, one third of the children not attending school are children with disabilities and that the literacy rate among adults with disabilities is as low as 3 per cent in some countries,

“1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the final evaluation of the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade;

“2. *Commends* the efforts made by Member States, their development partners, the international donor community, the private sector, civil society and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the Decade’s lead organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in achieving the goals of the Decade;

“3. *Recognizes* the importance of continuing to implement national programmes and measures to eliminate illiteracy worldwide, enhancing further political and financial commitment, in particular for youth and adult literacy and non-formal education, intensifying collective efforts through enhanced education systems and interventions, and building a robust knowledge and technical base through improved literacy monitoring, assessment and research;

“4. *Calls upon* Member States, their development partners and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to sustain and expand the gains achieved during the Decade through additional technical and financial support, to promote literacy and literate environments through multi-pronged approaches, with a focus on marginalized groups, in particular girls and women, bearing in mind that the target date of 2015 for the achievement of the Education for All goals and the Millennium Development Goals is approaching;

“5. *Requests* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to reinforce its coordinating and catalysing role in the fight against illiteracy, creating a global multi-stakeholder partnership in support of national efforts to accelerate progress towards the attainment of the unfinished agenda with a view to 2015 and beyond;

“6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to seek the views of Member States on integrating literacy challenges into the post-2015 development agenda and to submit to the General Assembly in 2015 a report with specific recommendations;

“7. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventieth session, under the item entitled ‘Social development’, a sub-item entitled ‘Literacy for life: shaping future agendas’.”

14. At its 36th meeting, on 31 October, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution ([A/C.3/68/L.12/Rev.1](#)), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution [A/C.3/68/L.12](#) and Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Colombia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lebanon, Malaysia,

Maldives, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, the Philippines, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, the United Kingdom, of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay. Subsequently, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, the Comoros, the Congo, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Oman, the Republic of Korea, San Marino, Serbia, Switzerland, Venezuela (the Bolivarian Republic of) and Yemen joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

15. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/68/L.12/Rev.1](#) (see para. 34, draft resolution III).

D. Draft resolutions [A/C.3/68/L.13](#) and Rev.1

16. At the 16th meeting, on 17 October, the representative of Mongolia, on behalf of Argentina, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Cyprus, Germany, Guatemala, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Mali, Malta, Mongolia, Panama, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, 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 “Cooperatives in social development” ([A/C.3/68/L.13](#)), which read:

“The General Assembly,

“Recalling its resolutions [47/90](#) of 16 December 1992, [49/155](#) of 23 December 1994, [51/58](#) of 12 December 1996, [54/123](#) of 17 December 1999, [56/114](#) of 19 December 2001, [58/131](#) of 22 December 2003, [60/132](#) of 16 December 2005, [62/128](#) of 18 December 2007, [64/136](#) of 18 December 2009, [65/184](#) of 21 December 2010 and [66/123](#) of 19 December 2011 concerning cooperatives in social development,

“Recognizing that cooperatives, in their various forms, promote the fullest possible participation in the economic and social development of all people, including women, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples, are becoming a significant factor of economic and social development and contribute to the eradication of poverty,

“Recognizing also the important contribution and potential of all forms of cooperatives to the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), including their five-year reviews, the World Food Summit, the Second World Assembly on Ageing, the International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the 2005 World Summit,

“Noting with appreciation the potential role of cooperative development in the improvement of the social and economic conditions of indigenous peoples and rural communities,

“1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;

“2. Notes with appreciation the celebration of the International Year of Cooperatives, in 2012;

“3. *Encourages* all Member States, as well as the United Nations and all other relevant stakeholders, to continue the activities that were implemented during the International Year of Cooperatives;

“4. *Adopts* the present resolution and the annex thereto as the Plan of Action on Cooperatives for 2012 and Beyond, based on the outcome document of the expert group meeting held in Ulaanbaatar in 2011, for the promotion of cooperatives for sustainable socioeconomic development, so as to ensure a focused and effective follow-up to the activities of the Year;

“5. *Draws the attention* of Governments to the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General to focus support on cooperatives as sustainable and successful business enterprises that contribute directly to employment generation, poverty reduction and social protection, across a variety of economic sectors in urban and rural areas, to review the prevailing policies, laws and regulations affecting cooperatives and to identify strategies for legislative frameworks in support of cooperative growth;

“6. *Invites* Governments and international organizations, in partnership with cooperatives and cooperative organizations, to strengthen and build the capacity of all forms of cooperatives, especially those run by the poor, young people, women, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups, so that they can empower people to transform their lives and communities positively and build inclusive societies;

“7. *Encourages* Governments to intensify and expand the availability and accessibility of research on the operations and contribution of cooperatives and to establish methodologies for the collection and dissemination of comparable global data on and the good practices of cooperative enterprises, in collaboration with all stakeholders, and to raise public awareness of the nature of cooperatives, their strengths, their values and principles and their contributions to sustainable development;

“8. *Invites* Governments, relevant international organizations, the specialized agencies and local, national and international cooperative organizations to continue to observe the International Day of Cooperatives annually, on the first Saturday of July, as proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/90;

“9. *Invites* Governments, in collaboration with the cooperative movement, to develop programmes aimed at enhancing the capacity-building of cooperatives, including by strengthening the organizational, management and financial skills of their members, while respecting the principles of gender equality and the empowerment of women, and to introduce and support programmes to improve the access of cooperatives to new technologies;

“10. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the relevant United Nations and other international organizations and national, regional and international cooperative organizations, to continue rendering support to Member States, as appropriate, in their efforts to create a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives, providing assistance for human resources development, technical advice and training and promoting an exchange of experience and best practices through, inter alia, conferences, workshops and seminars at the national and regional levels;

“11. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, including the implementation of the Plan of Action on Cooperatives for 2012 and Beyond.

“Annex

“Plan of Action on Cooperatives for 2012 and Beyond

“A. Establishing effective policies, laws and regulations

“1. In order to establish policies, laws and regulations conducive to the formation, growth and stability of cooperatives, Governments should review the prevailing policies, laws and regulations that have an impact on cooperatives and identify strategies to create supportive policy environments for cooperatives. In this regard, it is important that all relevant stakeholders work together to:

“(a) Use research to determine the relationship between legislation and the effective operation and development of cooperative enterprises;

“(b) Implement effectively existing guidelines and develop binding guidelines at the regional and/or national level;

“(c) Ensure that legislation and/or regulations do not hinder the access of cooperatives to financial resources.

“2. Governments, international institutions, cooperative enterprises and all other relevant stakeholders are encouraged to collaborate to establish appropriate legal, regulatory and/or policy frameworks for the effective operation, growth and development of cooperative enterprises, as follows:

“(a) Cooperative enterprises are encouraged to engage with governments at all levels in order to promote a deepened understanding of the operational strengths and weaknesses of cooperative enterprises within the existing legal, regulatory and/or policy frameworks and to provide advice on possible improvements to the legal, regulatory and/or policy environment;

“(b) Governments are encouraged to use empirically based, participatory strategies for the amendment, modernization and/or establishment of laws, policies and regulations which affect the business status, operational environment and membership structure of cooperative enterprises, to ensure that there are no legal, regulatory and/or policy deterrents to the effective formation, operation and growth of such enterprises, especially with regard to access to financial resources, and that they account for the distinctive business culture and philosophy of cooperative enterprises;

“(c) In the establishment and/or reformulation of laws, regulations and/or policies affecting cooperative enterprises, decision makers are invited to be guided by established and agreed upon regional and international policy guidelines such as the United Nations guidelines aimed at creating a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives and International Labour Organization Recommendation No. 193 concerning the promotion of cooperatives.

“B. Increasing public awareness

“3. In order to increase public awareness about cooperatives and their contributions to sustainable development and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, Governments, international institutions, cooperative enterprises and all other relevant stakeholders must work together to:

“(a) Promote a clear and shared definition and characterization of cooperatives;

“(b) Highlight the strengths of cooperative enterprises in promoting sustainable development;

“(c) Identify and assess ways and means of raising awareness about cooperatives.

“4. Governments, international institutions and other economic actors and stakeholders should recognize the mutual benefits of having a sound cooperative movement as a complementary alternative to public and private ownership enterprise models.

“5. Governments, international institutions, cooperative enterprises and all other relevant stakeholders should work together to promote cooperatives as autonomous, voluntary associations of people united to meet common economic, social and cultural needs and aspirations, through a membership-owned and democratically controlled enterprise. Greater appreciation and emphasis should also be given to the particular values-driven nature of cooperative enterprises, on the basis of member control, empowerment, self-development and social awareness.

“6. Governments, international institutions, cooperative enterprises and all other relevant stakeholders should work together to promote cooperatives as schools of democracy at the local level. Cooperative democracy can help the development of political democratic processes at the community level and thus enhance democratic practice at the national level.

“7. Efforts should be made to promote wider understanding and promotion of the cooperative enterprise model by ensuring the integration of lessons on cooperative business models and cooperative development into formal and non-formal educational curricula at all levels, and in this regard:

“(a) In order to broaden the diversity of business structures, there needs to be effective exposure of the cooperative business model to the uninitiated and creation of a demand for the same from the grass-roots upwards;

“(b) Governments, the United Nations and other international institutions need to collaborate for active implementation of educational programmes and training on the cooperative model and its contributions to social development, as well as for improving the availability of information, especially in developing countries;

“(c) The United Nations and other international institutions should support Governments in identifying financial sources to strengthen cooperative education and integration.

“8. Cooperatives, Governments and international institutions should work to sensitize mass media to the distinctive nature of cooperative enterprises and to the unique ways in which they contribute to social and economic development in order to promote a more accurate and positive portrayal of cooperative enterprises.

“C. Promoting the formation and sustainable growth of effective cooperatives

“9. In order to promote the formation and growth of independent and sustainable cooperatives for socioeconomic empowerment, Governments, international institutions, cooperative enterprises and all other relevant stakeholders must work together to identify:

“(a) Important factors and practices for the successful operation of cooperatives;

“(b) Priority capacity-building strategies to promote and strengthen cooperatives.

“10. Cooperative enterprises must place greater emphasis on human resource development and other capacity-building efforts in order to ensure an effective and sustainable operational structure. In this regard, the operations of cooperative enterprises should be grounded in cooperative values and principles and agreed upon in international forums, and should demonstrate the alignment of commercial and social interests. Educating and training future cooperative executives, managers, bankers, accountants, consultants and lawyers who have both technical knowledge and a solid foundation in cooperative thought and values, as well as a sophisticated understanding of different models of enterprise, is crucial for institutional implantation of cooperatives as one of many solutions to social and economic problems. In this regard:

“(a) Emphasis should be placed on member engagement and member empowerment at all levels of the organization;

“(b) Cooperatives should collaborate with relevant stakeholders to ensure effective managerial strategies and leadership development. In this regard, Governments, training institutions and other relevant stakeholders should work together to develop a set of tailored methodologies and tools for capacity-building in cooperatives;

“(c) Governments and international institutions should work with cooperative enterprises and other relevant stakeholders to develop codes of good governance and leadership handbooks specifically tailored to the general institutional structure and management needs of cooperative enterprises.

“11. Cooperatives must be ever cognizant of their own role in revitalizing and re-energizing the cooperative movement, and as such, should develop visionary, enlightened and committed leadership as well as embracing good corporate governance.

“12. For a sustainable cooperative movement capable of contributing even more effectively to poverty alleviation, cooperatives need to respond with flexibility and innovation to changes in their political and economic environment.

“13. Cooperative enterprises should work to increase the participation of women and youth in cooperative membership, as a means of improving the sustainability of cooperative organizations.

“14. Cooperative enterprises should work with Governments, academia and relevant sectoral experts to ensure that technology is being effectively utilized in ensuring cost-effectiveness, productivity and sustainability. In that regard, cooperatives must make efforts to diversify and expand their reach into emerging and non-traditional sectors with significant impact on social and economic equality, such as energy, food supply, transportation and education.

“15. The United Nations should establish a biennial forum on cooperatives to boost the development and success of cooperative enterprises, focusing on best practices, applied research, technical support, new technologies and rewards.

“D. Promoting research and developing an information database on cooperatives

“16. Efforts to increase public awareness of cooperatives and to promote the formation and sustainable growth of independent and effective cooperatives must be supported by descriptive and accessible research and data. Efforts should thus be made to:

“(a) Identify available research and make it accessible;

“(b) Address gaps in knowledge and data on cooperatives;

“(c) Develop a global database of comparable and harmonized information on cooperatives.

“17. Effective dissemination of available research is essential for identifying available information and existing gaps; as such, the international community should work through the Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives to establish an accessible, searchable database of information on existing research and researchers in the area of cooperatives and the contributions of cooperatives to social development. New information technologies should be utilized to systemize and simplify the process of accumulating the information.

“18. In order to develop a field of cooperative studies for use at the national, regional and international levels, efforts should be made to utilize a research methodology that brings together applied and conceptual research, where cooperative enterprises are directly involved in the framing and dissemination of research.

“19. Efforts should be made to make research usable and understandable by non-researchers and non-academics, by presenting it in multiple ways and in diverse forums.

“20. Governments should be encouraged to work with cooperative enterprises to assign resources to research and development initiatives on cooperatives and their contributions to social and economic development. A percentage of income from cooperative enterprises should contribute to a tax or incentive-based fund to be utilized for research and development on and for

cooperatives. The utilization of those funds should be overseen by a body of stakeholders from cooperative enterprises.

“21. Research focused on cooperatives as social innovators should be emphasized, in order to highlight the cooperative business model as a sustainable and effective agent for social and economic development.

“22. Effective research is necessarily supported by the availability of valid and reliable data. As such, cooperative enterprises, Governments and international institutions should work together to develop an agreed set of core indicators and related extensions to allow for the collection of comparable data at the global level. In this regard:

“(a) In order to support this effort, an ad hoc expert group should be established, under the auspices of the United Nations, with representation of all relevant stakeholders;

“(b) Determined indicators should be included in the *United Nations Statistical Yearbook*, in order to encourage attention to such statistics by national Governments;

“(c) Governments should work with international institutions to develop the capacity to integrate data collection on cooperatives into national statistical data frameworks;

“(d) The United Nations, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, should use the determined indicators to produce core input to a periodic report on the state of cooperatives and their contributions to development.

“E. Implementation considerations

“23. Collaboration among Member States, the cooperative movement and all stakeholders should be promoted in mobilizing resources and funds for the implementation of the Plan of Action.

“24. Stakeholders need to organize and conduct midterm assessments of progress made against the Plan of Action. Such assessments should identify resource constraints and challenges that have an adverse impact on the implementation of the Plan and identify lessons learned in the process.

“25. On the tenth anniversary of the International Year of Cooperatives, in 2022, it is recommended that stakeholders review their contributions to the implementation of the Plan of Action and assess how their activities and programmes have supported its objectives.”

17. At its 36th meeting, on 31 October, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution ([A/C.3/68/L.13/Rev.1](#)), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution [A/C.3/68/L.13](#) and Austria, Bulgaria, China, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Thailand, Turkey and Uruguay. Subsequently, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Haiti, Honduras, Madagascar, Malawi, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea and Paraguay joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

18. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/68/L.13/Rev.1](#) (see para. 34, draft resolution IV).

E. Draft resolutions [A/C.3/68/L.14](#) and Rev.1

19. At the 16th meeting, on 17 October, the representative of Fiji, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled “Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing” ([A/C.3/68/L.14](#)), which read:

“The General Assembly,

“Recalling its resolution [57/167](#) of 18 December 2002, in which it endorsed the Political Declaration and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, 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 resolutions [60/135](#) of 16 December 2005, [61/142](#) of 19 December 2006, [62/130](#) of 18 December 2007, [63/151](#) of 18 December 2008, [64/132](#) of 18 December 2009, [65/182](#) of 21 December 2010, [66/127](#) of 19 December 2011, [67/139](#) of 20 December 2012 and [67/143](#) of 20 December 2012,

“Recognizing that, in many parts of the world, awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action remains limited or non-existent, which limits the scope of implementation efforts,

“Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,

“Welcoming the important opportunity provided by the ongoing global dialogue on the issues of ageing as well as the dialogue relating to the Millennium Development Goals and the post-2015 development agenda,

“Recognizing that, by 2050, more than 20 per cent of the world’s population will be 60 years of age or older, and recognizing also that the increase in the number of older people will be the greatest and the most rapid in the developing world,

“Concerned that many health systems are not sufficiently prepared to respond to the needs of the rapidly ageing population, including preventative, curative, palliative and specialized care,

“Recognizing that population ageing is among the major contributing factors to the rising incidence and prevalence of non-communicable diseases,

“Deeply concerned that the situation of older persons in many parts of the world has been negatively affected by the world financial and economic crisis,

“Recognizing the essential contribution that the majority of older men and women can continue to make to the functioning of society if adequate guarantees are in place,

“Noting that older women outnumber older men, and noting with concern that older women often face multiple forms of discrimination resulting from their gender-based roles in society, compounded by their age or disability or on other grounds, which affect the enjoyment of their human rights,

“1. *Reaffirms* the Political Declaration and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, and the recommendations contained in Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/29 of 25 July 2013;

“2. *Welcomes* the decision by the Human Rights Council in its resolution 24/20 of 27 September 2013 to appoint an independent expert on the enjoyment of all human rights of older persons, and invites Member States to cooperate with the independent expert in carrying out his or her mandate;

“3. *Recognizes* the conclusion of the global segment of the second cycle of review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action during the fifty-first session of the Commission for Social Development, in 2013, and also recognizes that major challenges faced by older persons that undermine their social, economic and cultural participation remain;

“4. *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;

“5. *Also invites* Member States to adopt age-fair and old-age-enabling policies, and to systematically review and amend existing practices and regulations that discriminate against older persons;

“6. *Encourages* Governments to ensure that the social integration of older persons and the promotion and protection of their rights form an integral part of the development agenda at the national and global levels;

“7. *Also encourages* Governments to pay greater attention to building capacity to eradicate poverty among older persons, in particular older women, by mainstreaming ageing issues into poverty eradication strategies and national development plans, and to include both ageing-specific policies and ageing-mainstreaming efforts in their national strategies;

“8. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts to develop national capacity to address their national implementation priorities identified during the reviews and appraisals of the Madrid Plan of Action, and invites Member States that have not done so to consider a step-by-step approach to developing capacity that includes the setting of national priorities, the strengthening of institutional mechanisms, research, data collection and analysis and the training of necessary personnel in the field of ageing;

“9. *Also encourages* Member States to overcome obstacles to the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action by devising strategies that take into account the entirety of the human life course and foster intergenerational solidarity in order to increase the likelihood of greater success in the years ahead;

“10. *Further encourages* Member States to place particular emphasis on choosing national priorities that are realistic, sustainable and feasible and have the greatest likelihood of being achieved in the years ahead and to develop targets and indicators to measure progress in the implementation process;

“11. *Invites* Member States to identify key priority areas for implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, including empowering older persons and promoting their rights, raising awareness of ageing issues and building national capacity to address ageing;

“12. *Recommends* that Member States increase efforts to raise awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action, including by promoting and supporting initiatives to advance a positive public image of older persons and their multiple contributions to their families, communities and societies, working with the regional commissions and enlisting the help of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in seeking increased attention for ageing issues;

“13. *Encourages* Governments that have not done so to designate focal points for handling follow-up of national plans of action on ageing, and also encourages Governments to strengthen existing networks of national focal points on ageing;

“14. *Invites* Governments to conduct their ageing-related policies through inclusive and participatory consultations with relevant stakeholders and social development partners, in the interest of developing effective policies creating national policy ownership and consensus-building;

“15. *Recommends* that Member States enhance their capacity to more effectively collect data, statistics and qualitative information, disaggregated when necessary by relevant factors, including sex and disability, in order to better assess the situation of older persons and to set adequate monitoring mechanisms for programmes and policies geared towards protecting the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by older persons;

“16. *Recommends* that States parties to existing international human rights instruments address the situation of older persons, where appropriate, 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 the reports or in their country missions;

“17. *Encourages* Governments to continue their efforts to implement the Madrid Plan of Action and to mainstream the concerns of older persons into their policy agendas, bearing in mind the crucial importance of family intergenerational interdependence, solidarity and reciprocity for social development and the realization of all human rights for older persons, and to prevent age discrimination and provide social integration;

“18. *Recognizes* the importance of strengthening intergenerational partnerships and solidarity among generations, and in this regard calls upon Member States to promote opportunities for voluntary, constructive and regular interaction between young people and older generations in the family, the workplace and society at large;

“19. *Encourages* Member States to adopt social policies that promote the development of community services for older persons, taking into account the

psychological and physical aspects of ageing and the special needs of older women;

“20. *Also 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;

“21. *Calls upon* Member States to develop their national capacity for monitoring and enforcing the rights of older persons, in consultation with all sectors of society, including organizations of older persons, through, inter alia, national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights where applicable;

“22. *Also calls upon* Member States to strengthen and incorporate a gender and disability perspective into all policy actions on ageing, as well as to address and eliminate discrimination on the basis of age, gender or disability, and recommends that Member States engage with all sectors of society, in particular with relevant organizations with an interest in the matter, including organizations of older persons, of women and of persons with disabilities, in changing negative stereotypes about older persons, in particular older women and older persons with disabilities, and promote positive images of older persons;

“23. *Urges* Member States to develop health care for older persons as part of primary care in the existing national health systems;

“24. *Recognizes* the importance of training, education and capacity-building of the health workforce, including for home-based care;

“25. *Urges* Member States to strengthen intersectoral policy frameworks and institutional mechanisms, as appropriate, for the integrated management of prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, including health promotion, health care and social welfare services, in order to address the needs of older persons;

“26. *Calls upon* Member States to address the well-being and adequate health care of older persons, as well as any cases of neglect, abuse and violence against older persons, by designing and implementing more effective prevention strategies and stronger laws and policies to address these problems and their underlying factors;

“27. *Also calls upon* Member States to take concrete measures to further protect and assist older persons in emergency situations, in accordance with the Madrid Plan of Action;

“28. *Stresses* that, in order to complement national development efforts, enhanced international cooperation is essential to support developing countries in implementing the Madrid Plan of Action, while recognizing the importance of assistance and the provision of financial assistance;

“29. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that the principle of non-discrimination on the basis of age is incorporated and upheld in health policies and programmes and that the implementation of such policies and programmes is regularly monitored;

“30. *Also encourages* Member States to adopt and enforce guidelines that establish standards for the provision of long-term support and assistance to older persons;

“31. *Recommends* that Governments involve older persons and their organizations in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of policies and programmes that affect them;

“32. *Encourages* the international community, including international and bilateral donors, to enhance international cooperation to support national efforts to eradicate poverty, in keeping with internationally agreed goals, in order to achieve sustainable and adequate social and economic support for older persons, while bearing in mind that countries have the primary responsibility for their own economic and social development;

“33. *Encourages* the international community to support national efforts to forge stronger partnerships with civil society, including organizations of older persons, academia, research foundations, community-based organizations, including caregivers, and the private sector, in an effort to help to build capacity on ageing issues;

“34. *Encourages* the international community and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to support national efforts to provide funding for research and data-collection initiatives on ageing, as appropriate, in order to better understand the challenges and opportunities presented by population ageing and to provide policymakers with more accurate and more specific information on gender and ageing;

“35. *Recognizes* the important role of various international and regional organizations that deal with training, capacity-building, policy design and monitoring at the national and regional levels in promoting and facilitating the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and acknowledges the work that is undertaken in various parts of the world, as well as regional initiatives;

“36. *Recommends* that Member States reaffirm the role of United Nations focal points on ageing, increase technical cooperation efforts, expand the role of the regional commissions on ageing issues and continue to provide resources for those efforts, facilitate the coordination of national and international non-governmental organizations on ageing and enhance cooperation with academia on a research agenda on ageing;

“37. *Reiterates* the need for additional capacity-building at the national level in order to promote and facilitate further implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, as well as the results of its review and appraisal cycle, and in this regard encourages Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to provide expanded assistance to countries, upon their request;

“38. *Requests* the United Nations system to strengthen its capacity to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, national implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, where appropriate;

“39. *Recommends* that the situation of older persons be taken into account in the ongoing efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development

goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration and considered in the discussions on the development agenda beyond 2015;

“40. *Welcomes* the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing, established by the General Assembly in paragraph 28 of resolution [65/182](#), and recognizes the positive contributions of Member States, as well as relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations, intergovernmental and relevant non-governmental organizations, national human rights institutions and invited panellists, during the first four working sessions of the Working Group;

“41. *Invites* States and 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 Working Group, as appropriate;

“42. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary support to the Working Group, within existing resources, for organizing, in 2014, a fifth working session;

“43. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.”

20. At its 53rd meeting, on 27 November, the Committee had before it a draft resolution ([A/C.3/68/L.14/Rev.1](#)), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution [A/C.3/68/L.14](#) and Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine.

21. At the same meeting, the representative of Fiji made a statement and orally revised the draft resolution as follows:

(a) In operative paragraph 4, the word “*Welcomes*” was replaced by the words “*Takes note with appreciation*”;

(b) After operative paragraph 5, two new paragraphs were inserted, reading:

“*Stresses* the importance for the Independent Expert and the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing to work in close coordination, while avoiding unnecessary duplication with each other’s mandates, other special procedures and subsidiary organs of the Human Rights Council, relevant United Nations bodies and treaties;

“*Encourages* all Member States to be mindful of the upcoming reports of the Independent Expert, including the comprehensive report to be brought to the attention of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing”;

(c) In operative paragraph 44, the word, “*Welcomes*” was replaced by the words “*Notes with appreciation*”.

22. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/68/L.14/Rev.1](#), as orally revised (see para. 34, draft resolution V).

23. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Albania, Lithuania (on behalf of the European Union), the United States of America and El Salvador (see [A/C.3/68/SR.53](#)).

F. Draft resolutions [A/C.3/68/L.15](#) and Rev.1

24. At the 16th meeting, on 17 October, the representative of Fiji, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled “Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly” ([A/C.3/68/L.15](#)), which read:

“The General Assembly,

“Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled ‘World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world’, held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

“Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session, as well as a continued global dialogue on social development issues, constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

“Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the development goals contained therein, the commitments made at major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions, including the commitments made at the 2005 World Summit and at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, and the outcome of the 2013 special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

“Recalling also its resolution [57/270 B](#) of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

“Recalling further its resolution [63/303](#) of 9 July 2009 on the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,

“Welcoming the decision that the Commission for Social Development should consider ‘Promoting empowerment of people in achieving poverty eradication, social integration and full employment and decent work for all’ as the priority theme for the 2013-2014 review and policy cycle,

“Recalling the ministerial declaration of the substantive session of 2012 of the Economic and Social Council, entitled ‘Promoting productive capacity, employment and decent work to eradicate poverty in the context of inclusive, sustainable and equitable economic growth at all levels for achieving the Millennium Development Goals’,

“Noting that the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, with its four strategic objectives, has an important role to play in achieving the objective of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including its objective of social protection, as reaffirmed in the International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization, in which the particular role of the Organization in promoting fair globalization and its responsibility to assist its members in their efforts were acknowledged, as well as in the Global Jobs Pact,

“Emphasizing the need to enhance the role of the Commission for Social Development in the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, as well as in the preparations for the post-2015 development agenda,

“Recognizing that the three core themes of social development, namely, poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all and social integration, are interrelated and mutually reinforcing, and that an enabling environment therefore needs to be created so that all three objectives can be pursued simultaneously,

“Recognizing also that a people-centred approach must be at the centre of economic and social development,

“Expressing deep concern that attainment of the social development objectives is being hindered by the ongoing adverse impact of the world financial and economic crisis, volatile energy and food prices and the challenges posed by climate change,

“Recognizing the complex character of the ongoing food insecurity situation, including food price volatility, as a combination of several major factors, both structural and conjunctural, which is also negatively affected by, inter alia, environmental degradation, drought and desertification, global climate change, natural disasters and the lack of the necessary technology, and recognizing also that a strong commitment from national Governments and the international community as a whole is required to confront the major threats to food security and to ensure that policies in the area of agriculture do not distort trade and worsen food insecurity,

“Acknowledging the need to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions,

“Reaffirming the need to achieve sustainable development by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable social development and inclusion and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources,

“Deeply concerned that extreme poverty persists in all countries of the world, regardless of their economic, social and cultural situation, and that its extent and its manifestations, such as hunger, trafficking in human beings, disease, lack of adequate shelter and illiteracy, are particularly severe in

developing countries, while acknowledging the significant progress made in several parts of the world in combating extreme poverty,

“Recognizing the importance of the international community in supporting national capacity-building efforts in the area of social development, while recognizing the primary responsibility of national Governments in this regard,

“Affirming its strong support for fair globalization and the need to translate growth into eradication of poverty and commitment to strategies and policies that aim to promote full, freely chosen and productive employment and decent work for all and that these should constitute a fundamental component of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, and reaffirming that employment creation and decent work for all should be incorporated into macroeconomic policies, taking fully into account the impact and social dimension of globalization, the benefits and costs of which are often unevenly shared and distributed,

“Recognizing the need to enhance access to the benefits of trade, including agricultural trade, for developing countries in order to foster social development,

“Recognizing also that social inclusion is a means for achieving social integration and is crucial for fostering stable, safe, harmonious, peaceful and just societies and for improving social cohesion so as to create an environment for development and progress,

“1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

“2. *Welcomes* the reaffirmation by Governments of their will and commitment to continue implementing the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, in particular to eradicate poverty, promote full and productive employment and foster social integration to achieve stable, safe and just societies for all;

“3. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the Copenhagen commitments and the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, are mutually reinforcing and that the Copenhagen commitments are crucial to a coherent people-centred approach to development;

“4. *Reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development continues to have the primary responsibility for the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly and that it serves as the main United Nations forum for an intensified global dialogue on social development issues, and calls upon Member States, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and civil society to enhance their support for its work;

“5. *Expresses deep concern* that the ongoing adverse impact of the world financial and economic crisis, volatile energy and food prices and food insecurity and the challenges posed by climate change, as well as the lack of

results so far in the multilateral trade negotiations, have negative implications for social development;

“6. *Stresses* the importance of the policy space of national Governments, in particular in the areas of social expenditure and social protection programmes, and calls upon international financial institutions and donors to support developing countries in achieving their social development, in line with their national priorities and strategies by, among other things, providing debt relief;

“7. *Recognizes* that the broad concept of social development affirmed by the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly has not been fully implemented in national and international policymaking and that, although poverty eradication is a central part of development policy and discourse, further attention should be given to the other commitments agreed to at the Summit, in particular those concerning employment and social integration, which have also suffered from a general disconnect between economic and social policymaking;

“8. *Acknowledges* that the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), launched after the World Summit for Social Development, has provided the long-term vision for sustained and concerted efforts at the national and international levels to eradicate poverty;

“9. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the commitments made by Governments during the first Decade has fallen short of expectations, and welcomes the proclamation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017) by the General Assembly in its resolution [62/205](#) of 19 December 2007 in order to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, including the Millennium Development Goals;

“10. *Emphasizes* that the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Summit, the 2005 World Summit, the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, the 2013 special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, the International Conference on Financing for Development, in its Monterrey Consensus, and the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, have reinforced the priority and urgency of poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda;

“11. *Also emphasizes* that poverty eradication policies should tackle poverty by addressing its root and structural causes and manifestations, and that equity, the reduction of inequalities and the empowerment of the poor need to be incorporated into those policies;

“12. *Reaffirms* that each country has the primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and underlines the importance of adopting effective measures, including new financial mechanisms, as appropriate, to support the efforts of developing countries to achieve sustained economic growth, sustainable development, poverty eradication and the strengthening of their democratic systems;

“13. *Stresses* that an enabling environment is a critical precondition for achieving equity and social development and that, while economic growth is essential, entrenched inequality and marginalization are an obstacle to the broad-based and sustained growth required for sustainable, inclusive and people-centred development, and recognizes the need to balance and ensure complementarity between measures to achieve growth and measures to achieve economic and social equity in order for there to be an impact on overall poverty levels;

“14. *Also stresses* that stability in global financial systems and corporate social responsibility and accountability, as well as national economic policies that have an impact on other stakeholders, are essential in creating an enabling international environment to promote economic growth and social development;

“15. *Recognizes* the need to promote respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to address the most pressing social needs of people living in poverty, including through the design and development of appropriate mechanisms to strengthen and consolidate democratic institutions and governance;

“16. *Reaffirms* the commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women, as well as to the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into all development efforts, recognizing that they are critical for achieving sustainable development and for efforts to combat hunger, poverty and disease and to strengthen policies and programmes that improve, ensure and broaden the full participation of women in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life, as equal partners, and to improve their access to all resources needed for the full exercise of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms by removing persistent barriers, including ensuring equal access to full and productive employment and decent work for all, as well as strengthening their economic independence;

“17. *Encourages* Governments to promote effective participation of people in civic, social, economic and political activities, as well as in the planning and implementation of social integration policies and strategies, in order to better achieve the goals of poverty eradication, full employment and decent work and social integration;

“18. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promote opportunities for full, freely chosen and productive employment, including for the most disadvantaged, as well as decent work for all, including respect for fundamental principles and rights at work, also reaffirms that there is an urgent need to create an environment at the national and international levels that is conducive to the attainment of full and productive employment and decent work for all as a foundation for sustainable development, that an environment that supports investment, growth and entrepreneurship is essential to the creation of new job opportunities, and that human resources development strategies should be premised on national development objectives that ensure a strong link between education, health, training and employment, help to maintain a productive and competitive workforce and are responsive to the needs of the economy, and further reaffirms that opportunities for men and women to obtain productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity are essential to ensuring the eradication of hunger and poverty, the improvement of

economic and social well being for all, the achievement of sustained economic growth and sustainable development of all nations and a fully inclusive and equitable globalization;

“19. *Stresses* the importance of removing obstacles to the realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, in particular of peoples living under colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, which adversely affect their social and economic development, including their exclusion from labour markets;

“20. *Reaffirms* the need to address all forms of violence in its many manifestations, including domestic violence, particularly against women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities, and discrimination, including xenophobia, recognizes that violence increases challenges to States and societies in the achievement of poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all and social integration, and also recognizes that terrorism, trafficking in arms, organized crime, trafficking in persons, money-laundering, ethnic and religious conflict, civil war, politically motivated killing and genocide present fundamental threats to societies and pose increasing challenges to States and societies in the attainment of conditions conducive to social development, and that they also present urgent and compelling reasons for action by Governments individually and, as appropriate, jointly to foster social cohesion while recognizing, protecting and valuing diversity;

“21. *Requests* the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies to mainstream the goal of full and productive employment and decent work for all into their policies, programmes and activities, as well as to support efforts of Member States aimed at achieving this objective, and invites financial institutions to support efforts in this regard;

“22. *Recognizes* that promoting full employment and decent work for all also requires investing in education, training and skills development for women and men, and girls and boys, strengthening social protection and health systems and applying international labour standards, and urges States and, as appropriate, the relevant entities of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, as well as civil society, the private sector, employer organizations, trade unions, the media and other relevant actors, to continue to develop and strengthen policies, strategies and programmes to enhance, in particular, the employability of women and youth and to ensure their access to full and productive employment and decent work for all, including by improving access to formal and non-formal education, skills development and vocational training, lifelong learning and retraining and long-distance education, inter alia, in information and communications technology and entrepreneurial skills, particularly in developing countries, including with a view to supporting the economic empowerment of women in the different stages of their lives;

“23. *Also recognizes* that full and productive employment and decent work for all, which encompass social protection, fundamental principles and rights at work, tripartism and social dialogue, are key elements of sustainable development for all countries and are therefore an important objective of international cooperation, and supports the promotion of innovative

approaches in the design and implementation of employment policies and programmes for all, including the long-term unemployed;

“24. *Encourages* States to design and implement policies and strategies for poverty eradication, full employment and decent work for all, including the creation of full and productive employment that is appropriately and adequately remunerated, as well as policies and strategies for social integration that promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and address the specific needs of social groups such as young people, persons with disabilities, older persons, migrants and indigenous peoples, taking into account the concerns of those groups in the planning, implementation and evaluation of development programmes and policies;

“25. *Stresses* the need to allocate adequate resources for the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women in the workplace, including unequal access to labour-market participation and wage inequalities, as well as reconciliation of work and private life for both women and men;

“26. *Acknowledges* the important nexus between international migration and social development, and stresses the importance of enforcing labour law effectively 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;

“27. *Recognizes* that, since the convening of the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen in 1995, advances have been made in addressing and promoting social integration, including through the adoption of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002, the World Programme of Action for Youth, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

“28. *Stresses* that the benefits of economic growth should be distributed more equitably and that, in order to close the gap of inequality and avoid any further deepening of inequality, comprehensive social policies and programmes, including appropriate social transfer and job creation programmes and social protection systems, are needed;

“29. *Recognizes* the importance of providing social protection schemes for the formal and informal economy as instruments for achieving equity, inclusion and stability and cohesion of societies, and emphasizes the importance of supporting national efforts aimed at bringing informal workers into the formal economy;

“30. *Stresses* that poverty eradication policies should, inter alia, ensure that people living in poverty have access to education, health, water and sanitation and other public and social services, as well as access to productive resources, including credit, land, training, technology, knowledge and information, and ensure that citizens and local communities participate in decision-making on social development policies and programmes in this regard;

“31. *Recognizes* that the social integration of people living in poverty should encompass addressing and meeting their basic human needs, including

nutrition, health, water, sanitation, housing and access to education and employment, through integrated development strategies;

“32. *Reaffirms* that social integration policies should seek to reduce inequalities, promote access to basic social services, education for all and health care, eliminate discrimination, increase the participation and integration of social groups, particularly young people, older persons and persons with disabilities, and address the challenges posed to social development by globalization and market driven reforms in order for all people in all countries to benefit from globalization;

“33. *Urges* Governments, with the cooperation of relevant entities, to develop systems of social protection that support labour-market participation and address and reduce inequality and social exclusion and to extend or broaden, as appropriate, their effectiveness and coverage, including for workers in the informal economy, invites the International Labour Organization to strengthen its social protection strategies and policies on extending social security coverage, urges Governments, while taking account of national circumstances, to focus on the needs of those living in or vulnerable to poverty and to give particular consideration to universal access to basic social security systems, including the implementation of social protection floors, which can provide a systemic base upon which to address poverty and vulnerability, and in this regard takes note of Recommendation No. 202 concerning national floors of social protection, adopted by the General Conference of the International Labour Organization on 14 June 2012;

“34. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue to support national efforts of Member States to achieve inclusive social development in a coherent and coordinated manner;

“35. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promote the rights of indigenous peoples in the areas of education, employment, housing, sanitation, health and social security, and notes the attention paid to those areas in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

“36. *Recognizes* the need to formulate social development policies in an integral, articulated and participative manner, recognizing poverty as a multidimensional phenomenon, calls for interlinked public policies on this matter, and underlines the need for public policies to be included in a comprehensive development and well-being strategy;

“37. *Acknowledges* the role that the public sector can play as an employer and its importance in developing an environment that enables the effective generation of full and productive employment and decent work for all;

“38. *Also acknowledges* the vital role that the private sector can play in generating new investments, employment and financing for development and in advancing efforts towards full employment and decent work for all, and encourages the private sector, including small and medium-sized enterprises and cooperatives, to contribute to decent work for all and job creation for both women and men, and particularly for young people, including through partnerships with Governments, the United Nations system, civil society and academia;

“39. *Stresses* that more concerted efforts are required to boost smallholder productivity, including scaling up public investments in agriculture, attracting private investment in agriculture, improving the quality and quantity of rural extension services and ensuring that smallholder farmers have access to necessary resources, assets and markets;

“40. *Recognizes* the need to pay necessary attention to the social development of people in urban areas, especially the urban poor;

“41. *Also recognizes* the need to give priority to investing in and further contributing to sustainable development, including sustainable agricultural development, and a financial infrastructure that provides access to a variety of sustainable products and services for microenterprises, small and medium-sized enterprises and entrepreneurship cooperatives and other forms of social enterprises, and the participation and entrepreneurship of women as means to promote full and productive employment and decent work for all;

“42. *Reaffirms* the commitments made in respect of meeting the special needs of Africa at the 2005 World Summit, underlines the call of the Economic and Social Council for enhanced coordination within the United Nations system and the ongoing efforts to harmonize the current initiatives on Africa, and requests the Commission for Social Development to continue to give due prominence in its work to the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development;

“43. *Also reaffirms*, in this context, that international cooperation has an essential role in assisting developing countries, including the least developed countries, in strengthening their human, institutional and technological capacity;

“44. *Stresses* that the international community shall enhance its efforts to create an enabling environment for social development and poverty eradication through increasing market access for developing countries, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, financial aid and a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem;

“45. *Also stresses* that international trade and stable financial systems can be effective tools for creating favourable conditions for the development of all countries and that trade barriers and some trading practices continue to have negative effects on employment growth, particularly in developing countries;

“46. *Acknowledges* that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels are essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty and hunger;

“47. *Underlines* the fact that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments is crucial, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries by 2015 and the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to the least developed countries, and urges developed countries that have not yet done so to fulfil their commitments for official development assistance to developing countries;

“48. *Stresses* the essential role that official development assistance plays in complementing, leveraging and sustaining financing for development efforts

in developing countries and in facilitating the achievement of development objectives, including the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals, and welcomes steps to improve the effectiveness and quality of aid based on the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization, managing for results and mutual accountability;

“49. *Urges* Member States and the international community to fulfil all their commitments to meet the demands for social development, including social services and assistance, that have arisen from the global financial and economic crisis, which particularly affects the poorest and most vulnerable;

“50. *Welcomes* the contribution to the mobilization of resources for social development by the initiatives taken on a voluntary basis by groups of Member States based on innovative financing mechanisms, including those that aim to provide further drug access at affordable prices to developing countries on a sustainable and predictable basis, such as the International Drug Purchase Facility, UNTAID, as well as other initiatives such as the International Finance Facility for Immunization and the Advance Market Commitments for Vaccines, and notes the New York Declaration of 20 September 2004, which launched the Action against Hunger and Poverty initiative and called for further attention to raising funds urgently needed to help to meet the Millennium Development Goals and to complement and ensure the long-term stability and predictability of foreign aid;

“51. *Reaffirms* that social development requires the active involvement of all actors in the development process, including civil society organizations, corporations and small businesses, and that partnerships among all relevant actors are increasingly becoming part of national and international cooperation for social development, also reaffirms that, within countries, partnerships among the Government, civil society and the private sector can contribute effectively to the achievement of social development goals, and acknowledges the importance of efforts to promote the exchange of information and knowledge on decent work for all and job creation, including green jobs initiatives and related skills, and to facilitate the integration of relevant data into national economic and employment policies;

“52. *Underlines* the responsibility of the private sector, at both the national and the international levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, regarding not only the economic and financial implications but also the development, social, gender and environmental implications of their activities, their obligations towards their workers and their contributions to achieving sustainable development, including social development, and emphasizes the need to take concrete actions on corporate responsibility and accountability, including through the participation of all relevant stakeholders, inter alia, for the prevention or prosecution of corruption;

“53. *Stresses* the importance of promoting corporate social responsibility and accountability, encourages responsible business practices, such as those promoted by the Global Compact and the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations ‘Protect, Respect and Remedy’ Framework, invites the private sector to take into account not only the economic and financial implications but also the development, social,

human rights, gender and environmental implications of its undertakings, and underlines the importance of the International Labour Organization Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy;

“54. *Calls upon* Member States to give appropriate consideration to poverty eradication, social integration, full employment and decent work for all in the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda;

“55. *Invites* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council, the regional commissions, the relevant specialized agencies, the funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental forums, within their respective mandates, to continue to integrate into their work programmes and give priority attention to the Copenhagen commitments and the Declaration on the tenth anniversary of the World Summit for Social Development, to continue to be actively involved in their follow-up and to monitor the achievement of those commitments and undertakings;

“56. *Invites* the Commission for Social Development to emphasize in its review of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action the increased exchange of national, regional and international experiences, the focused and interactive dialogues among experts and practitioners and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned, and to strengthen its role in the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda;

“57. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled ‘Social development’, the sub-item entitled ‘Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly’, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the question to the Assembly at that session.”

25. At its 51st meeting, on 26 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution ([A/C.3/68/L.15/Rev.1](#)), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution [A/C.3/68/L.15](#) and Mexico, the Republic of Korea and Turkey.

26. At the same meeting, the representative of Fiji orally revised operative paragraph 35 of the draft resolution by replacing the words “takes note of Recommendation No. 202 concerning national floors of social protection, adopted by the General Conference of” with the words “takes note of the International Labour Organization recommendation on social protection floors”.

27. Also, at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/68/L.15/Rev.1](#), as orally revised (see para. 34, draft resolution VI).

28. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America and Lithuania (on behalf of the European Union) (see [A/C.3/68/SR.51](#)).

G. Draft resolutions [A/C.3/68/L.16](#) and Rev.1

29. At the 16th meeting, on 17 October, the representative of Fiji, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled “Preparations for and observance of the

twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family” (A/C.3/68/L.16), which read:

“The General Assembly,

“Recalling its resolutions 44/82 of 8 December 1989, 50/142 of 21 December 1995, 52/81 of 12 December 1997, 54/124 of 17 December 1999, 56/113 of 19 December 2001, 57/164 of 18 December 2002, 58/15 of 3 December 2003, 59/111 of 6 December 2004, 59/147 of 20 December 2004, 60/133 of 16 December 2005, 62/129 of 18 December 2007, 64/133 of 18 December 2009, 66/126 of 19 December 2011 and 67/142 of 20 December 2012 concerning the proclamation of, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family and its tenth and twentieth anniversaries,

“Recognizing that the preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year in 2014 provide a useful opportunity to draw further attention to the objectives of the International Year for increasing cooperation at all levels on family issues and for undertaking concerted actions to strengthen family-centred policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

“Noting that the family-related provisions of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits of the 1990s and their follow-up processes continue to provide policy guidance on ways to strengthen family-centred components of policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

“Noting also the importance of designing, implementing and monitoring family-oriented policies, especially in the areas of poverty eradication, full employment and decent work, work-family balance, social integration and intergenerational solidarity,

“Recognizing that the family has the primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children and that children, for the full and harmonious development of their personality, should grow up in a family environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding,

“Recognizing also that family policies are most effective when targeting the family unit and its dynamic as a whole, and noting that family-oriented policies aim in particular at strengthening a household’s capacity to escape poverty, ensuring financial independence and supporting work-family balance to help manage family functions and foster child development,

“Cognizant of the need for continued inter-agency and regional cooperation on family issues in order to generate greater awareness of this subject among the governing bodies of the United Nations system,

“Convinced that civil society, including research and academic institutions, has a pivotal role in advocacy, promotion, research and policymaking in respect of family policy development and capacity-building,

“Noting with satisfaction the close collaboration of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations active in the family field, as well as its

research efforts and preparations for the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family,

“Encouraging the active role of the regional commissions and organizations, and acknowledging the participation of civil society in the preparatory process for the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family,

“Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General,

“1. Encourages Governments to continue to make every possible effort to realize the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes and to integrate a family perspective into national policymaking;

“2. Decides to devote one plenary meeting during the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly, in 2014, to the observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, in order to discuss the role of family-oriented policies in the post-2015 development agenda;

“3. Invites Governments and regional intergovernmental entities to provide for more systematic national and regional data on family well-being and to identify and ensure support for constructive family policy developments, including the exchange of information on good policies and practices;

“4. Urges Member States to view 2014 as a target year by which concrete efforts will be made to improve family well-being through the implementation of effective national policies, strategies and programmes and to consider an appropriate framework for advancing family policy development in the discussions of the post-2015 development agenda;

“5. Encourages Member States to continue their efforts to develop appropriate policies and programmes that address family poverty, social exclusion, work-family balance and intergenerational issues and to share good practices in those areas;

“6. Also encourages Member States to promote the delivery of family-centred benefits, such as housing assistance, child benefits, old-age pensions, cash transfers, social protection, social transfer programmes and other relevant measures to reduce family poverty and prevent the intergenerational transfer of poverty;

“7. Further encourages Member States, in cooperation with relevant stakeholders and in accordance with national plans and policies, to strengthen provisions for parental leave, extend flexible working arrangements for employees with family responsibilities, promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, enhance paternal involvement in family responsibilities and support a wide range of quality childcare arrangements, including investing in quality early childhood care and education, in order to improve work-family balance;

“8. Encourages Member States to promote policies that strengthen social integration and intergenerational solidarity through investment in family-centred support programmes, including social protection assistance and investments in cross-generational facilities and intergenerational learning, and volunteering programmes for youth, older persons, mentoring and job-sharing;

“9. *Urges* Member States to create a conducive environment to strengthen and support all families, recognizing that equality between women and men and respect for all the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all family members are essential to family well-being and to society at large, noting the importance of reconciliation of work and family life and recognizing the principle of shared parental responsibility for the upbringing and development of the child;

“10. *Invites* Governments to continue to develop strategies and programmes aimed at strengthening national capacities to address national priorities relating to family issues;

“11. *Invites* Member States to consider undertaking activities in preparation for the twentieth anniversary of the International Year at the national level;

“12. *Invites* Member States, United Nations organizations and bodies, regional commissions, civil society organizations and academic institutions to continue providing information on their activities in support of the objectives of and preparations for the twentieth anniversary of the International Year and to share good practices and data on family policy development;

“13. *Invites* Member States, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and academic institutions to support, as appropriate, the preparations for regional meetings in observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year;

“14. *Encourages* Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to continue research activities and provide assistance to countries, upon their request;

“15. *Recommends* that United Nations organizations and bodies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, research and academic institutions and the private sector play a supportive role in promoting the twentieth anniversary of the International Year;

“16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution and on the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2014 at all levels;

“17. *Decides* to consider the topic ‘Preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family’ at its sixty-ninth session under the sub-item entitled ‘Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family’ of the item entitled ‘Social development’.”

30. At its 43rd meeting, on 7 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution ([A/C.3/68/L.16/Rev.1](#)), submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution [A/C.3/68/L.16](#) and Kazakhstan, the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan.

31. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/68/L.16/Rev.1](#) (see para. 34, draft resolution VII).

32. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Lithuania (on behalf of the European Union), the United States of America, Qatar and Israel (see [A/C.3/68/SR.43](#)).

H. Draft decision proposed by the Chair

33. At its 53rd meeting, on 27 November, on the proposal of the Chair, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the way forward: a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond ([A/68/95](#)) (see para. 35).

III. Recommendation of the Third Committee

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

Draft resolution I **Policies and programmes involving youth**

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Programme of Action for Youth, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolutions [50/81](#) of 14 December 1995 and [62/126](#) of 18 December 2007,

Recalling also the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on Youth: Dialogue and Mutual Understanding, adopted by the General Assembly on 26 July 2011,¹

Welcoming the participation of young representatives in national delegations at the General Assembly,

Affirming that generating decent work for youth is one of the biggest challenges that needs to be tackled, emphasizing the priority areas of the World Programme of Action for Youth linked to the employability of youth, including education, health and access to information and technology, and bearing in mind that over 73 million young people are unemployed,

Taking note of the resolution and conclusions of the International Labour Conference, at its 101st session, held in Geneva in 2012, on the theme “The youth employment crisis: a call for action”, which focused on employment and economic policies for youth employment; employability, education, training and skills and the school-to-work transition; labour market policies; youth entrepreneurship and self-employment; rights of young people; and the importance of mobilizing resources to address the youth employment crisis,

Recalling that Member States have an important role in meeting the needs and aspirations of youth, and recognizing that the ways in which young people are able to fulfil their potential will influence social and economic conditions and the well-being and livelihood of future generations, and that States have an important role in addressing the needs of youth, including youth with disabilities,

Acknowledging that the current generation of youth is the largest one ever, and in this context reaffirming the importance of involving youth and youth organizations in the work of the United Nations at the national, regional and international levels, in all matters of concern to them, including the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth and the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals,

Welcoming the five-year action agenda of the Secretary-General, which identifies working with and for women and young people as one of the five generational imperatives and opportunities and includes the appointment of the Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth, the development of the United Nations

¹ Resolution 65/312.

System-wide Action Plan on Youth and the creation of the United Nations youth volunteering modality,

Welcoming also the initiative of the Government of Sri Lanka to host in 2014 a world conference on youth in Colombo, taking note of the Global Youth Summit “BYND 2015” hosted by Costa Rica in September 2013, with a focus on the participation and involvement of youth in achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and acknowledging the positive contribution of youth, as agents and beneficiaries of development, to the initiatives and discussions on sustainable development in the post-2015 development agenda, as well as to the general well-being, progress and diversity of society,

1. *Reaffirms* the World Programme of Action for Youth and emphasizes that all fifteen priority areas of the World Programme of Action for Youth are interrelated and mutually reinforcing;

2. *Reiterates* that the primary responsibility for implementing the World Programme of Action for Youth lies with Member States, and urges Governments, in consultation with youth and youth-led organizations and other relevant stakeholders, to develop holistic and integrated youth policies based on the Programme of Action and to evaluate them regularly as part of the follow-up action on and implementation of the Programme of Action at all levels;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to consider, on a voluntary basis, the indicators proposed in the report of the Secretary-General² for their selection and adaptation in monitoring and assessing the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth, giving particular attention to young women and marginalized groups, including indigenous youth, youth in rural areas, youth with disabilities and young migrants, taking into account the national social and economic circumstances in each country;

4. *Urges* Member States to promote equal opportunities for all, to eliminate all forms of discrimination against young people, including discrimination based on race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status and to foster social integration for social groups such as young persons with disabilities, young migrants and indigenous youth on an equal basis with others;

5. *Also urges* Member States to address the challenges faced by girls and young women and to address gender stereotypes that perpetuate discrimination and violence against girls and young women and the stereotypical roles of men and women that hinder social development by reaffirming the commitment to the empowerment of women and gender equality, to engage, educate, encourage and support men and boys to take responsibility for their behaviour, including their sexual and reproductive behaviour, to mainstream a gender perspective into all development efforts, recognizing that such actions are critical for achieving sustainable development and for efforts to combat hunger, poverty and disease, and to strengthen policies and programmes that improve, ensure and broaden the full participation of young women in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life, as equal partners, and improve their access to all resources needed for

² E/CN.5/2013/8.

the full exercise of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms by removing persistent barriers, including ensuring equal access to full and productive employment and decent work, as well as strengthening their economic independence;

6. *Emphasizes* the role of education and health literacy in improving health outcomes over a lifetime, and in this regard encourages Member States to promote health education and health literacy among young people, including through evidence-based education and information strategies and programmes, both in and out of school, and through public campaigns, and to increase the access of youth to affordable, safe, effective and sustainable health-care services and social services by paying special attention to, and raising awareness regarding, nutrition, including eating disorders and obesity, the effects of non-communicable and communicable diseases and sexual and reproductive health;

7. *Also emphasizes* that addressing the specific needs of young people in the response to HIV and AIDS is a key element in efforts to achieve an AIDS-free generation, and urges Member States to strengthen efforts in this regard, including by ensuring the active involvement of young people living with or affected by HIV in the response;

8. *Reiterates* that access to quality formal and non-formal education, including, as appropriate, catch-up and literacy education, including in information and communications technologies, for those who did not receive formal education, information and communications technologies, and volunteerism are important factors that enable young people to acquire the relevant skills and to build their capacities for employability and entrepreneurial development and gain decent and productive work, and calls upon Member States to take necessary actions to ensure that young people have access to such services and opportunities;

9. *Urges* Member States to address high rates of youth unemployment, underemployment, vulnerable employment and informal employment by developing and implementing targeted and integrated local and national youth employment policies for inclusive, sustainable and innovative job creation, improved employability, skills development and vocational training to improve the chances of integrating youth into sustainable labour markets and increased entrepreneurship, including the development of networks of young entrepreneurs at the local, national, regional and global levels, which foster knowledge among young people about their rights and responsibilities in society, and in this regard requests donors, specialized United Nations entities and the private sector to continue to provide assistance to Member States, including technical and funding support, as appropriate;

10. *Recognizes* that youth participation is important for development, and urges Member States and entities of the United Nations system, in consultation with youth-led organizations, to explore new avenues to promote full, effective, structured and sustainable participation of young people and youth-led organizations in relevant decision-making processes, including in designing and implementing policies, programmes and initiatives and in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

11. *Reiterates* that the eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition, particularly as they affect children and youth, is crucial for accelerating progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals by 2015, recalls the commitment to eradicate poverty and promote sustained economic growth,

sustainable development and global prosperity for all, including the strengthening of international cooperation through the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments, the transfer of appropriate technology and capacity-building with regard to youth, and the need for urgent action on all sides, including more ambitious national development strategies and efforts backed by increased international support, and calls for the increased participation of youth and youth-led organizations in the development of such national development strategies;

12. *Emphasizes* the importance of the impact of a fair globalization, and encourages Member States to take measures that minimize the negative effects of globalization and maximize its benefits, such as offering relevant education and training for young people in order to enable their access to decent jobs and better employment opportunities and to meet the needs of changing labour markets, and that enable young migrants to enjoy their human rights;

13. *Calls upon* Member States to take concrete measures to further assist youth in armed conflict situations, in accordance with the World Programme of Action for Youth, and encourages the involvement of young people, where appropriate, in activities concerning the protection of children and youth affected by armed conflict situations, including in conflict prevention, peacebuilding and post-conflict processes;

14. *Urges* Member States to take concerted actions in conformity with international law to remove the obstacles to the full realization of the rights of young people living under foreign occupation in order to promote the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals;

15. *Also urges* Member States to take effective measures in conformity with international law to protect young people affected or exploited by terrorism and incitement;

16. *Invites* Member States to strengthen or establish, in collaboration with young people and youth-led organizations, programmes and policies to address all forms of violence, including gender-based violence, trafficking in persons, bullying and cyberbullying, as well as their involvement and manipulation in criminal activities such as drug-related crimes, and recognizes the need to develop safe and youth-friendly counselling and substance abuse prevention programmes;

17. *Recognizes* the importance of strengthening intergenerational partnerships and solidarity among generations, and in this regard calls upon Member States to promote opportunities for voluntary, constructive and regular interaction between young people and older generations in the family, the workplace and society at large;

18. *Urges* Member States to consider including youth delegates in their delegations at all relevant discussions in the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions and relevant United Nations conferences, as appropriate, bearing in mind the principles of gender balance and non-discrimination, and emphasizes that such youth representatives should be selected through a transparent process that ensures that they have a suitable mandate to represent young people in their countries;

19. *Acknowledges* the increased collaboration through the Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development in developing the United Nations System-wide

Action Plan on Youth, requests the United Nations entities, within existing resources, to continue their coordination towards a more coherent, comprehensive and integrated approach to youth development, calls upon entities of the United Nations system and relevant partners to support national, regional and international efforts to address challenges hindering youth development, and in this regard encourages close collaboration with Member States as well as other relevant stakeholders, including civil society;

20. *Calls upon* the United Nations Programme on Youth to continue to act as the focal point within the United Nations system for promoting further collaboration and coordination on youth-related matters;

21. *Calls upon* donors, including Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to actively contribute to the United Nations Youth Fund in order to facilitate the participation of youth representatives from developing countries in the activities of the United Nations, taking into account the need for greater geographical balance of youth representation, as well as to accelerate the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth and to support the production of the World Youth Report, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to take appropriate action to encourage contributions to the Fund;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including on ways to promote effective, structured and sustainable youth participation in designing, implementing and assessing United Nations youth policies, programmes and initiatives, to be prepared in consultation with Member States as well as the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes, and regional commissions, taking into account the work done by the United Nations system; and also encourages the Secretariat to consult, as appropriate, with youth-led and youth-focused organizations.

Draft resolution II

Promoting social integration through social inclusion

The General Assembly,

Recognizing that in order to leave no one behind and bring everyone forward, actions are needed to promote equality of opportunity so that no person is denied basic economic opportunities and the enjoyment of all human rights,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly entitled “World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world”, held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2010/12 of 22 July 2010 on promoting social integration and General Assembly resolution [66/122](#) on promoting social integration through social inclusion,

Recalling further the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,¹ in which Heads of State and Government acknowledged the significant importance of promoting comprehensive systems of social protection that provide universal access to essential social services, consistent with national priorities and circumstances, to meet internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals,

Taking note with appreciation of the commitment of several United Nations entities to mainstream social inclusion in their work and encouraging others to do the same,

Reaffirming the commitment of the international community to realizing the universal right to work and the right to an adequate standard of living, including by promoting access to employment opportunities, social services and social security programmes,

Stressing that the promotion of sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth that promotes full, productive and inclusive employment and decent work for all is necessary to eradicate poverty, including extreme poverty, and reduce inequality, and should be complemented, as appropriate, by effective social protection policies, including social inclusion policies,

Recognizing that the gains of economic growth should also benefit those in vulnerable or marginalized groups or situations,

Recognizing also that social inclusion and equity are intrinsically linked and that focusing on and investing in the most disadvantaged and excluded populations, such as women, children and persons with disabilities, is critically important for the acceleration of progress towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and should be given due consideration in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda,

¹ Resolution 65/1.

Recognizing further that social inclusion policies and systems play a critical role in promoting an inclusive society, and are also crucial for fostering stable, safe, harmonious, peaceful and just societies and for improving social cohesion and inclusion so as to create an environment for development and progress,

Reaffirming the important role of corporate social responsibility and accountability in contributing to an enabling environment to promote inclusive economic growth and social integration,

Recognizing that social inclusion policies also strengthen the democratic process,

Stressing that social inclusion policies should promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and equal access to opportunities and social protection for all, in particular for those in vulnerable or marginalized groups or situations, including women who experience multiple forms of discrimination,

Acknowledging that the participation of persons in vulnerable or marginalized groups or situations is crucial to formulating and implementing social inclusion policies that effectively achieve social integration, as appropriate,

Recognizing the important role played by civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in promoting social integration, inter alia, through social programmes and support for the development of socially inclusive policies,

Stressing the importance of an enabling international environment, in particular enhanced international cooperation to support national efforts towards promoting social integration through social inclusion in every country, including the fulfilment of all commitments on official development assistance, debt relief, market access, financial and technical support and capacity-building,

Expressing concern that, in times of economic and financial crisis and ongoing concern about energy and food insecurity, social exclusion can be exacerbated; in this regard sustainable and reliable social inclusion policies and programmes can play a positive role,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;²
2. *Stresses* that Member States, which bear the main responsibility for social integration and social inclusion, should prioritize the creation of a “society for all” based on respect for all human rights and the principles of equality among individuals, the access to basic social services and the promotion of the active participation of every member of society, in particular those in vulnerable or marginalized groups or situations, in all aspects of life, including civic, social, economic and political activities, as well as participation in decision-making processes;
3. *Reaffirms* that social integration policies should seek to reduce inequalities³ and that equity and social inclusion are important in achieving sustainable development, ensuring that individuals can participate without discrimination and contribute to its social, economic and environmental dimensions;

² A/68/169.

³ See Economic and Social Council resolution 2010/12.

4. *Stresses* the importance of eradicating illiteracy and promoting equal access to and opportunities for quality education for all, inclusive education, especially for persons with disabilities, skills development and quality training as essential means for inclusive participation and integration in society;³

5. *Calls upon* Member States to promote a more equitable participation in and access to economic growth gains, through, inter alia, policies that ensure inclusive labour markets and by implementing socially responsive macroeconomic policies in which employment has a key role, and social inclusion strategies which promote social integration ensuring social protection floors for those who are in vulnerable or marginalized groups or situations, as defined by each country in accordance with its individual circumstances, including on a demand-driven basis, and the promotion and protection of their social and economic rights;

6. *Encourages* Member States to consider, when appropriate, the creation of national institutions or agencies for promoting, implementing and evaluating social inclusion programmes and mechanisms at the national and local levels;

7. *Also encourages* Member States, together with relevant United Nations entities, to continue monitoring progress towards the relevant Millennium Development Goals, in particular regarding their indicators, as their achievement is an essential element to shape and promote national policies for social inclusion;

8. *Further encourages* Member States to promote social inclusion as a matter of social justice in order to build resilience for vulnerable populations to help them to adapt to negative impacts of economic crises, humanitarian emergencies and climate change, and in this regard invites relevant United Nations entities and international institutions to support these efforts;

9. *Invites* Member States, and encourages regional organizations, to support national efforts to achieve inclusive societies, in particular in developing countries, upon their request, by providing, inter alia, financial and technical cooperation for the design and implementation of sound social inclusion policies;

10. *Encourages* Member States to mainstream social integration objectives into social inclusion policies, promoting the participation of persons in vulnerable or marginalized groups or situations in planning, implementing and monitoring processes, in collaboration, as appropriate, with relevant organizations of the United Nations development system, regional organizations, international and regional financial institutions, development and social partners, the private sector and civil society organizations;

11. *Invites* Member States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, regional organizations, international and regional financial institutions, development and social partners, the private sector and civil society organizations to provide information on their activities promoting social inclusion and social integration and to exchange views and share good practices and data on social inclusion policy development;

12. *Invites* Member States to give due consideration to advancing social integration and non-discrimination, as an integral part of addressing inequality in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda, and encourages Member States, in cooperation with civil society, to make every possible effort to address the

needs of the most vulnerable and promote their participation in decision-making processes;

13. *Encourages* Member States to improve the collection and use of data for the formulation of policies and programmes aimed at achieving social inclusion, disaggregated by age, sex and other relevant criteria, and stresses the importance of international cooperation in this regard;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report, taking into account the information provided by Member States and relevant actors of the United Nations, on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its seventieth session;

15. *Decides* to consider the question further at its seventieth session under the item entitled "Social development".

Draft resolution III

Literacy for life: shaping future agendas

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution [56/116](#) of 19 December 2001, by which it proclaimed the 10-year period beginning on 1 January 2003 the United Nations Literacy Decade, its resolution [57/166](#) of 18 December 2002, in which it welcomed the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade,¹ and its resolutions [59/149](#) of 20 December 2004, [61/140](#) of 19 December 2006, [63/154](#) of 18 December 2008 and [65/183](#) of 21 December 2010,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,² in which Member States resolved to ensure that, by 2015, children everywhere, boys and girls alike, will be able to complete a full course of primary schooling and that girls and boys will have equal access to all levels of education, which requires a renewed commitment to promote literacy for all,

Reaffirming the Education for All goals, in particular goal 3, on ensuring that the learning needs of all young people and adults are met through equitable access to appropriate learning and life-skills programmes, and goal 4, on achieving a 50 per cent improvement in levels of adult literacy by 2015, especially for women, and equitable access to basic and continuing education for all adults,

Convinced that literacy is crucial to the acquisition by every child, young person and adult of the essential life skills that will enable them to address the challenges that they may face in life and represents an essential condition of lifelong learning, which is an indispensable means for effective participation in the knowledge societies and economies of the twenty-first century,

Reaffirming the right of indigenous peoples to have non-discriminatory access to all levels and forms of education provided by States, and recognizing the importance of effective measures to promote access for indigenous individuals, in particular children, to education in their own language, when possible, as addressed in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples,³

Noting with deep concern that, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 774 million adults do not have basic literacy skills and 57 million children of primary school age remain out of school, that millions more young people leave school without a level of literacy adequate for productive and active participation in their societies, that the issue of literacy may not be sufficiently high on national agendas to generate the kind of political and economic support required to address global literacy challenges and that the world is unlikely to meet those challenges if the present trends continue,

Affirming that the realization of the right to education, especially for girls, contributes to the promotion of human rights, gender equality and the eradication of poverty,

¹ See A/57/218 and Corr.1.

² Resolution 55/2.

³ Resolution 61/295, annex.

Recognizing the importance of continuing to implement national programmes and measures to eliminate illiteracy worldwide as reflected in the Dakar Framework for Action on Education for All, adopted on 28 April 2000 at the World Education Forum, and in the Millennium Development Goals, and in this regard also recognizing the important contribution of South-South and triangular cooperation through, inter alia, innovative pedagogical methods in literacy,

Deeply concerned about the persistence of the gender gap in education, which is reflected by the fact that, according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, nearly two thirds of the world's non-literate adults are women,

Concerned that, according to United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization estimates, one third of the children not attending school are children with disabilities and that the literacy rate among adults with disabilities is as low as 3 per cent in some countries,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on the final evaluation of the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade;⁴

2. *Commends* the efforts made by Member States, their development partners, the international donor community, the private sector, civil society and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the Decade's lead organization, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in making progress on the goals of the Decade;

3. *Recognizes* the importance of continuing to implement national programmes and measures to eliminate illiteracy worldwide, enhancing further political and financial commitments, in particular for youth and adult literacy and non-formal education; intensifying collective efforts through enhanced education systems and interventions; and building a robust knowledge and technical base through improved literacy monitoring, assessment and research;

4. *Calls upon* all Governments to develop reliable measures of literacy and generate data that are comparable across time and disaggregated by age, sex, disability, socioeconomic status and other relevant factors;

5. *Encourages* Member States, their development partners and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as appropriate, to sustain and expand the gains achieved during the Decade through additional technical and financial support, to promote literacy and literate environments through multi-pronged approaches, with a focus on marginalized groups or those in vulnerable situations, in particular girls and women, people living in rural areas and persons with disabilities, including by utilizing innovative information and communications technology solutions, bearing in mind that the target date of 2015 for the achievement of the Education for All goals and the Millennium Development Goals is approaching;

6. *Requests* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to reinforce its coordinating and catalysing role in the fight against

⁴ See A/68/201.

illiteracy, and encourages its Director General to continue the process of elaborating a literacy vision and agenda for the post-United Nations Literacy Decade period, in consultation with Member States and development partners to ensure a successful global multi-stakeholder partnership;

7. *Recognizes* the need to give appropriate consideration to the issue of literacy in the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, to submit to the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled “Social development”, a sub-item entitled “Literacy for life: shaping future agendas”.

Draft resolution IV

Cooperatives in social development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 47/90 of 16 December 1992, 49/155 of 23 December 1994, 51/58 of 12 December 1996, 54/123 of 17 December 1999, 56/114 of 19 December 2001, 58/131 of 22 December 2003, 60/132 of 16 December 2005, 62/128 of 18 December 2007, 64/136 of 18 December 2009, 65/184 of 21 December 2010 and 66/123 of 19 December 2011 concerning cooperatives in social development,

Recognizing that cooperatives, in their various forms, promote the fullest possible participation in the economic and social development of all people, including women, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities and indigenous peoples, are becoming a significant factor of economic and social development and contribute to the eradication of poverty and hunger,

Recognizing also the important contribution and potential of all forms of cooperatives to the follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development, the Fourth World Conference on Women and the second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), including their five-year reviews, the World Food Summit, the Second World Assembly on Ageing, the International Conference on Financing for Development, the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the 2005 World Summit,

Noting with appreciation the potential role of cooperative development in the improvement of the social and economic conditions of indigenous peoples and rural communities,

Welcoming the efforts of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to showcase the role of agricultural cooperatives, including in improving food security, particularly in rural areas, promoting sustainable agricultural practices, improving the agricultural productivity of farmers and facilitating access to markets, savings, credit, insurance and technology,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;¹
2. *Notes with appreciation* the celebration of the International Year of Cooperatives, in 2012;
3. *Encourages* all Member States, as well as the United Nations and all other relevant stakeholders, to share best practices identified through activities implemented during the International Year of Cooperatives and to continue these activities, as appropriate;
4. *Takes note* of the Plan of Action on Cooperatives for 2012 and Beyond, based on the outcome document of the expert group meeting held in Ulaanbaatar in 2011 for the promotion of cooperatives for sustainable socioeconomic development, so as to promote focused and effective follow-up to the activities of the Year, within existing resources;

¹ A/68/168.

5. *Draws the attention* of Governments to the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General to focus support on cooperatives as sustainable and successful business enterprises that contribute directly to employment generation, poverty and hunger eradication, and social protection, across a variety of economic sectors in urban and rural areas, to review the prevailing policies, laws and regulations affecting cooperatives and to identify strategies for legislative frameworks in support of cooperative growth;

6. *Invites* Governments and international organizations, in partnership with cooperatives and cooperative organizations, to strengthen and build the capacity of all forms of cooperatives, especially those run by the poor, young people, women, persons with disabilities and other vulnerable groups, so that they can empower people to transform their lives and communities positively and build inclusive societies;

7. *Encourages* Governments to promote access to information and communication technologies as a vital channel for collaboration and the expansion of cooperatives, especially in rural areas;

8. *Also encourages* Governments to intensify and expand the availability and accessibility of research on the operations and contribution of cooperatives and to establish methodologies for the collection and dissemination of comparable global data on and the best practices of cooperative enterprises, in collaboration with all stakeholders, and to raise public awareness of the nature of cooperatives, their strengths, their values and principles and their contributions to sustainable development;

9. *Invites* Governments, relevant international organizations, the specialized agencies and local, national and international cooperative organizations to continue to observe the International Day of Cooperatives annually, on the first Saturday of July, as proclaimed by the General Assembly in its resolution 47/90;

10. *Invites* Governments, in collaboration with the cooperative movement, to develop programmes aimed at enhancing the capacity-building of cooperatives, including by strengthening the organizational, management and financial skills of their members, while respecting the principles of gender equality and the empowerment of women, and to introduce and support programmes to improve the access of cooperatives to new technologies;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the relevant United Nations and other international organizations and national, regional and international cooperative organizations, to continue rendering support to Member States, as appropriate, in their efforts to create a supportive environment for the development of cooperatives, providing assistance for human resources development, technical advice and training and promoting an exchange of experience and best practices through, inter alia, conferences, workshops and seminars at the national and regional levels, within existing resources;

12. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventieth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft resolution V

Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/167 of 18 December 2002, in which it endorsed the Political Declaration¹ and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,² 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 resolutions 60/135 of 16 December 2005, 61/142 of 19 December 2006, 62/130 of 18 December 2007, 63/151 of 18 December 2008, 64/132 of 18 December 2009, 65/182 of 21 December 2010, 66/127 of 19 December 2011, 67/139 of 20 December 2012 and 67/143 of 20 December 2012,

Recognizing that, in many parts of the world, awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action remains limited or non-existent, which limits the scope of implementation efforts,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,³

Welcoming the important opportunity provided by the ongoing dialogue on the issues of ageing, inter alia, in the context of the discussions of the post-2015 development agenda,

Recognizing that, by 2050, more than 20 per cent of the world's population will be 60 years of age or older, and recognizing also that the increase in the number of older people will be the greatest and the most rapid in the developing world,

Recalling World Health Assembly resolution 58.16 of 25 May 2005 on active and healthy ageing, which stressed the important role of public health policies and programmes in enabling the rapidly growing number of older persons in both developed and developing countries to remain in good health and maintain their many vital contributions to the well-being of their families, communities and societies,

Recalling also World Health Assembly resolution 65.3 of 25 May 2012 on strengthening non-communicable disease policies to promote active ageing, which recognizes that population ageing is among the major factors contributing to the rising incidence and prevalence of non-communicable diseases,

Concerned that many health systems are not sufficiently prepared to respond to the needs of the rapidly ageing population, including preventative, curative, palliative and specialized care,

Deeply concerned that the situation of older persons in many parts of the world has been negatively affected by the world financial and economic crisis,

Recognizing the essential contribution that the majority of older men and women can continue to make to the functioning of society if adequate guarantees are in place,

¹ *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.

² *Ibid.*, annex II.

³ A/68/167.

Noting that older women outnumber older men, and noting with concern that older women often face multiple forms of discrimination resulting from their gender-based roles in society, compounded by their age or disability or on other grounds, which affect the enjoyment of their human rights,

1. *Reaffirms* the Political Declaration¹ and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;²

2. *Recognizes* the successful conclusion of the second review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action and its results at the international, regional and national levels, and acknowledges the recommendations of the Commission for Social Development at its fifty-first session, in that regard, as endorsed by Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/29 of 25 July 2013;

3. *Also recognizes* that major challenges faced by older persons that undermine their social, economic and cultural participation remain;

4. *Takes note with appreciation* of the decision of the Human Rights Council in its resolution 24/20 of 27 September 2013 to appoint an independent expert on the enjoyment of all human rights of older persons, and invites Member States to cooperate with the independent expert in carrying out his or her mandate;

5. *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;

6. *Stresses* the importance for the Independent Expert and the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing to work in close coordination, while avoiding unnecessary duplication with each other's mandates, other special procedures and subsidiary organs of the Human Rights Council, relevant United Nations bodies and treaties;

7. *Encourages* all Member States to be mindful of the upcoming reports of the Independent Expert, including the comprehensive report to be brought to the attention of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing;

8. *Also invites* Member States to adopt and implement non-discriminatory policies and to systematically review and amend, where appropriate, existing practices and regulations that discriminate against older persons in order to promote an enabling environment for older persons;

9. *Encourages* Governments to ensure that the social integration of older persons and the promotion and protection of their rights form an integral part of development policies at all levels;

10. *Also encourages* Governments to pay greater attention to building capacity to eradicate poverty among older persons, in particular older women, by mainstreaming ageing issues into poverty eradication strategies and national development plans, and to include both ageing-specific policies and ageing-mainstreaming efforts in their national strategies;

11. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts to develop national capacity to address their national implementation priorities identified during the reviews and appraisals of the Madrid Plan of Action, and invites Member States that have not done so to consider a step-by-step approach to developing capacity that

includes the setting of national priorities, the strengthening of institutional mechanisms, research, data collection and analysis and the training of necessary personnel in the field of ageing;

12. *Also encourages* Member States to overcome obstacles to the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action by devising strategies that take into account the entirety of the human life course and foster intergenerational solidarity in order to increase the likelihood of greater success in the years ahead;

13. *Further encourages* Member States to place particular emphasis on choosing national priorities that are realistic, sustainable and feasible and have the greatest likelihood of being achieved in the years ahead and to develop targets and indicators to measure progress in the implementation process;

14. *Invites* Member States to identify key priority areas for implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, including empowering older persons and promoting their rights, raising awareness of ageing issues and building national capacity to address ageing;

15. *Recommends* that Member States increase efforts to raise awareness of the Madrid Plan of Action, including by promoting and supporting initiatives to advance a positive public image of older persons and their multiple contributions to their families, communities and societies, working with the regional commissions and enlisting the help of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in seeking increased attention for ageing issues;

16. *Encourages* Governments that have not done so to designate focal points for handling follow-up of domestic plans of action on ageing, and also encourages Governments to strengthen existing networks of national focal points on ageing;

17. *Invites* Governments to conduct their ageing-related policies through inclusive and participatory consultations with relevant stakeholders and social development partners, in the interest of developing effective policies creating national policy ownership and consensus-building;

18. *Recommends* that Member States enhance their capacity to more effectively collect data, statistics and qualitative information, disaggregated when necessary by relevant factors, including sex and disability, in order to better assess the situation of older persons and to set adequate monitoring mechanisms for programmes and policies geared towards protecting the full and equal enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms by older persons;

19. *Recommends* that States parties to existing international human rights instruments address the situation of older persons, where appropriate, 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 the reports or in their country missions;

20. *Encourages* Governments to continue their efforts to implement the Madrid Plan of Action and to mainstream the concerns of older persons into their policy agendas, bearing in mind the crucial importance of family intergenerational interdependence, solidarity and reciprocity for social development and the realization of all human rights for older persons, and to prevent age discrimination and provide social integration;

21. *Recognizes* the importance of strengthening intergenerational partnerships and solidarity among generations, and in this regard calls upon Member States to promote opportunities for voluntary, constructive and regular interaction between young people and older generations in the family, the workplace and society at large;

22. *Encourages* Member States to adopt social policies that promote the development of community services for older persons, taking into account the psychological and physical aspects of ageing and the special needs of older women;

23. *Also 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;

24. *Calls upon* Member States to develop their national capacity for monitoring and enforcing the rights of older persons, in consultation with all sectors of society, including organizations of older persons, through, inter alia, national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights where applicable;

25. *Also calls upon* Member States to strengthen and incorporate a gender and disability perspective into all policy actions on ageing, as well as to address and eliminate discrimination on the basis of age, gender or disability, and recommends that Member States engage with all sectors of society, in particular with relevant organizations with an interest in the matter, including organizations of older persons, of women and of persons with disabilities, in changing negative stereotypes about older persons, in particular older women and older persons with disabilities, and promote positive images of older persons;

26. *Acknowledges* that universal health coverage implies that all people, including older persons, have access without discrimination to nationally determined sets of the promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative basic health services needed and essential, safe, affordable, effective and quality medicines, while ensuring that the use of these services does not expose the users to financial hardship, with a special emphasis on the poor, vulnerable and marginalized segments of the population;

27. *Urges* Member States to develop, implement and evaluate policies and programmes that promote healthy and active ageing and the highest attainable standard of health and well-being for older persons, and to develop health care for older persons as part of primary care in the existing national health systems;

28. *Recognizes* the importance of training, education and capacity-building of the health workforce, including for home-based care;

29. *Urges* Member States to strengthen intersectoral policy frameworks and institutional mechanisms, as appropriate, for the integrated management of prevention and control of non-communicable diseases, including health promotion, health care and social welfare services, in order to address the needs of older persons;

30. *Calls upon* Member States to address the well-being and adequate health care of older persons, as well as any cases of neglect, abuse and violence against older persons, by designing and implementing more effective prevention strategies and stronger laws and policies to address these problems and their underlying factors;

31. *Also calls upon* Member States to take concrete measures to further protect and assist older persons in emergency situations, in accordance with the Madrid Plan of Action;

32. *Stresses* that, in order to complement national development efforts, enhanced international cooperation is essential to support developing countries in implementing the Madrid Plan of Action, while recognizing the importance of assistance and the provision of financial assistance;

33. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that the principle of non-discrimination on the basis of age is incorporated and upheld in health policies and programmes and that the implementation of such policies and programmes is regularly monitored;

34. *Also encourages* Member States to adopt and enforce guidelines that establish standards for the provision of long-term support and assistance to older persons;

35. *Recommends* that Governments involve older persons and their organizations in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of policies and programmes that affect them;

36. *Encourages* the international community, including international and bilateral donors, to enhance international cooperation to support national efforts to eradicate poverty, in keeping with internationally agreed goals, in order to achieve sustainable and adequate social and economic support for older persons, while bearing in mind that countries have the primary responsibility for their own economic and social development;

37. *Also encourages* the international community to support national efforts to forge stronger partnerships with civil society, including organizations of older persons, academia, research foundations, community-based organizations, including caregivers, and the private sector, in an effort to help to build capacity on ageing issues;

38. *Encourages* the international community and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to support national efforts to provide funding for research and data-collection initiatives on ageing, as appropriate, in order to better understand the challenges and opportunities presented by population ageing and to provide policymakers with more accurate and more specific information on gender and ageing;

39. *Recognizes* the important role of various international and regional organizations that deal with training, capacity-building, policy design and monitoring at the national and regional levels in promoting and facilitating the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and acknowledges the work that is undertaken in various parts of the world, as well as regional initiatives, and by institutes such as the International Institute on Ageing in Malta and the European Centre for Social Welfare Policy and Research in Vienna;

40. *Recommends* that Member States reaffirm the role of United Nations focal points on ageing, increase technical cooperation efforts, expand the role of the regional commissions on ageing issues and continue to provide resources for those efforts, facilitate the coordination of national and international non-governmental

organizations on ageing and enhance cooperation with academia on a research agenda on ageing;

41. *Reiterates* the need for additional capacity-building at the national level in order to promote and facilitate further implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, as well as the results of its review and appraisal cycle, and in this regard encourages Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to provide expanded assistance to countries, upon their request;

42. *Requests* the United Nations system to strengthen its capacity to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, national implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, where appropriate;

43. *Recommends* that the situation of older persons be taken into account in the ongoing efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,⁴ and be given due consideration in the elaboration of the development agenda beyond 2015;

44. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Open-ended Working Group on Ageing, established by the General Assembly in paragraph 28 of resolution 65/182, and recognizes the positive contributions of Member States, as well as relevant bodies and organizations of the United Nations, intergovernmental and relevant non-governmental organizations, national human rights institutions and invited panellists, during the four working sessions of the Working Group;

45. *Invites* States and 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 Working Group, as appropriate;

46. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide all necessary support to the Working Group, within existing resources, for organizing, in 2014, a fifth working session;

47. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

⁴ Resolution 55/2.

Draft resolution VI

Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Recalling the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled “World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world”, held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,

Reaffirming that the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development¹ and the further initiatives for social development adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-fourth special session,² as well as a continued global dialogue on social development issues, constitute the basic framework for the promotion of social development for all at the national and international levels,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration³ and the development goals contained therein, as well as the commitments made at major United Nations summits, conferences and special sessions, including the commitments made at the 2005 World Summit⁴ and at the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,⁵ and the outcome of the 2013 special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals,⁶

Recalling also its resolution [57/270](#) B of 23 June 2003 on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields,

Recalling further its resolution [63/303](#) of 9 July 2009 on the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,

Welcoming the decision that the Commission for Social Development should consider “Promoting empowerment of people in achieving poverty eradication, social integration and full employment and decent work for all” as the priority theme for the 2013-2014 review and policy cycle,⁷

Recalling the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2012 of the Economic and Social Council, entitled “Promoting productive capacity, employment and decent work to eradicate poverty

¹ *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, annexes I and II.

² Resolution S-24/2, annex.

³ Resolution 55/2.

⁴ See resolution 60/1.

⁵ See resolution 65/1.

⁶ Resolution 68/6.

⁷ See Economic and Social Council resolution 2012/7.

in the context of inclusive, sustainable and equitable economic growth at all levels for achieving the Millennium Development Goals”,⁸

Noting that the decent work agenda of the International Labour Organization, with its four strategic objectives, has an important role to play in achieving the objective of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including its objective of social protection, as reaffirmed in the International Labour Organization Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization,⁹ in which the particular role of the Organization in promoting fair globalization and its responsibility to assist its members in their efforts were acknowledged, as well as in the Global Jobs Pact,

Emphasizing the need to enhance the role of the Commission for Social Development in the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, and welcoming the views of the Commission in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda,

Recognizing that the three core themes of social development, namely, poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all and social integration, are interrelated and mutually reinforcing, and that an enabling environment therefore needs to be created so that all three objectives can be pursued simultaneously,

Recognizing also that a people-centred approach must be at the centre of economic and social development,

Expressing deep concern that attainment of the social development objectives is being hindered by the ongoing adverse impact of the world financial and economic crisis, volatile energy and food prices and the challenges posed by climate change,

Recognizing the complex character of the ongoing food insecurity situation, including food price volatility, as a combination of several major factors, both structural and conjunctural, which is also negatively affected by, inter alia, environmental degradation, drought and desertification, global climate change, natural disasters and the lack of the necessary technology, and recognizing also that a strong commitment from national Governments and the international community as a whole is required to confront the major threats to food security and to ensure that policies in the area of agriculture do not distort trade and worsen food insecurity,

Acknowledging the need to further mainstream sustainable development at all levels, integrating economic, social and environmental aspects and recognizing their interlinkages, so as to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions,

Reaffirming the need to achieve sustainable development by promoting sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth, creating greater opportunities for all, reducing inequalities, raising basic standards of living, fostering equitable and inclusive social development and promoting the integrated and sustainable management of natural resources,

⁸ E/HLS/2012/1.

⁹ A/63/538-E/2009/4, annex.

Deeply concerned that extreme poverty persists in all countries of the world, regardless of their economic, social and cultural situation, and that its extent and its manifestations, such as hunger and malnutrition, trafficking in human beings, disease, lack of adequate shelter and illiteracy, are particularly severe in developing countries, while acknowledging the significant progress made in several parts of the world in combating extreme poverty,

Recognizing the importance of the international community in supporting national capacity-building efforts in the area of social development, while recognizing the primary responsibility of national Governments in this regard,

Affirming its strong support for fair globalization and the need to translate growth into eradication of poverty and commitment to strategies and policies that aim to promote full, freely chosen and productive employment and decent work for all and that these should constitute a fundamental component of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, and reaffirming that employment creation and decent work for all should be incorporated into macroeconomic policies, taking fully into account the impact and social dimension of globalization, the benefits and costs of which are often unevenly shared and distributed,

Recognizing the need to enhance access to the benefits of trade, including agricultural trade, for developing countries in order to foster social development,

Recognizing also that social inclusion is a means for achieving social integration and is crucial for fostering stable, safe, harmonious, peaceful and just societies and for improving social cohesion so as to create an environment for development and progress,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;¹⁰
2. *Welcomes* the reaffirmation by Governments of their will and commitment to continue implementing the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,¹ in particular to eradicate poverty, promote full and productive employment and decent work for all and foster social integration to achieve stable, safe and just societies for all;
3. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the Copenhagen commitments and the attainment of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, are mutually reinforcing and that the Copenhagen commitments are crucial to a coherent people-centred approach to development;
4. *Reaffirms* that the Commission for Social Development continues to have the primary responsibility for the follow-up to and review of the World Summit for Social Development and the outcome of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly and that it serves as the main United Nations forum for an intensified global dialogue on social development issues, and calls upon Member States, the relevant specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and civil society to enhance their support for its work;
5. *Expresses deep concern* that the ongoing adverse impact of the world financial and economic crisis, volatile energy and food prices and food insecurity

¹⁰ A/68/174.

and the challenges posed by climate change, as well as the lack of results so far in the multilateral trade negotiations, have negative implications for social development;

6. *Stresses* the importance of the policy space of national Governments, in particular in the areas of social expenditure and social protection programmes, and calls upon international financial institutions and donors to support developing countries in achieving their social development, in line with their national priorities and strategies by, among other things, providing debt relief;

7. *Recognizes* that the broad concept of social development affirmed by the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly has not been fully implemented in national and international policymaking and that, although poverty eradication is a central part of development policy and discourse, further attention should be given to the other commitments agreed to at the Summit, in particular those concerning employment and decent work and social integration, which have also suffered from a general disconnect between economic and social policymaking;

8. *Acknowledges* that the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006), launched after the World Summit for Social Development, has provided the long-term vision for sustained and concerted efforts at the national and international levels to eradicate poverty;

9. *Recognizes* that the implementation of the commitments made by Governments during the first Decade has fallen short of expectations, and welcomes the proclamation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017) by the General Assembly in its resolution [62/205](#) of 19 December 2007 in order to support, in an efficient and coordinated manner, the internationally agreed development goals related to poverty eradication, including the Millennium Development Goals;

10. *Emphasizes* that the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Summit, the 2005 World Summit, the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, the 2013 special event to follow up efforts made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, the International Conference on Financing for Development, in its Monterrey Consensus,¹¹ and the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, have reinforced the priority and urgency of poverty eradication within the United Nations development agenda;

11. *Also emphasizes* that poverty eradication policies should tackle poverty by addressing its root and structural causes and manifestations, and that equity, inclusivity, the reduction of inequalities and the empowerment of the poor need to be incorporated into those policies;

12. *Reaffirms* that each country has the primary responsibility for its own economic and social development and that the role of national policies and development strategies cannot be overemphasized, and underlines the importance of

¹¹ *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

adopting effective measures, including new financial mechanisms, as appropriate, to support the efforts of developing countries to achieve sustained economic growth, sustainable development, poverty eradication and the strengthening of their democratic systems;

13. *Stresses* that an enabling environment is a critical precondition for achieving equity and social development and that, while economic growth is essential, entrenched inequality and marginalization are an obstacle to the broad-based and sustained growth required for sustainable, inclusive and people-centred development, and recognizes the need to balance and ensure complementarity between measures to achieve growth and measures to achieve economic and social equity and inclusion in order for there to be an impact on overall poverty levels;

14. *Also stresses* that stability in global financial systems and corporate social responsibility and accountability, as well as national economic policies that have an impact on other stakeholders, are essential in creating an enabling international environment to promote economic growth and social development;

15. *Recognizes* the need to promote respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms in order to address the most pressing social needs of people living in poverty, including through the design and development of appropriate mechanisms to strengthen and consolidate democratic institutions and governance;

16. *Reaffirms* the commitment to gender equality and the empowerment of women, as well as to the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into all development efforts, recognizing that they are critical for achieving sustainable development and for efforts to combat hunger and malnutrition, poverty and disease and to strengthen policies and programmes that improve, ensure and broaden the full participation of women in all spheres of political, economic, social and cultural life, as equal partners, and to improve their access to all resources needed for the full exercise of all their human rights and fundamental freedoms by removing persistent barriers, including ensuring equal access to full and productive employment and decent work for all, as well as strengthening their economic independence;

17. *Encourages* Governments to promote effective participation of people in civic, social, economic and political activities, as well as in the planning and implementation of social integration policies and strategies, in order to better achieve the goals of poverty eradication, full employment and decent work and social integration;

18. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promote opportunities for full, freely chosen and productive employment, including for the most disadvantaged, as well as decent work for all, including respect for fundamental principles and rights at work, also reaffirms that there is an urgent need to create an environment at the national and international levels that is conducive to the attainment of full and productive employment and decent work for all as a foundation for sustainable development, that an environment that supports investment, growth and entrepreneurship is essential to the creation of new job opportunities, and that human resources development strategies should be premised on national development objectives that ensure a strong link between education, health, training and employment, help to maintain a productive and competitive workforce and are responsive to the needs of the economy, and further reaffirms that opportunities for men and women to obtain productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security

and human dignity are essential to ensuring the eradication of hunger and poverty, the improvement of economic and social well-being for all, the achievement of sustained economic growth and sustainable development of all nations and a fully inclusive and equitable globalization;

19. *Stresses* the importance of removing obstacles to the realization of the right of peoples to self-determination, in particular of peoples living under colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, which adversely affect their social and economic development, including their exclusion from labour markets;

20. *Reaffirms* the need to address all forms of violence in its many manifestations, including domestic violence, particularly against women, children, older persons and persons with disabilities, and discrimination, including xenophobia, recognizes that violence increases challenges to States and societies in the achievement of poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all and social integration, and further recognizes that terrorism, trafficking in arms, organized crime, trafficking in persons, money-laundering, ethnic and religious conflict, civil war, politically motivated killing and genocide present fundamental threats to societies and pose increasing challenges to States and societies in the attainment of conditions conducive to social development, and that they further present urgent and compelling reasons for action by Governments individually and, as appropriate, jointly to foster social cohesion while recognizing, protecting and valuing diversity;

21. *Requests* the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies to mainstream the goal of full and productive employment and decent work for all into their policies, programmes and activities, as well as to support efforts of Member States aimed at achieving this objective, and invites financial institutions to support efforts in this regard;

22. *Recognizes* that promoting full employment and decent work for all also requires investing in education, training and skills development for women and men, and girls and boys, strengthening social protection and health systems and applying international labour standards, and urges States and, as appropriate, the relevant entities of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations, within their respective mandates, as well as civil society, the private sector, employer organizations, trade unions, the media and other relevant actors, to continue to develop and strengthen policies, strategies and programmes to enhance, in particular, the employability of women and youth and to ensure their access to full and productive employment and decent work for all, including by improving access to formal and non-formal education, skills development and vocational training, lifelong learning and retraining and long-distance education, inter alia, in information and communications technology and entrepreneurial skills, particularly in developing countries, including with a view to supporting the economic empowerment of women in the different stages of their lives;

23. *Also recognizes* that full and productive employment and decent work for all, which encompass social protection, fundamental principles and rights at work, tripartism and social dialogue, are key elements of sustainable development for all countries and are therefore an important objective of international cooperation, and supports the promotion of innovative approaches in the design and implementation

of employment policies and programmes for all, including the long-term unemployed;

24. *Encourages* States to design and implement policies and strategies for poverty eradication, full employment and decent work for all, including the creation of full and productive employment that is appropriately and adequately remunerated, as well as policies and strategies for social integration that promote gender equality and the empowerment of women and address the specific needs of social groups such as young people, persons with disabilities, older persons, migrants and indigenous peoples, taking into account the concerns of those groups in the planning, implementation and evaluation of development programmes and policies;

25. *Stresses* the need to allocate adequate resources for the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women in the workplace, including unequal access to labour-market participation and wage inequalities, as well as reconciliation of work and private life for both women and men;

26. *Acknowledges* the important nexus between international migration and social development, and stresses the importance of enforcing labour law effectively 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;

27. *Recognizes* the responsibility of Governments to urgently and significantly scale up efforts to accelerate the transition towards universal access to affordable and quality health-care services;

28. *Acknowledges* that universal health coverage implies that all people have access, without discrimination, to nationally determined sets of the needed promotive, preventive, curative and rehabilitative basic health services and essential, safe, affordable, effective and quality medicines, while ensuring that the use of these services does not expose the users to financial hardship;

29. Recognizes that, since the convening of the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen in 1995, advances have been made in addressing and promoting social integration, including through the adoption of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,¹² the World Programme of Action for Youth,¹³ the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,¹⁴ the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples¹⁵ and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;¹⁶

30. *Stresses* that the benefits of economic growth should be inclusive and distributed more equitably and that, in order to close the gap of inequality and avoid any further deepening of inequality, comprehensive social policies and programmes, including appropriate social transfer and job creation programmes and social protection systems, are needed;

¹² *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 II.

¹³ Resolution 50/81, annex, and resolution 62/126, annex.

¹⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

¹⁵ Resolution 61/295, annex.

¹⁶ *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.

31. *Recognizes* the importance of providing social protection schemes for the formal and informal economy as instruments for achieving equity, inclusion and stability and cohesion of societies, and emphasizes the importance of supporting national efforts aimed at bringing informal workers into the formal economy;

32. *Stresses* that poverty eradication policies should, inter alia, ensure that people living in poverty have access to education, health, water and sanitation and other public and social services, as well as access to productive resources, including credit, land, training, technology, knowledge and information, and ensure that citizens and local communities participate in decision-making on social development policies and programmes in this regard;

33. *Recognizes* that the social integration of people living in poverty should encompass addressing and meeting their basic human needs, including nutrition, health, water, sanitation, housing and access to education and employment, through integrated development strategies;

34. *Reaffirms* that social integration policies should seek to reduce inequalities, promote access to basic social services, education for all and health care, eliminate discrimination, increase the participation and integration of social groups, particularly young people, older persons and persons with disabilities, and address the challenges posed to social development by globalization and market driven reforms in order for all people in all countries to benefit from globalization;

35. *Urges* Governments, with the cooperation of relevant entities, to develop systems of social protection that support labour-market participation and address and reduce inequality and social exclusion and to extend or broaden, as appropriate, their effectiveness and coverage, including for workers in the informal economy, invites the International Labour Organization to strengthen its social protection strategies and policies on extending social security coverage, urges Governments, while taking account of national circumstances, to focus on the needs of those living in, or vulnerable to, poverty and to give particular consideration to universal access to basic social security systems, including the implementation of social protection floors, which can provide a systemic base upon which to address poverty and vulnerability, and in this regard takes note of the International Labour Organization recommendation on social protection floors;

36. *Requests* the United Nations system to continue to support national efforts of Member States to achieve inclusive social development in a coherent and coordinated manner;

37. *Reaffirms* the commitment to promote the rights of indigenous peoples in the areas of education, employment, housing, sanitation, health and social security, and notes the attention paid to those areas in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;

38. *Recognizes* the need to formulate social development policies in an integral, articulated and participative manner, recognizing poverty as a multidimensional phenomenon, calls for interlinked public policies on this matter, and underlines the need for public policies to be included in a comprehensive development and well-being strategy;

39. *Acknowledges* the role that the public sector can play as an employer and its importance in developing an environment that enables the effective generation of full and productive employment and decent work for all;

40. *Also acknowledges* the vital role that the private sector can play in generating new investments, employment and financing for development and in advancing efforts towards full employment and decent work for all, and encourages the private sector, including small and medium-sized enterprises and cooperatives, to contribute to decent work for all and job creation for both women and men, and particularly for young people, including through partnerships with Governments, the United Nations system, civil society and academia;

41. *Recognizes* that steps should be taken to anticipate and offset the negative social and economic consequences of globalization, giving priority to agricultural and non-farm sectors, and to maximize its benefits for poor people living and working in rural areas, while paying special attention to the development of microenterprises and small and medium-sized enterprises, particularly in rural areas, as well as subsistence economies, to secure their safe interaction with larger economies;

42. *Stresses* that more concerted efforts are required to boost smallholder productivity, in a sustainable manner, including scaling up public investments in agriculture, attracting responsible private investment in agriculture, improving the quality and quantity of rural extension services and ensuring that smallholder farmers, in particular women, have access to the necessary resources, assets and markets;

43. *Recognizes* the need to pay necessary attention to the social development of people in urban areas, especially the urban poor;

44. *Also recognizes* the need to give priority to investing in and further contributing to sustainable development, including sustainable agricultural development, and a financial infrastructure that provides access to a variety of sustainable products and services for microenterprises, small and medium-sized enterprises and entrepreneurship cooperatives and other forms of social enterprises, and the participation and entrepreneurship of women as means to promote full and productive employment and decent work for all;

45. *Reaffirms* the commitments made in respect of meeting the special needs of Africa at the 2005 World Summit,¹⁷ underlines the call of the Economic and Social Council for enhanced coordination within the United Nations system and the ongoing efforts to harmonize the current initiatives on Africa, and requests the Commission for Social Development to continue to give due prominence in its work to the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development;¹⁸

46. *Also reaffirms*, in this context, that international cooperation has an essential role in assisting developing countries, including the least developed countries, in strengthening their human, institutional and technological capacity;

47. *Stresses* that the international community shall enhance its efforts to create an enabling environment for social development and poverty eradication

¹⁷ Resolution 60/1, para. 68.

¹⁸ A/57/304, annex.

through increasing market access for developing countries, technology transfer on mutually agreed terms, financial aid and a comprehensive solution to the external debt problem;

48. *Also stresses* that international trade and stable financial systems can be effective tools to create favourable conditions for the development of all countries and that trade barriers and some trading practices continue to have negative effects on employment growth, particularly in developing countries;

49. *Acknowledges* that good governance and the rule of law at the national and international levels are essential for sustained economic growth, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty, hunger and malnutrition;

50. *Underlines* the fact that the fulfilment of all official development assistance commitments is crucial, including the commitments by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to developing countries by 2015 and the target of 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of gross national product for official development assistance to the least developed countries, and urges developed countries that have not yet done so to fulfil their commitments for official development assistance to developing countries;

51. *Stresses* the essential role that official development assistance plays in complementing, leveraging and sustaining financing for development efforts in developing countries and in facilitating the achievement of development objectives, including the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals, and welcomes steps to improve the effectiveness and quality of aid based on the fundamental principles of national ownership, alignment, harmonization, managing for results and mutual accountability;

52. *Urges* Member States and the international community to fulfil all their commitments to meet the demands for social development, including social services and assistance, that have arisen from the global financial and economic crisis, which particularly affects the poorest and most vulnerable;

53. *Encourages* Member States to reflect in their development strategies current trends in global growth, including nascent recoveries in some economies that offer new opportunities for trade, investment and growth;

54. *Welcomes* the contribution to the mobilization of resources for social development by the initiatives taken on a voluntary basis by groups of Member States based on innovative financing mechanisms, including those that aim to provide further drug access at affordable prices to developing countries on a sustainable and predictable basis, such as the International Drug Purchase Facility, UNITAID, as well as other initiatives such as the International Finance Facility for Immunization and the Advance Market Commitments for Vaccines, and notes the New York Declaration of 20 September 2004, which launched the Action against Hunger and Poverty initiative and called for further attention to raising funds urgently needed to help to meet the Millennium Development Goals and to complement and ensure the long-term stability and predictability of foreign aid;

55. *Reaffirms* that social development requires the active involvement of all actors in the development process, including civil society organizations, corporations and small businesses, and that partnerships among all relevant actors

are increasingly becoming part of national and international cooperation for social development, also reaffirms that, within countries, partnerships among the Government, civil society and the private sector can contribute effectively to the achievement of social development goals, and acknowledges the importance of efforts to promote the exchange of information and knowledge on decent work for all and job creation, including green jobs initiatives and related skills, and to facilitate the integration of relevant data into national economic and employment policies;

56. *Underlines* the responsibility of the private sector, at both the national and the international levels, including small and large companies and transnational corporations, regarding not only the economic and financial implications but also the development, social, gender and environmental implications of their activities, their obligations towards their workers and their contributions to achieving sustainable development, including social development, and emphasizes the need to take concrete actions on corporate responsibility and accountability, including through the participation of all relevant stakeholders, inter alia, for the prevention or prosecution of corruption;

57. *Stresses* the importance of promoting corporate social responsibility and accountability, encourages responsible business practices, such as those promoted by the Global Compact and the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework,¹⁹ invites the private sector to take into account not only the economic and financial implications but also the development, social, human rights, gender and environmental implications of its undertakings, and underlines the importance of the International Labour Organization Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy;

58. *Encourages* Member States to give appropriate consideration to poverty eradication, social integration, full employment and decent work for all in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

59. *Underlines* the importance of the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session the consideration of an appropriate celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the World Summit, in 2015, in the context of coordinated and integrated follow-up to the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields;

60. *Invites* the Secretary-General, the Economic and Social Council, the regional commissions, the relevant specialized agencies, the funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other intergovernmental forums, within their respective mandates, to continue to integrate into their work programmes and give priority attention to the Copenhagen commitments and the Declaration on the tenth anniversary of the World Summit for Social Development,²⁰ to continue to be actively involved in their follow-up and to monitor the achievement of those commitments and undertakings;

¹⁹ A/HRC/17/31, annex.

²⁰ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2005, Supplement No. 6 (E/2005/26)*, chap. I, sect. A; see also Economic and Social Council decision 2005/234.

61. *Invites* the Commission for Social Development to emphasize in its review of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action the increased exchange of national, regional and international experiences, the focused and interactive dialogues among experts and practitioners and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned, and to engage actively in the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda;

62. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session, under the item entitled “Social development”, the sub-item entitled “Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly”, and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the question to the Assembly at that session.

Draft resolution VII

Preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions [44/82](#) of 8 December 1989, [50/142](#) of 21 December 1995, [52/81](#) of 12 December 1997, [54/124](#) of 17 December 1999, [56/113](#) of 19 December 2001, [57/164](#) of 18 December 2002, [58/15](#) of 3 December 2003, [59/111](#) of 6 December 2004, [59/147](#) of 20 December 2004, [60/133](#) of 16 December 2005, [62/129](#) of 18 December 2007, [64/133](#) of 18 December 2009, [66/126](#) of 19 December 2011 and [67/142](#) of 20 December 2012 concerning the proclamation of, preparations for and observance of the International Year of the Family and its tenth and twentieth anniversaries,

Recognizing that the preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year in 2014 provide a useful opportunity to draw further attention to the objectives of the International Year for increasing cooperation at all levels on family issues and for undertaking concerted actions to strengthen family-centred policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Noting that the family-related provisions of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits of the 1990s and their follow-up processes continue to provide policy guidance on ways to strengthen family-centred components of policies and programmes as part of an integrated comprehensive approach to development,

Noting also the importance of designing, implementing and monitoring family-oriented policies, especially in the areas of poverty eradication, full employment and decent work, work-family balance, social integration and intergenerational solidarity,

Recognizing that the family has the primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children and that children, for the full and harmonious development of their personality, should grow up in a family environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding,

Recognizing also that family policies are most effective when targeting the family unit and its dynamic as a whole, including taking into consideration the needs of its members, and noting that family-oriented policies aim in particular at strengthening, and should be designed to enhance, a household's capacity to escape poverty, ensure financial independence and support work-family balance to help manage family functions and foster child development,

Cognizant of the need for continued inter-agency and regional cooperation on family issues in order to generate greater awareness of this subject among the governing bodies of the United Nations system,

Convinced that civil society, including research and academic institutions, has a pivotal role in advocacy, promotion, research and policymaking in respect of family policy development and capacity-building,

Noting with satisfaction the close collaboration of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat with intergovernmental and non-governmental

organizations active in the family field, as well as its research efforts and preparations for the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family,

Encouraging the active role of the regional commissions and organizations, and acknowledging the participation of civil society in the preparatory process for the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General,¹

1. *Encourages* Governments to continue to make every possible effort to realize the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes and to integrate a family perspective into national policymaking;

2. *Decides* to devote one plenary meeting during the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly, in 2014, to the observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family, in order to discuss the role of family-oriented policies in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

3. *Invites* Governments and regional intergovernmental entities to provide for more systematic national and regional data on family well-being and to identify and ensure support for constructive family policy developments, including the exchange of information on good policies and practices;

4. *Urges* Member States to view 2014 as a target year by which concrete efforts will be made to improve family well-being through the implementation of effective national policies, strategies and programmes and to give due consideration to advancing family policy development in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda;

5. *Encourages* Member States to promote policies that strengthen social integration and intergenerational solidarity through investment in family-centred support programmes, including social protection assistance, the prevention of the abuse of older persons, the protection of persons with disabilities, including in particular children with disabilities, and investments in cross-generational facilities and intergenerational learning, and volunteer programmes for youth, older persons, mentoring and job-sharing;

6. *Also encourages* Member States to continue their efforts to develop appropriate policies and programmes that address family poverty, social exclusion, domestic violence, work-family balance and intergenerational issues, and to share good practices in those areas;

7. *Further encourages* Member States to promote the delivery of family-centred benefits, such as housing assistance, child benefits, old-age pensions, cash transfers, social protection, social transfer programmes and other relevant measures to reduce family poverty and prevent the intergenerational transfer of poverty;

8. *Encourages* Member States, in cooperation with relevant stakeholders and in accordance with national plans and policies, to strengthen provisions for parental leave, extend flexible working arrangements for employees with family responsibilities, promote gender equality and the empowerment of women, enhance paternal involvement in family responsibilities and support a wide range of quality

¹ A/68/61-E/2013/3.

childcare arrangements, including investing in quality early childhood care and education, in order to improve work-family balance;

9. *Urges* Member States to create a conducive environment to strengthen and support all families, recognizing that equality between women and men and respect for all the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all family members are essential to family well-being and to society at large, noting the importance of reconciliation of work and family life and recognizing the principle of shared parental responsibility for the upbringing and development of the child;

10. *Invites* Governments to continue to develop strategies and programmes aimed at strengthening national capacities to address national priorities relating to family issues;

11. *Invites* Member States to consider undertaking activities in preparation for the twentieth anniversary of the International Year at the national level;

12. *Invites* Member States, United Nations organizations and bodies, regional commissions, civil society organizations and academic institutions to continue providing information on their activities in support of the objectives of and preparations for the twentieth anniversary of the International Year and to share good practices and data on family policy development;

13. *Invites* Member States, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and academic institutions to support, as appropriate, the preparations for regional meetings in observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year;

14. *Encourages* Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund on Family Activities to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to continue research activities and provide assistance to countries, upon their request;

15. *Recommends* that United Nations organizations and bodies, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, research and academic institutions and the private sector play a supportive role in promoting the twentieth anniversary of the International Year;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session, through the Commission for Social Development and the Economic and Social Council, on the implementation of the present resolution and on the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2014 at all levels;

17. *Decides* to consider the topic "Preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family" at its sixty-ninth session under the sub-item entitled "Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family" of the item entitled "Social development".

35. The Third Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Reports considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of social development

The General Assembly decides to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the way forward: a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond.¹

¹ A/68/95.