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Chair: Mr. Jürgenson (Estonia)

Contents

Agenda item 16: Information and communications technologies for development
(*continued*)Agenda item 17: Macroeconomic policy questions (*continued*)

- (a) International trade and development (*continued*)
- (b) International financial system and development (*continued*)
- (c) External debt sustainability and development (*continued*)
- (d) Commodities (*continued*)
- (e) Financial inclusion for sustainable development (*continued*)
- (f) Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows in order to foster sustainable development (*continued*)

Agenda item 18: Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development (*continued*)Agenda item 19: Sustainable development (*continued*)

- (a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (*continued*)
- (b) Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (*continued*)

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- (c) Disaster risk reduction (*continued*)
- (d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind (*continued*)
- (e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (*continued*)
- (f) Convention on Biological Diversity (*continued*)
- (g) Education for sustainable development (*continued*)
- (h) Harmony with Nature (*continued*)
- (i) Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all (*continued*)
- (j) Combating sand and dust storms (*continued*)

Agenda item 20: Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) (*continued*)

Agenda item 21: Globalization and interdependence (*continued*)

- (a) Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence (*continued*)
- (b) Science, technology and innovation for development (*continued*)
- (c) Culture and sustainable development (*continued*)
- (d) Development cooperation with middle-income countries (*continued*)

Agenda item 22: Groups of countries in special situations (*continued*)

- (a) Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (*continued*)
- (b) Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries (*continued*)

Agenda item 23: Eradication of poverty and other development issues (*continued*)

- (a) Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008-2017) (*continued*)
- (b) Women in development (*continued*)
- (c) Human resources development (*continued*)

Agenda item 24: Operational activities for development (*continued*)

- (a) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system (*continued*)
- (b) South-South cooperation for development (*continued*)

Agenda item 25: Agriculture development, food security and nutrition (*continued*)

Agenda item 63: Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources (*continued*)

The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

Agenda item 16: Information and communications technologies for development (*continued*)
(A/C.2/72/L.5)

Draft resolution entitled “Information and communications technologies for sustainable development” (A/C.2/72/L.5)

1. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/72/L.5 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that information and communications technologies had potential as a catalyst for sustainable development. The draft resolution unpacked the complex nature of digital divides both between and within countries, and between women and men, and highlighted the risk that those left behind would be left even further behind by the rapid pace of developments. The draft resolution thus presented an action-oriented agenda and elaborated on prevailing challenges and potential opportunities, with emphasis on the important role of official development assistance and concessional financing for information and communications technologies, as per the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development.

Agenda item 17: Macroeconomic policy questions (*continued*)

(a) International trade and development
(*continued*) (A/C.2/72/L.7)

Draft resolution entitled “Unilateral economic measures as a means of political and economic coercion against developing countries” (A/C.2/72/L.7)

2. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/72/L.7 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Draft resolution on international trade and development (A/C.2/72/L.17)

3. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/72/L.17 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

(b) International financial system and development (*continued*) (A/C.2/72/L.19)

Draft resolution on the international financial system and development (A/C.2/72/L.19)

4. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/72/L.19 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the international financial system

was an engine for economic growth and poverty reduction and contributed to the promotion of sustainable development. The draft resolution therefore proposed measures to be taken by the international community within the United Nations system to achieve improvements in that area and facilitate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

(c) External debt sustainability and development
(*continued*) (A/C.2/72/L.15)

Draft resolution on external debt sustainability and development (A/C.2/72/L.15)

5. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/72/L.15 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

(d) Commodities (*continued*) (A/C.2/72/L.9)

Draft resolution on commodities (A/C.2/72/L.9)

6. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/72/L.9 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that 2016 had marked the end of a five-year downward trend in commodity prices. However, falling commodity prices in the first four months of 2017 cast doubt on whether there had really been a reversal of that trend. Commodity prices overall remained significantly below their peak values in 2011.

(e) Financial inclusion for sustainable development (*continued*) (A/C.2/72/L.10)

Draft resolution on financial inclusion for sustainable development (A/C.2/72/L.10)

7. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/72/L.10 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the draft resolution emphasized the institutions, mechanisms and practices that were contributing to the expansion and promotion of financial inclusion, and to addressing the needs of those who lagged behind. There should be a closer examination of financial literacy, consumer protection, the use of new technologies and the reduction of the cost of remittances. Those issues should be mainstreamed into efforts to achieve financial inclusion.

(f) Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows in order to foster sustainable development (*continued*)
(A/C.2/72/L.16)

Draft resolution entitled “Promotion of international cooperation to combat illicit financial flows and strengthen asset recovery in order to foster sustainable development” (A/C.2/72/L.16)

8. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/72/L.16 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Agenda item 18: Follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development (*continued*)
(A/C.2/72/L.18)

Draft resolution on the follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the International Conferences on Financing for Development (A/C.2/72/L.18)

9. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/72/L.18 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Agenda item 19: Sustainable development
(*continued*) (A/C.2/72/L.32)

Draft resolution on World Bee Day (A/C.2/72/L.32)

10. **Ms. Kuret** (Slovenia), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/72/L.32 on behalf of the sponsors, who had been joined by Azerbaijan, Belarus, Cambodia, Cyprus, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, France, Gabon, Jordan, Lebanon, Mauritius, Mexico, Peru, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Samoa, Tajikistan, Trinidad and Tobago and Tunisia, said that the draft resolution sought to declare 20 May as World Bee Day in order to raise awareness about the key role that bees and other pollinators played in ensuring sustainable development, food security, a healthy environment and the preservation of biodiversity. More than three quarters of global food crops relied on pollination, and the annual value of pollinator-dependent crops was estimated to exceed 577 billion dollars.

11. Bees and other pollinators were endangered by a range of factors, including intensive agricultural practices, pesticide use, pollution, pests, diseases and the effects of climate change. It was therefore important to raise awareness of such threats and promote global efforts and collective action to protect pollinators. The draft resolution invited all stakeholders to observe World Bee Day through education and activities aimed at raising awareness of

the importance of bees and other pollinators, the threats that they faced and their contribution to sustainable development.

Draft resolution entitled “Oil slick on Lebanese shores” (A/C.2/72/L.8)

12. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/72/L.8 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the draft resolution requested the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-third session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled “sustainable development”.

Draft resolution entitled “International Year of Camelids, 2024” (A/C.2/72/L.29)

13. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution A/C.2/72/L.29 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the aim of an International Year of Camelids was to raise awareness among the public and Governments about the social and economic importance of camelids in the lives of communities that were highly vulnerable to extreme poverty, food insecurity and malnutrition. Promoting actions to improve the management of camelids would contribute, in particular, towards the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 2 on zero hunger, Goal 5 on the empowerment of women and Goal 15 on the sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems.

(a) Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (*continued*) (A/C.2/72/L.39)

Draft resolution on the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (A/C.2/72/L.39)

14. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador) introduced draft resolution A/C.2/72/L.39 on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

(b) Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (continued)
(A/C.2/72/L.27)

Draft resolution on the follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (A/C.2/72/L.27)

15. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador) introduced draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.27](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

(c) Disaster risk reduction (continued)
(A/C.2/72/L.14)

Draft resolution on disaster risk reduction (A/C.2/72/L.14)

16. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.14](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that it took into account the Sustainable Development Goals and their interlinkages with climate change and disaster risk reduction efforts.

(d) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind (continued)
(A/C.2/72/L.26)

Draft resolution on the protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind (A/C.2/72/L.26)

17. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador) introduced draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.26](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

(e) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (continued) (A/C.2/72/L.37)

Draft resolution on the implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa (A/C.2/72/L.37)

18. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador) introduced draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.37](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

(f) Convention on Biological Diversity (continued)
(A/C.2/72/L.34)

Draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its contribution to sustainable development" (A/C.2/72/L.34)

19. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador) introduced draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.34](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

(g) Education for sustainable development (continued) (A/C.2/72/L.24)

Draft resolution entitled "Education for sustainable development in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" (A/C.2/72/L.24)

20. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador) introduced draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.24](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

(h) Harmony with Nature (continued)
(A/C.2/72/L.38)

Draft resolution on harmony with nature (A/C.2/72/L.38)

21. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador) introduced draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.38](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

(i) Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all (continued) (A/C.2/72/L.3)

Draft resolution on ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all (A/C.2/72/L.3)

22. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.3](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the draft resolution was strongly aligned with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and expanded its scope by including elements of energy access and efficiency in addition to new and renewable energy. Furthermore, it outlined challenges, opportunities and areas that would require particular focus in order to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 7, on affordable and clean energy, and the landmark agreements reached in 2016.

23. The draft resolution noted the interconnection between sustainable energy and all 17 Goals, presented a focus on women as key users, designers and implementers of sustainable energy policies, and highlighted areas where there had been stagnation and where low-hanging fruit, such as clean cooking and heating, were available. Furthermore, the draft

resolution provided a stepping stone for the review of Goal 7 at the high-level political forum on sustainable development in 2018, and pointed to the need for a further intergovernmental review during the seventy-third session of the General Assembly.

(j) Combating sand and dust storms (continued)
(A/C.2/72/L.4)

Draft resolution on combating sand and dust storms
(A/C.2/72/L.4)

24. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador) introduced draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.4](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

Agenda item 20: Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) (continued) (A/C.2/72/L.36)

Draft resolution entitled “Implementation of the outcomes of the United Nations Conferences on Human Settlements and on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development and strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)”
(A/C.2/72/L.36)

25. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.36](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the fulfilment of the commitments set out in the New Urban Agenda in 2016 would require policy frameworks that included participatory planning and management of urban spatial development, effective means of implementation, international cooperation and capacity development, along with the sharing of best practices, policies and programmes among Governments. The implementation of that Agenda must take into account different national realities, capacities and levels of development, while respecting national policies and priorities.

Agenda item 21: Globalization and interdependence (continued)

(a) Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence (continued)
(A/C.2/72/L.11)

Draft resolution entitled “Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence” (A/C.2/72/L.11)

26. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.11](#) on behalf of the Group of 77

and China, said that globalization should be tangible for all countries, particularly developing ones. The draft resolution aimed to create an open, transparent and meaningful global conversation in line with the 2030 Agenda. States should be ambitious in advancing economic reforms, international trade and technology transfers while avoiding policies that hindered the benefits of globalization. To that end, the President of the General Assembly was requested to host a thematic debate during the second quarter of 2018 on maximizing the benefits of globalization and interdependence in all countries in the context of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

(b) Science, technology and innovation for development (continued) (A/C.2/72/L.6)

Draft resolution on science, technology and innovation for development (A/C.2/72/L.6)

27. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.6](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that science, technology and innovation were both enablers and drivers of the 2030 Agenda. The draft resolution highlighted the importance of creating an enabling environment that supported access to and creation of new technologies, and underlined the need for strengthening capacities in the area of science, technology and innovation, as well as for multi-stakeholder projects.

(c) Culture and sustainable development (continued) (A/C.2/72/L.13)

Draft resolution on culture and sustainable development (A/C.2/72/L.13)

28. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.13](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that culture was an enabler and driver of sustainable development. The draft resolution reaffirmed the importance of culture in achieving sustainable development through international development policies and cooperation instruments. It also emphasized the value and diversity of the cultures and forms of social organization of indigenous peoples and their holistic traditional scientific knowledge, innovations and practices, which played a significant role in strengthening the livelihoods of local populations, ensuring food security and addressing climate change.

(d) Development cooperation with middle-income countries (continued) (A/C.2/72/L.23)

Draft resolution on development cooperation with middle-income countries (A/C.2/72/L.23)

29. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.23](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that despite trends in poverty reduction, 73 per cent of the world's poor lived in middle-income countries. The classification of middle-income countries based on per capita income provided an incomplete picture that hid significant disparities within and between countries. Transparent measures of progress on sustainable development that went beyond per capita income must be developed. Those measures should recognize the multidimensional nature of poverty, the social, economic and environmental dimensions of national production, and the effect of structural gaps. The United Nations development system must provide more coordinated and targeted support to middle-income countries so that no one was left behind.

Agenda item 22: Groups of countries in special situations (*continued*)

(a) Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (*continued*) ([A/C.2/72/L.31](#))

Draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries" ([A/C.2/72/L.31](#))

30. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.31](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the draft resolution made recommendations to accelerate the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020. The decline in the flow of official development assistance, foreign direct investment and export earnings to the least developed countries was a matter of deep concern and must be reversed. Those countries were disproportionately affected by the adverse impacts of climate change and their resilience must therefore be strengthened. The draft resolution would establish a comprehensive, multi-stakeholder resilience-building mechanism for least developed countries by leveraging existing initiatives. The Secretary-General was requested to elaborate on a package of benefits that former members of the Group of Least Developed Countries would continue to receive over a defined period, for critical areas of their economy, once their status changed to that of a middle-income country.

(b) Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries (*continued*) ([A/C.2/72/L.35](#))

Draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries" ([A/C.2/72/L.35](#))

31. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.35](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that it sought to strengthen General Assembly resolution [71/239](#), which had been adopted in 2016, by addressing the special development needs and challenges of 32 landlocked developing countries. It also called for the United Nations system to ensure coordinated follow-up on the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, and for a comprehensive high-level midterm review of implementation of the Programme of Action by December 2019.

Agenda item 23: Eradication of poverty and other development issues (*continued*)

(a) Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017) (*continued*) ([A/C.2/72/L.22](#))

Draft resolution entitled "Implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017)" ([A/C.2/72/L.22](#))

32. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.22](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that although poverty had been declining for decades, 1.6 billion people still lived in multidimensional poverty. In order to maintain the momentum generated by the implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017), the draft resolution would proclaim the Third United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2018–2027).

(b) Women in development (*continued*) ([A/C.2/72/L.21](#))

Draft resolution on women in development ([A/C.2/72/L.21](#))

33. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.21](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the draft resolution was based on General Assembly resolution [70/219](#) and focused on the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Women in development" ([A/72/282](#)), which dealt with the transition of women from informal to formal employment, including access to decent work and social protection.

(c) Human resources development (continued)
(A/C.2/72/L.20)

Draft resolution on human resources development
(A/C.2/72/L.20)

34. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.20](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that human resources development played a crucial cross-cutting role in the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 4, on quality education, and Goal 8, on decent work and economic growth. The draft resolution proposed amendments that would take into account dynamic work environments and rapidly changing labour markets.

Agenda item 24: Operational activities for development (continued)

(a) Operational activities for development of the United Nations system (continued)
(A/C.2/72/L.41)

Draft resolution entitled “Operational activities for development of the United Nations system”
(A/C.2/72/L.41)

35. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.41](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the draft resolution was of fundamental importance to the Group. Some of the mandates of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system remained outstanding and were expected to be addressed by the Secretary-General in a report to be issued in December 2017. A procedural resolution would therefore be in order until such time as that report was issued.

(b) South-South cooperation for development (continued) (A/C.2/72/L.43)

Draft resolution on South-South cooperation
(A/C.2/72/L.43)

36. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.43](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the new paragraphs proposed in the draft resolution were based on the recommendations of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “State of South-South cooperation” (A/72/297). The draft resolution supported his request to prepare a United Nations system-wide South-South cooperation strategy.

Agenda item 25: Agriculture development, food security and nutrition (continued) (A/C.2/72/L.25)

Draft resolution on agriculture development, food security and nutrition (A/C.2/72/L.25)

37. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.25](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that there had been an estimated 815 million chronically undernourished people in 2016, up from 777 million in 2015, and that food security had deteriorated in different parts of the world. Achieving Sustainable Development Goal 2 and the interlinked targets of other Goals would be critical in ending hunger and all forms of malnutrition by 2030.

Agenda item 63: Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources (continued) (A/C.2/72/L.40)

Draft resolution entitled “Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources” (A/C.2/72/L.40)

38. **Mr. Córdova** (Ecuador), introducing draft resolution [A/C.2/72/L.40](#) on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, drew attention to paragraphs 89 and 90 of the note by the Secretary-General (A/72/90-E/2017/71), which described the impact of 50 years of occupation of Palestinian and Syrian lands. The draft resolution would convey a message to Israel from the international community that it was time to bring the occupation to an end. Adoption of the draft resolution would help alleviate the economic and social hardships endured by the Palestinian and Syrian civilian populations.

The meeting rose at 5.15 p.m.