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Sustainable development: strengthening cooperation for integrated coastal zone management for achieving sustainable development

Morocco: draft resolution

Strengthening cooperation for integrated coastal zone management for achieving sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Recalling the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,¹ Agenda 21,² the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21,³ the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development⁴ and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation)⁵ and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,⁶ as well as the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,⁷ the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus⁸ and the Sevilla Commitment adopted at the Fourth International Conference for Financing for Development,⁹

Reaffirming the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,¹⁰ which provides the legal framework for ocean activities, and emphasizing its fundamental

¹ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

² *Ibid.*, annex II.

³ Resolution [S-19/2](#), annex.

⁴ *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

⁵ *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

⁶ Resolution [66/288](#), annex.

⁷ *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.

⁸ Resolution [63/239](#), annex.

⁹ Resolution [79/323](#), annex.

¹⁰ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1833, No. 31363.



character, conscious that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach,

Recalling the ecosystem approach advocated in the Convention on Biological Diversity,¹¹ which is described as a strategy for the integrated management of land, water and living resources that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way,

Welcoming the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework adopted at the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,¹²

Welcoming also the outcomes of the twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement held, respectively, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, from 30 November to 13 December 2023 and in Baku, from 11 to 22 November 2024, including the adoption of the decisions¹³ to establish and operationalize new funding arrangements, including the Fund for Responding to Loss and Damage aimed at assisting developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and invites financial contributions, with developed country Parties continuing to take the lead to provide financial resources for commencing the operationalization of the Fund,

Reaffirming the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”, and, inter alia, the commitments concerning the coastal and marine environment contained therein,

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

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

Welcoming the outcome document of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, the Sevilla Commitment, which renews and strengthens the global framework for financing for development, building upon and complementing the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and calling for its timely and effective implementation,

¹¹ Ibid., vol. 1760, No. 30619.

¹² United Nations Environment Programme, document CBD/COP/15/17, decision 15/4, annex.

¹³ See [FCCC/CP/2022/10/Add.1](#), decision 2/CP.27, and [FCCC/PA/CMA/2022/10/Add.1](#), decision 2/CMA.4.

Reaffirming the Paris Agreement¹⁴ and its early entry into force, encouraging all its Parties to fully implement the Agreement, and Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change¹⁵ that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Noting with concern the findings contained in the special reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, entitled *Global Warming of 1.5°C, The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate* and *Climate Change and Land*, and the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, entitled *Climate Change 2023: Synthesis Report*, as well as the findings of the second World Ocean Assessment,

Recalling the importance of strengthening the sustainable management and protection of the marine and coastal ecosystems, of restoring, where necessary, the resilience of coastal ecosystems to avoid adverse impacts and of achieving healthy and productive oceans,

Recalling also the commitments contained in Agenda 21, including those related to the integrated management and sustainable development of coastal areas while noting that integrated coastal management under national jurisdiction has been widely recognized since then, which offers the opportunity to strengthen international cooperation in this field,

Stressing the importance of the priorities outlined in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,¹⁶ in particular with regard to building resilience and reducing disaster risk in coastal management, and welcoming the convening of the high-level meeting on the midterm review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, held in New York on 18 to 19 May 2023, at which the General Assembly adopted the political declaration of the high-level meeting on the midterm review of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,¹⁷

Noting that coastal hazards preparedness, responses and recovery are important components of integrated coastal zone management,

Recognizing the work on integrated coastal zone management conducted by the United Nations Environment Programme and the regional seas conventions and their protocols and action plans,

Recalling resolutions related to integrated coastal zone management adopted by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme, including resolution 2/10 on oceans and seas,¹⁸ resolution 4/11 on the protection of the marine environment from land-based activities¹⁹ and resolution 6/15 on strengthening ocean efforts to tackle climate change, marine biodiversity loss and pollution,²⁰

Noting that area-based management approaches, including integrated coastal zone management, are used to deliver a range of policies that align with the Sustainable Development Goals and associated targets and that can include societal

¹⁴ Adopted under the UNFCCC in [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21.

¹⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

¹⁶ Resolution [69/283](#), annex II.

¹⁷ Resolution [77/289](#), annex.

¹⁸ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-first Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/71/25)*, annex.

¹⁹ [UNEP/EA.4/Res.11](#).

²⁰ [UNEP/EA.6/Res.15](#).

engagement, conservation, sustainable management of natural resources, food security and climate change adaptation,

Recognizing the contribution of the integrated coastal zone management approach in poverty eradication and the promotion of sustainable development in various areas, including sustainable tourism,

Emphasizing that effective integrated coastal zone management strategies can enhance climate adaptation, including nature-based solutions and other ecosystem approaches, and create enabling conditions to improve human health, promote food security and reduce poverty among those whose livelihoods depend on coastal resources,

Noting that coastal and marine resources contribute significantly to the economy and that maintaining a high-quality coastal and marine environment provides ecosystem functions and services in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and, in particular, Sustainable Development Goal 14, and in this regard welcoming the political declaration of the third United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, co-hosted by Costa Rica and France and held in Nice, France, from 9 to 13 June 2025,²¹

Welcoming that the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction has reached 75 ratifications and will enter into force on 17 January 2026, and calling upon Member States and regional economic integration organizations that have not done so to consider signing and ratifying, approving or accepting the Agreement,

Emphasizing the importance of strengthening and adapting area-based management tools based on the best available scientific knowledge, such as marine protected areas, marine spatial planning, integrated land-use planning or integrated coastal zone management, in order to prevent or mitigate the negative and cumulative impacts of socioeconomic activities and to protect coastal resources from damage caused by land-based activities, as well as conserving coastal resources, enhancing cultural heritage and supporting the transition to sustainable consumption and production approaches as a lever for the development of coastal areas,

Recognizing the efforts and actions that Member States, together with other stakeholders, are undertaking to address the threats and problems for coastal and marine areas originating from land-based activities,

Affirming the importance of full and effective implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity and its Protocols, as well as the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, including its ocean-related goals and targets, as well as its mission to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030 and to place the global community on a path towards realizing the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity, and recognizing the role of conserving, restoring and sustainably using the ocean, seas and marine resources in achieving these objectives,

Welcoming the convening of the United Nations Conference on the Midterm Comprehensive Review of the Implementation of the Objectives of the International Decade for Action, “Water for Sustainable Development”, 2018–2028, in New York from 22 to 24 March 2023,

Welcoming also the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly (Sustainable Development Goals

²¹ Resolution [79/314](#), annex.

Summit) in September 2023, which adopted a political declaration in which the Assembly, inter alia, committed to conserving and sustainably using oceans and seas, freshwater resources, as well as forests, mountains and drylands and protecting biodiversity, ecosystems and wildlife,²²

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;²³
2. *Emphasizes* that the use and implementation of the integrated coastal zone management approach and other area-based management approaches can contribute significantly towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets;²⁴
3. *Also emphasizes* that coastal areas are an essential ecological and economic resource, that their management and planning from a sustainable development perspective need an integrated management approach, and that integrated coastal zone management is an important vehicle for sustainable development, sustainable ocean-based economy and poverty eradication;
4. *Calls upon* Member States to prevent, reduce and control marine pollution of all kinds through improving understanding of their sources, pathways and impacts on marine ecosystems, to reduce the level of pollution of coastal areas, to protect marine ecosystems and coastal areas in the long term and to develop partnerships allowing the exchange of good practices in integrated coastal zone management, marine spatial planning and the implementation of sustainable economic models and approaches, bearing in mind that international cooperation for the implementation of marine spatial planning can contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources and the maintenance of ecosystem integrity and can improve the economic profitability of marine management and the use of resources;
5. *Calls upon* Member States and other actors at the local, national, regional and international levels, including in the private sector, civil society and academia, to address the problem of marine pollution and litter, including plastic litter and microplastics, which impacts coastal management, and encourages all stakeholders operating in this field, to prioritize life-cycle approaches, to promote resource efficiency and to incorporate biodiversity and coastal ecosystem services in their integral management, building on existing initiatives and instruments, science, international cooperation and multi-stakeholder engagement;
6. *Welcomes* the holding of the third, fourth and fifth sessions of the intergovernmental negotiating committee, established by the United Nations Environment Assembly in its resolution 5/14 of 2 March 2022²⁵ at its resumed fifth session to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, and in this regard welcomes the commitment made by Heads of State and Government in the political declaration adopted during the 2023 Sustainable Development Goals Summit to support the ongoing work of the intergovernmental negotiating committee;
7. *Reaffirms* the shared commitment to accelerating action to prevent, significantly reduce and control marine pollution of all kinds, as well as the commitment to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, as contained in paragraphs 15 and 16 of the political declaration of the third United Nations Ocean Conference;

²² Resolution 78/1, annex.

²³ A/80/330.

²⁴ See resolution 70/1.

²⁵ UNEP/EA.5/Res.14.

8. *Underlines* that integrated coastal zone management is a dynamic process for the sustainable management and use of coastal zones, taking into account at the same time the fragility of coastal ecosystems and landscapes, the diversity of activities and uses, their interactions, the maritime orientation of certain activities and uses and their impact on both the marine and land parts;

9. *Encourages* Member States to consider the definition and implementation of an integrated coastal zone management approach, including through appropriate national planning tools and an ecosystem approach that integrates land, sea and watershed areas, and to consider investing in long-term planning to address barriers to integrated coastal zone management implementation;

10. *Also encourages* Member States to consider strengthening or, where applicable, establishing coordinating mechanisms for the integrated management and sustainable development of coastal and marine areas and their resources, at the local, national and regional levels;

11. *Further encourages* Member States to take concrete measures to integrate poverty eradication, quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure, sustainable transport, science, technology and innovation into integrated coastal zone management;

12. *Encourages* Member States to explore the application of innovative technologies and tools, including emerging artificial intelligence technologies, to improve data accessibility, predictive analytics and decision-making in their approach to integrated coastal management;

13. *Stresses* the importance of policies and plans for disaster risk reduction, including adaptation, and hazards preparedness, such as early warning systems, to build resilience and reduce the impacts and costs of natural disasters, also stresses the importance of biodiversity conservation, restoration, and sustainable use and nature-based solutions, ecosystem-based approaches and other management and conservation approaches, in line with United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/5 of 2 March 2022,²⁶ including for the delivery of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and encourages Member States to incorporate, in a more targeted manner, these elements as part of their approach to integrated coastal zone management;

14. *Also stresses* the importance of promoting coordination at the national and local levels with regard to coastal areas, with the aim of ensuring policy coherence, as well as the effectiveness of coastal management measures, while ensuring the participation of all relevant stakeholders, including people in vulnerable situations;

15. *Emphasizes* the importance of scaling up climate adaptation finance, in line with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement, including in the context of coastal resilience, through the application of integrated coastal zone management to enable national-level adaptation planning, and recognizes that adaptation finance will have to be significantly scaled up beyond the doubling as per paragraph 18 of decision 1/CMA.3 to support the urgent and evolving need to accelerate adaptation and build resilience in developing countries, while achieving a balance between mitigation and adaptation in the provision of scaled-up financial resources;

16. *Also emphasizes* the urgency of scaling up action and support, including finance, capacity-building and technology transfer, to enhance adaptive capacity, strengthen resilience and reduce vulnerability to climate change, and calls upon the shareholders of multilateral development banks and international financial institutions

²⁶ [UNEP/EA.5/Res.5](#).

to reform the practices and priorities of multilateral development banks, align and scale up funding, ensure simplified access and mobilize climate finance from various sources;

17. *Further emphasizes* the importance of partnerships, of bringing together multi-stakeholder actors to enable the integration of different interests and knowledge into planning processes or strategies and helping to ensure that area-based management approach design is based on the best available science and other knowledge systems, such as traditional knowledge, innovations and practices;

18. *Emphasizes* that international and regional cooperation, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, and capacity-building and technical support for developing countries and public-private partnerships, are an important factor in the promotion and implementation of the integrated coastal zone management approach by, inter alia, promoting peer learning and cooperation, developing the necessary coastal systematic observation, research and information management systems and developing technologies, the science-policy interface and technological capacities, as well as building effective linkages among global, regional, subregional and national processes, as appropriate, to advance the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

19. *Reaffirms* the importance of strong regional cooperation and economic integration among countries to advance sustainable ocean-based economy and implement effective integrated coastal zone management policies and strategies, which can unlock mutual benefits;

20. *Calls upon* the United Nations Environment Programme and other relevant United Nations entities, within their mandates and existing resources, to support the efforts of Member States in promoting and implementing the integrated coastal zone management approach, as well as in mobilizing partnerships and initiatives at the local, national and regional levels;

21. *Invites* relevant United Nations entities to leverage existing United Nations frameworks and initiatives, including the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, the Paris Agreement, the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021–2030), and relevant global and regional multilateral environmental agreements, to reinforce integrated coastal zone management efforts globally, regionally and at the national level, involving resident coordinators and United Nations country teams;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its eighty-second session an action-oriented report on the implementation of the present resolution, within existing resources, compiled from the inputs of Member States, within available resources, regarding the practical and context-specific challenges, barriers and enabling conditions for the effective development and implementation of integrated coastal zone management, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its eighty-second session, under the item entitled “Sustainable development”, the sub-item entitled “Strengthening cooperation for integrated coastal zone management for achieving sustainable development”.