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Sustainable development: towards the achievement of sustainable development: implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through sustainable consumption and production, building on Agenda 21

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 19 December 2023

[*on the report of the Second Committee (A/78/461/Add.1, para. 7)*]

78/151. Promoting sustainable consumption and production patterns for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, building on Agenda 21

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 all relevant resolutions 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,

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.



Reaffirming 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,

Recognizing the importance of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and the resulting processes for the elaboration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and for the realization of sustainable development, and recognizing also the uneven progress in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and all other internationally agreed development goals and commitments necessary to achieve sustainable development,

Reaffirming 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, and reiterating that sustainable development is a key element of the overarching framework for United Nations activities,

Recalling the commitment to make fundamental changes in our consumption and production patterns, including by transitioning to sustainable economic and business models, the implementation of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns⁷ and by providing support to developing countries to strengthen their scientific, technological and innovation capacity, and recognizing that local and national zero-waste initiatives can contribute to achieving sustainable consumption and production, as outlined in the political declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly,⁸

Recognizing that digital technologies and the unprecedented scale, spread and speed of change brought about by them can be harnessed to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda,

Stressing the need, in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, to benefit from and build on experiences, success stories, best practices, challenges and the lessons learned from the previous agreements on sustainable development,

Stressing also the importance of overcoming silos and seeking innovative and coordinated approaches in integrating and balancing the three dimensions of sustainable development, and in this regard taking note of the actions and initiatives implemented by the United Nations system entities,

Stressing further the need to determine gaps, obstacles, synergies and challenges in the implementation of commitments and instruments in the sustainable development field, in a coherent and integrated manner, and with a view to pursuing and achieving policy coherence as well as identifying new opportunities and emerging challenges for international cooperation on the path towards sustainable development,

⁷ [A/CONF.216/5](#), annex.

⁸ Resolution [78/1](#), annex.

Reaffirming the 2030 Agenda, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,⁹ the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,¹⁰ the New Urban Agenda,¹¹ the Convention on Biological Diversity¹² and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,¹³ as well as major outcome documents in relation to countries in special situations,

Welcoming the first part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, held in Kunming, China, from 11 to 15 October 2021, and the second part of the fifteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to, held in Montreal, Canada, from 7 to 19 December 2022, and its outcomes, including the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, and urging their early, inclusive and effective implementation,

Recalling its resolution [77/161](#) of 14 December 2022 entitled “Promoting zero-waste initiatives to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,

Noting with great concern the severe negative impact on human health, safety and well-being caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, as well as the severe disruption to societies and economies and the devastating impact on lives and livelihoods, and that the poorest and most vulnerable are the hardest hit by the pandemic, reaffirming the ambition to get back on track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by designing and implementing sustainable and inclusive recovery strategies to accelerate progress towards the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to help to reduce the risk of and build resilience to future shocks, crises and pandemics, including by strengthening health systems and achieving universal health coverage, and recognizing that equitable and timely access for all to safe, quality, effective and affordable COVID-19 vaccines, therapeutics and diagnostics are an essential part of a global response based on unity, solidarity, renewed multilateral cooperation and the principle of leaving no one behind,

Noting with concern that the compounded effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, conflict and economic shocks, and climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, have exacerbated existing challenges in the international community’s efforts, especially for developing countries, to implement sustainable consumption and production and may further reverse progress towards the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals, including Sustainable Development Goal 12, and therefore stressing the importance of promoting sustainable consumption and production in the context of sustainable and inclusive recovery strategies,

Noting with concern also the latest warnings by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, including on the vulnerability of ecosystems to climate change being strongly influenced by human society, including from unsustainable consumption and production, and further recognizing that the reduction of unsustainable consumption and production, including waste generation, will support progress in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals, including Goal 12, while stressing the importance of eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions and of reducing inequality, recognizing that eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable and promoting sustainable patterns of consumption and production and protecting and

⁹ Resolution [69/313](#), annex.

¹⁰ See [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21, annex.

¹¹ Resolution [71/256](#), annex.

¹² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

¹³ Resolution [69/283](#), annex II.

managing the natural resource base of economic and social development are the overarching objectives of and essential requirements for sustainable development,

Noting the importance of transitioning to sustainable lifestyles and sustainable patterns of consumption and production in efforts to address climate change in accordance with 1/CMA.4,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Towards the achievement of sustainable development: implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through sustainable consumption and production, building on Agenda 21”,¹⁴

2. *Recognizes* that the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development constituted a milestone that ushered in major international instruments and commitments that guide progress in closing development gaps within and among developed and developing countries, and reaffirms all the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, as set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,¹⁵ as well as the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June 2012, entitled “The future we want”;

3. *Urges* the full and effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and all other internationally agreed development goals and commitments in the economic, social and environmental fields, including the Millennium Development Goals and those under the three Rio conventions, building on their contributions, best practices, challenges and lessons learned, in order to support the full and effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

4. *Recognizes* that the 2030 Agenda builds on issues included in Agenda 21, and encourages further efforts aimed at strengthening international cooperation to address gaps in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals: towards a rescue plan for people and planet”¹⁶ and the 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report, which highlights, *inter alia*, that the world is not on track to achieve Goal 12 and its related targets by 2030 at the current rate of progress;

6. *Welcomes* the political declaration adopted at the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly (Sustainable Development Goals Summit), held in New York on 18 and 19 September 2023, and urges timely action to ensure its full implementation;

7. *Acknowledges*, in this regard, that sustainable consumption and production practices can be cost-efficient and effective ways to achieve economic development, reduce environmental impacts and advance human well-being, and urges the need to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 12, in order to contribute to the achievement of all Goals;

8. *Recognizes* that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development adopted, among other commitments on sustainable consumption and production, the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns, and that both the Framework and its multi-partner trust fund are tools for action on sustainable consumption and production, and in this regard reiterates the need for such initiatives to continue to share best practices and provide

¹⁴ A/78/208.

¹⁵ Resolution 70/1.

¹⁶ A/78/80-E/2023/64.

other forms of technical assistance in the shift towards sustainable consumption and production patterns, including by providing tools and solutions for policy design and implementation;

9. *Welcomes* the decision of the Board of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns to approve the Global Strategy for Sustainable Consumption and Production 2023–2030,¹⁷ following a consultative process involving Member States and stakeholders, and calls upon Member States, United Nations entities and stakeholders to support its implementation and resource mobilization as part of the international efforts to achieve the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals and the objectives of the multilateral environmental agreements;

10. *Recognizes* that unsustainable patterns of consumption and production are key drivers of natural resource depletion, climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, malnutrition and land degradation, and therefore recommits to making fundamental changes in the way that societies produce and consume goods and services through the transition to sustainable economic and business models that promote sustainable consumption and production patterns as well as through policies, frameworks, partnerships, technological innovation and instruments that improve resource efficiency and the sustainable management of natural resources, including water-use efficiency, reduce waste, promote life-cycle approaches, encourage approaches such as the circular economy, life cycle and other approaches, as appropriate and taking into account national circumstance and capacities, enable consumers to make sustainable consumption choices, mainstream sustainability practices, encourage sustainable and environmentally sound bio-based products and increase resilience across all sectors of the economy, which will contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goal 12, and in this regard welcomes the extension by the General Assembly, in its resolution [76/202](#) of 17 December 2021, of the mandate of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns until 31 December 2030, and encourages the implementation of the Framework of Programmes, in accordance with target 12.1 of Goal 12;

11. *Also recognizes* the important role of the private sector in promoting and utilizing sustainable practices, including for multinational corporations and micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises that may face greater challenges in enhancing resource efficiency, and invites Member States to take measures, in cooperation with the private sector, to enhance the design of products, taking into account life-cycle assessments to contribute to resource efficiency;

12. *Acknowledges* the link between plastic waste and pollution and sustainable consumption and production patterns, and calls upon all Member States to continue to step up activities across the life cycle of plastic to prevent, reduce and eliminate plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, including through innovative approaches that foster environmentally sound management, including the reduction, repair, reuse and recycling of plastic waste and products;

13. *Welcomes* the decision by the United Nations Environment Assembly at its resumed fifth session, in resolution [5/14](#) of 2 March 2022,¹⁸ to convene an intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, which could include both binding and voluntary approaches, based on a comprehensive approach that addresses the full life cycle of plastic, taking into account, among other things,

¹⁷ See [A/77/607](#).

¹⁸ [UNEP/EA.5/Res.14](#).

the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, as well as national circumstances and capabilities, and underscores the importance of securing an ambitious international legally binding instrument to end plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, while acknowledging that some legal obligations arising out of a new instrument will require capacity-building and technical and financial assistance in order to be effectively implemented by developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and in this regard welcomes the commitment made by Heads of State and Government in the political declaration adopted during the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly to support the work of the intergovernmental negotiating committee, with the ambition of completing its work by the end of 2024;

14. *Also welcomes* 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, from 22 to 24 March 2023;

15. *Urges* the international community to continue to support developing countries in strengthening their scientific and technological capacity to move towards more sustainable patterns of consumption and production, and calls for enhanced support to developing countries by providing means of implementation;

16. *Recognizes* the need for greater financing, capacity-building, technical assistance and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms for developing countries to harness science, technology and innovation, including new and emerging technologies, including through scaling up the use of open science, affordable and open-source technology, research and development to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

17. *Encourages* the further strengthening of the science-policy interface and of the means of implementation from all sources and at all levels, including a revitalized and enhanced Global Partnership, as well as by supporting innovative approaches to sustainability science and emphasizing cross-disciplinary partnerships;

18. *Requests* the United Nations system to further mainstream and integrate the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout its work, and to continue to exchange experiences and lessons learned in this regard and to step up its efforts at all levels in continued support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

19. *Encourages* regional and subregional organizations to continue to promote sustainable development in their respective regions by, *inter alia*, promoting peer learning and cooperation, including South-South and triangular cooperation, as well as effective linkages among global, regional, subregional and national processes, as appropriate, to advance sustainable development;

20. *Strongly encourages* further accelerated actions and multi-stakeholder partnerships at all levels, including with the United Nations system and international financial system, to advance innovative pathways to achieving sustainable consumption and production, in line with United Nations Environment Assembly resolution 5/11 of 2 March 2022, entitled “Enhancing circular economy as a contribution to achieving sustainable consumption and production”,¹⁹ as part of accelerated progress towards the 2030 Agenda, thereby creating job opportunities, promoting sustainable business practices and fostering more sustainable and stable global supply chains, and ensuring that people everywhere have the relevant information and awareness about sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony

¹⁹ UNEP/EA.5/Res.11.

with nature, and in this respect recognizes the need for discussions to further promote sustainable consumption and production with a view to accelerating progress on Sustainable Development Goal 12 and related goals and targets;

21. *Stresses* the urgency of promoting sustainable consumption and production approaches, in which products and materials are designed in such a way that they can be reused, remanufactured or recycled and therefore retained in the economy for as long as possible, along with the resources of which they are made, the generation of waste is avoided or minimized and greenhouse gas emissions are prevented or reduced;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, with a particular focus on the state of play with regard to sustainable consumption and production and the application and promotion thereof, taking into account the impacts of, response to and recovery from COVID-19, and to recommend concrete actions to implement the 2030 Agenda in this regard;

23. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled “Sustainable development”, the sub-item entitled “Towards the achievement of sustainable development: implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through sustainable consumption and production, building on Agenda 21”.

*49th plenary meeting
19 December 2023*