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Operational activities for development: operational activities for development of the United Nations system

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chair of the Committee, Jenni Mikkola (Finland), on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution [A/C.2/80/L.3](#)

Operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming its resolution [79/226](#) of 19 December 2024 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including its general guidelines,

Reaffirming also its resolution [72/279](#) of 31 May 2018 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and its resolutions [73/248](#) of 20 December 2018, [74/238](#) of 19 December 2019, [76/220](#) of 17 December 2021, [77/184](#) of 14 December 2022 and [78/166](#) of 19 December 2023 on operational activities for development of the United Nations system, as well as its resolution [76/4](#) of 28 October 2021 on the review of the functioning of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system, including its funding arrangement,

Reaffirming further 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 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 convening of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development from 30 June to 3 July 2025 in Sevilla, Spain, and reaffirming its outcome document, the Sevilla Commitment, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution [79/323](#) of 25 August 2025, which sets forth a renewed global framework for financing for development, building on the 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda,¹ to close with urgency the estimated annual 4 trillion United States dollar financing gap,² and catalyse sustainable development investments at scale in developing countries and continue the reform of the international financial architecture through continued and strong commitment to multilateralism, international cooperation, and global solidarity,

Reaffirming the Paris Agreement,³ and encouraging all its Parties to fully implement the Agreement, and Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change⁴ that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming also the importance of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities, through which the General Assembly establishes key system-wide strategic policy orientations and operational modalities for the development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations development system,

Recalling the political declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly (Sustainable Development Goals Summit),⁵ which recommitted to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals,

Noting with concern that climate change, geopolitical tensions and ongoing conflicts, a turbulent and uncertain global economic outlook, including the increase in debt servicing costs, and their respective negative impacts are creating additional challenges relating to eradication of poverty, food security, energy security and cost of living, and that developing countries are disproportionately affected by these challenges,

Recalling its resolution [79/318](#) of 18 July 2025 on the UN80 initiative, and stressing that the reform process should be inclusive, evidence-based and transparent,

1. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution [79/226](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, 2025;⁶

2. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General on the repositioning of the United Nations development system and the reinvigorated resident coordinator system, and acknowledges the progress achieved thus far in advancing all reform mandates contained in General Assembly resolutions [71/243](#) of 21 December 2016, [72/279](#), [75/233](#) of 21 December 2020, [76/4](#) and [79/226](#) and continues to call for their full implementation;

¹ General Assembly resolution [69/313](#), annex.

² *Financing for Sustainable Development Report 2024* (United Nations publication, 2024), figure I.1.

³ Adopted under the UNFCCC in [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21.

⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

⁵ Resolution [78/1](#), annex.

⁶ [A/80/74-E/2025/53](#) and [A/80/74/Add.1-E/2025/53/Add.1](#).

3. *Recalls and reiterates* the requests made in Economic and Social Council resolutions [2023/31](#) of 26 July 2023 and [2024/19](#) of 23 July 2024 on progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution [75/233](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, as well as those previously made in Council resolutions [2019/15](#) of 8 July 2019, [2020/23](#) of 22 July 2020 and [2022/25](#) of 22 July 2022 on progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution [71/243](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, and calls for their full implementation;

4. *Reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development⁷ to leave no one behind, commit to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first, and calls upon the entities of the United Nations development system, within their respective mandates and resources, to assist States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

5. *Encourages* the United Nations development system to continue to make effective use of the integration and operational support functions of the United Nations Development Programme, as appropriate;

6. *Welcomes* the progress made in the establishment of United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks, while encouraging further improvements in their implementation, and reaffirms that they are the most important instrument for the planning and implementation of United Nations development activities in each programme country in support of their implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the programme countries' policies, plans, priorities and needs, to be prepared and finalized in full consultation and agreement with national Governments, through the United Nations country team, under the leadership and coordination of the resident coordinators, while continuing to encourage national Governments to consult with relevant stakeholders;

7. *Stresses* that national Governments have the primary responsibility for their countries' development and for coordinating, on the basis of national strategies and priorities, all types of external assistance, including that provided by multilateral organizations, in order to effectively integrate such assistance into their development processes;

8. *Calls on* all entities of the United Nations development system to cooperate and collaborate with and work under the leadership and guidance of the resident coordinators, in accordance with resolution [79/226](#), to ensure a coordinated and integrated approach to the development and implementation of the Cooperation Frameworks, and further calls on the entities to align their development activities for their respective country programmes with the agreed priorities of the Cooperation Frameworks, to facilitate a stronger and more coherent, coordinated, efficient, effective, results-oriented and accountable United Nations development system at the country level towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and calls for the optimization of the country team configuration exercises facilitated by the resident coordinators and finalized through open and inclusive dialogue between the host Government and the United Nations development system;

9. *Stresses* the need for the United Nations development system to intensify efforts contributing to system-wide and inter-agency efficiencies, including by strengthening and improving the ongoing design and implementation of harmonized business practices, including the Business Operations Strategies, Common Back Offices,

⁷ Resolution [70/1](#).

Common Premises and Global Shared Services in order to optimize opportunities for collaboration and maximize efficiency gains, while prioritizing the most cost-effective and resource-efficient efforts and strengthening its reporting processes on impact in terms of efficiency gains resulting from these business practices, so that funding freed up by such gains is redeployed to development activities, including coordination;

10. *Reiterates its request* to the United Nations development system entities to complete the United Nations Development System Reform Checklist for United Nations entities' governing bodies;

11. *Notes* the critical role that the United Nations development system plays in facilitating countries' implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals, and remains seriously concerned about the lack of adequate, predictable and sustainable funding for the United Nations development system entities, the resident coordinator system, and development activities as a whole, and stresses the need to prioritize voluntary contributions to core, pooled, thematic and joint funding mechanisms at all levels, including the Joint Sustainable Development Goals Fund, and to limit earmarking to activities in accordance with the national priorities and plans of programme countries;

12. *Welcomes* the funding compact, noting its voluntary nature, calls on all Member States and entities of the United Nations development system to contribute to its full and effective implementation, and requests the Secretariat to continue to brief Member States on accelerating its implementation;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present a comprehensive, evidence-based and analytical report to the Economic and Social Council covering all provisions and progress made, lessons learned and challenges in the implementation of the mandates contained in General Assembly resolution [79/226](#), as part of his annual reporting to the Council at the operational activities for development segment during its 2026 session and to the Assembly at its eighty-first session for its further consideration, and also requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide strategic and concise briefing notes and informal briefings, in a timely and publicly available manner, on the implementation of all provisions and mandates contained in General Assembly resolution [79/226](#), and on the relevant available analysis provided by United Nations system evaluation and oversight mechanisms, with an emphasis on development results;

14. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its eighty-first session, under the item entitled "Operational activities for development", the sub-item entitled "Operational activities for development of the United Nations system".
