



# General Assembly

Distr.: General  
2 November 2021

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## Seventy-sixth session

Agenda item 25 (a)

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

## **Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 28 October 2021**

[without reference to a Main Committee ([A/76/L.4](#))]

### **76/4. Review of the functioning of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system, including its funding arrangement**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* 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, including the mandates related to the reinvigorated role of the resident coordinator system,

*Reaffirming also* its resolutions [71/243](#) of 21 December 2016 and [75/233](#) of 21 December 2020 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, its previous resolutions on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review and other relevant General Assembly resolutions,

*Reaffirming further* its resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, its resolution [69/313](#) of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, and the Paris Agreement,<sup>1</sup> as well as the outcomes of major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields,

*Noting with great concern* the threat to 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 sustainable and inclusive recovery strategies to

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



accelerate progress towards the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda, to help to reduce the risk of future shocks, and recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic requires a global response based on unity, solidarity and renewed multilateral cooperation,

*Recognizing* the critical enabling role played by the resident coordinator system in facilitating a rapid, coherent and effective response by the United Nations development system, in particular at the country level by United Nations country teams under the leadership of resident coordinators, in support of national efforts to address the immediate health, humanitarian and socioeconomic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, and in strengthening resilience to the impacts of future crises,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Review of the functioning of the resident coordinator system: rising to the challenge and keeping the promise of the 2030 Agenda”,<sup>2</sup> and the inclusive consultation process, led by the Secretary-General and the Deputy Secretary-General, regarding the objectives and content of the review to assess progress made and identify areas where further action is needed;

2. *Welcomes* the progress made in implementing the mandates of resolution [72/279](#) on the repositioning of the United Nations development system and in creating an empowered, independent and impartial resident coordinator system, and recognizes that further efforts are needed to maximize the contribution of the United Nations development system to respond to the challenges of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>3</sup> and a better recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that will accelerate the implementation of the Goals in the decade of action, in accordance with national development policies, plans, priorities and needs;

3. *Also welcomes* the strengthened contributions of the resident coordinator system to the results of the United Nations development system, enabling more coherent and impactful system-wide support to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, including through the facilitation of more tailored contributions of United Nations country teams and greater coherence, transparency and accountability of the United Nations development system in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and underscores the importance of preserving and utilizing the strengthened capacities of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system for coherent and effective responses by the development system in the decade of action;

4. *Recognizes* the contributions made to the special purpose trust fund for the funding of the resident coordinator system, in particular United Nations entity cost-sharing contributions under the United Nations Sustainable Development Group cost-sharing arrangement, as well as voluntary contributions by a number of Member States, some above their relative share, and takes note of progress made in implementing the 1 per cent levy on tightly earmarked third-party non-core contributions to United Nations development-related activities;

5. *Re-emphasizes* that adequate, predictable and sustainable funding of the resident coordinator system is essential to delivering a coherent, effective, efficient and accountable response in accordance with national needs and priorities, and decides to provide sufficient funding for the resident coordinator system<sup>4</sup> on an annual basis starting from 1 January 2022 through the continuation of the funding model established by resolution [72/279](#), with its existing arrangements;

<sup>2</sup> [A/75/905](#).

<sup>3</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

<sup>4</sup> In line with [A/72/684-E/2018/7](#).

6. *Urges* contributors to the 1 per cent coordination levy on all tightly earmarked third-party<sup>5</sup> non-core contributions to United Nations development-related activities to ensure that the levy is applied in full on all applicable funding, including amendments to agreements signed prior to March 2019, and requests entities of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group to continue to collect the levy consistently and coherently;

7. *Strongly urges* all Member States to provide voluntary contributions, as possible equivalent to or above their relative share, to the funding of the resident coordinator system, and requests the Secretary-General to closely monitor the funding situation of the resident coordinator system and to report annually on progress made in generating adequate, predictable and sustainable funding for the resident coordinator system as part of his existing reporting to the Economic and Social Council at its operational activities for development segment;

8. *Invites* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly with recommendations for its consideration should the proper functioning of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system not be enabled through the generation of adequate, predictable and sustainable funding, taking into account, in this regard, the proposals made in the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Review of the functioning of the resident coordinator system: rising to the challenge and keeping the promise of the 2030 Agenda”;

9. *Requests* the chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group to present, for the information of the Economic and Social Council at its operational activities for development segment in 2022, a results framework with multi-annual performance indicators and targets for the resident coordinator system, including its funding model, and to use the framework as a part of the regular annual reporting on the Development Coordination Office, to ensure accountability towards Member States;

10. *Welcomes* the efficiency gains achieved so far by the United Nations development system, stresses the need for the United Nations development system to, *inter alia*, further improve the implementation of harmonized business practices in order to optimize opportunities for collaboration and to redeploy efficiency gains for development activities, including coordination, and urges all entities of the United Nations development system to strengthen their reporting processes on efficiency gains and to include, *inter alia*, budgetary information on efficiency gains achieved in their annual reporting to their governing bodies;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure that all resident coordinators, in particular resident coordinators who also serve as humanitarian coordinators or deputy special representatives of the Secretary-General, receive in an ongoing manner the necessary training and support to acquire the skills and knowledge needed to ensure they are well prepared and equipped to effectively exercise the empowered, strategic, effective and impartial leadership role envisaged for them, in accordance with their mandates, also requests the Secretary-General to have an updated and rolling pool of possible resident coordinator candidates with adequate, diverse and relevant expertise and skill sets and to take further measures to ensure geographical representation among the resident coordinators, with a view to improving representation of developing countries, and ensure gender balance, while recalling the principles that the highest standards of efficiency, competence and integrity are the paramount considerations in the recruitment and performance of international civil servants, and notes the resident coordinator leadership profile issued by the United Nations Sustainable Development Group in December 2020;

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<sup>5</sup> The levy would not be charged on local government cost-sharing and cooperation among programme countries.

12. *Urges* the entities of the United Nations development system to promote inter-agency mobility, including by enhancing the resident coordinator function as a career path for their staff, and facilitate a mobile and flexible global workforce;
13. *Requests* the United Nations development system to ensure full adherence to a clear, matrixed, dual reporting model and to establish full mutual and collective performance appraisals, as defined in resolution [72/279](#), and to ensure accountability, and, *inter alia*, reaffirms that United Nations country team members are accountable and reporting to their respective entities on individual mandates;
14. *Requests* the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group to provide adequate information and tools to the governing bodies of the United Nations development system entities to facilitate their oversight role, including monitoring alignment and entity adherence to the dual reporting model;
15. *Takes note* of progress made in providing annual United Nations country team reports to programme countries on the implementation of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework or equivalent planning framework, urges the entities of the United Nations development system, as appropriate, to invest in and fully utilize the common UN-Info reporting platform to support the analysis of system-wide results, requests the Secretary-General, in line with the provisions of resolutions [72/279](#) and [75/233](#), to ensure that all resident coordinators and United Nations country teams present the results reports annually to their respective programme countries in a consistent and timely manner in order to ensure accountability, and to make the reports publicly available, with the consent of the respective Governments, and also requests the Secretary-General to provide Member States with the information needed to fully support and facilitate the establishment and functioning of an independent and well-resourced Evaluation Office, as indicated in the report of the Secretary-General,<sup>6</sup> as a critical accountability tool;
16. *Takes note* of the progress made thus far in the fulfilment of the funding compact commitments by all parties, noting its voluntary nature, and urges the full implementation by Member States and United Nations entities of commitments made in the funding compact;
17. *Also takes note* of the call of the Secretary-General on repurposing and recalibrating the United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities, and recalls its decision 75/511 B of 9 September 2021;
18. *Recognizes* the rapid, coherent and effective response of the United Nations country teams, under the leadership of resident coordinators, to the COVID-19 pandemic, including, *inter alia*, the leading role of the World Health Organization on the health response and of the United Nations Development Programme on the socioeconomic response and recovery efforts, calls upon all entities of the United Nations development system, in accordance with their respective mandates and in line with the provisions of General Assembly resolution [75/233](#), to integrate socioeconomic response plans into United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks that support national sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery efforts for accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda and building back better in the decade of action, including by fully leveraging the entire United Nations development system and catalysing partnerships at the country level, including with international financial institutions and the private sector;
19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report on the progress made in the implementation of the mandates contained in the present resolution and the mandates contained in resolution [75/233](#), as part of his annual reporting to the Economic and

<sup>6</sup> [A/76/75-E/2021/57](#).

Social Council at the operational activities for development segment and to the General Assembly on the progress in the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review.

*23rd plenary meeting  
28 October 2021*