



General Assembly

Distr.: General
7 March 2025

Seventy-ninth session

Agenda item 13

**Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up
to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences
and summits in the economic, social and related fields**

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 4 March 2025

[without reference to a Main Committee ([A/79/L.57/Rev.1](#))]

79/268. United Nations Regional Centre for the Sustainable Development Goals for Central Asia and Afghanistan

The General Assembly,

Guided by the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations that encourage measures for regional cooperation to advance the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

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,

Reaffirming also 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,



Recalling that in the 2030 Agenda it was recognized, inter alia, that landlocked developing countries still face significant challenges to achieve sustainable development and that, in order to ensure that achievements made to date are sustained, efforts to address ongoing challenges should be strengthened through the exchange of experiences, improved coordination and better and focused support of the United Nations development system, the international financial institutions, regional organizations and other stakeholders,

Noting its resolutions [72/283](#) of 22 June 2018 on strengthening regional and international cooperation to ensure peace, stability and sustainable development in the Central Asian region, [74/214](#) of 19 December 2019 on sustainable tourism and sustainable development in Central Asia, [77/10](#) of 10 November 2022 on the situation in Afghanistan, [77/273](#) of 24 February 2023 on the role of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia, [78/9](#) of 20 November 2023 on the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia, [78/147](#) of 19 December 2023 on Central Asia facing environmental challenges: fostering regional solidarity for sustainable development and prosperity, [78/284](#) of 4 June 2024 on Central Asia's unified resolve and cooperation to effectively address and counter drug-related challenges and [79/5](#) of 24 October 2024 on the zone of peace, trust and cooperation of Central Asia,

Welcoming the increasing bilateral and regional cooperation among the countries of the region at all levels towards creating a dynamic and reinvigorated Central Asia, which provides new opportunities for United Nations engagement,

Reaffirming the importance of holding regular consultative meetings of the Central Asian Heads of State, and in this regard taking note of the sixth consultative meeting, held in Astana on 9 August 2024,

Recognizing the significant potential of regional economic integration and interconnectivity to promote inclusive growth and sustainable development in landlocked developing countries, and reiterating the commitment to strengthening regional cooperation and regional trade agreements,

Welcoming the progress achieved in the Central Asian countries, their integration with economies of Europe and Asia and their contribution to global economic growth,

Recognizing shared interests in the further development of regional cooperation among the Central Asian countries for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and advancing good-neighbourly relations,

Reiterating the vital importance of Afghanistan achieving lasting peace, sustainable development, rehabilitation and economic stability as well as the elimination of all threats, which still pose tremendous challenges for the stability of Afghanistan and regional security,

Emphasizing the important role of regional cooperation to promote long-term stability, peace, security, prosperity, sustainable development and human rights in Afghanistan, and welcoming the efforts by regional organizations, international partners and regional and neighbouring countries in this regard,

Expressing its continued support to the people of Afghanistan in order to rebuild a stable, secure and economically self-sufficient State, free of terrorism and narcotics, and reiterating its unwavering commitment to international humanitarian law and the human rights of all Afghans, emphasizing the importance of the meaningful participation of women in all spheres of life and of upholding human rights, including for women, children and persons belonging to minorities,

Noting its support to the establishment, through voluntary contributions, of the United Nations Regional Centre for the Sustainable Development Goals for Central Asia and Afghanistan,

1. *Decides* to formalize the United Nations Regional Centre for the Sustainable Development Goals for Central Asia and Afghanistan in Almaty, Kazakhstan, and requests the Secretary-General to appoint the Head of the Centre following the development of terms of reference in consultation with interested stakeholders;

2. *Also decides* that the Centre will work within the remit of its operational mandate to implement regional projects and programmes, aimed at assisting the countries of the region in achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in close coordination with relevant United Nations entities, ensuring synergy and complementarity with the United Nations development system and the United Nations regional economic commissions, and in line with General Assembly resolutions [72/279](#) of 31 May 2018 on 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 [79/226](#) of 19 December 2024 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;

3. *Calls upon* the Centre to collaborate with Governments, relevant bodies of the United Nations system, including the United Nations country teams under the leadership of the resident coordinators at the country level, the Regional Collaborative Platform for Europe and Central Asia, and relevant regional hubs and centres of the United Nations agencies at the regional level, as well as regional and subregional organizations, international financial institutions, the private sector and civil society, to develop a comprehensive action plan, which will contain concrete regional projects aligned with national priorities and plans of programme countries, including as reflected in the Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks;

4. *Requests* the Centre to collaborate with the United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia, in close coordination and cooperation with the Economic Commission for Europe and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, in capacity-building and economic development issues;

5. *Calls upon* the Centre to contribute, within its mandate, to the coordinated implementation of the Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2024–2034,¹ in close cooperation with the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States;

6. *Acknowledges* the efforts of the international community, including neighbouring countries, donor agencies and other international organizations in urgent provision of humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan, and emphasizes that long-term peace, security, prosperity and sustainable development in Afghanistan and the region require closer and more effective cooperation as well as greater coherence and complementarity of approach within the international community;

7. *Stresses* the crucial importance of advancing constructive and sustainable regional cooperation as an effective means of promoting and complementing peace, security, stability and economic and social development in Afghanistan and the region, and recognizes in this regard the importance of the contribution of neighbouring and regional partners and regional organizations;

¹ Resolution [79/233](#), annex.

8. *Decides* that the costs of all activities of the Centre, as well as costs that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution, shall be met from voluntary contributions, including from the private sector and through innovative financing mechanisms, as appropriate, without recourse to United Nations assessed funding;

9. *Recognizes with gratitude* the in-kind contribution of the host country in providing the premises and convenient facilities, as well as its financial contribution for covering the operating costs of the Centre, and encourages other stakeholders to provide voluntary contributions for activities of the Centre;

10. *Decides* that annual reporting by the Head of the Centre on the implementation of the present resolution, the contribution of the Centre to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, objectives pursued and the outcomes achieved, as well as on the sources and use of all voluntary contributions, shall be through existing reporting mechanisms, including through the operational activities for development segment of the Economic and Social Council;

11. *Requests* the relevant United Nations entity to conduct an independent evaluation of the work of the Centre, at two-year intervals and beginning in 2028, to be funded by voluntary contributions.

58th plenary meeting
4 March 2025