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Agenda item 20 (a)

Globalization and interdependence: role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Francesca Cassar (Malta)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a general discussion on agenda item 20 (see [A/77/445](#), para. 2). Action on sub-item (a) was taken at the 25th meeting on 23 November 2022. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary record.¹

II. Consideration of draft resolutions [A/C.2/77/L.3](#) and [A/C.2/77/L.3/Rev.1](#)

2. At the 21st meeting, on 10 November 2022, the representative of Pakistan, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence" ([A/C.2/77/L.3](#)).

3. At its 25th meeting, on 23 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence" ([A/C.2/77/L.3/Rev.1](#)) submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution [A/C.2/77/L.3](#).

4. At the same meeting, the Committee was informed that draft resolution [A/C.2/77/L.3/Rev.1](#) had no programme budget implications.

* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in three parts, under the symbols [A/77/445](#), [A/77/445/Add.1](#) and [A/77/445/Add.2](#).

¹ See [A/C.2/77/SR.25](#).



5. Also at the same meeting, before the vote on the ninth preambular paragraph, the representative of India made a statement in explanation of vote.

6. Also at its 25th meeting, the Committee decided to retain the ninth preambular paragraph, by a recorded vote of 118 to 48, with 5 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Japan, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Korea, Türkiye.

7. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.2/77/L.3/Rev.1](#), by a recorded vote of 134 to none, with 47 abstentions (see paragraph 10). The voting was as follows:²

In favour:

Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq,

² Subsequently, the Secretariat was informed by the delegation of the United States of America that it had intended to vote against.

Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Türkiye, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

None.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America.

8. After the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Czechia (on behalf of the European Union and Albania, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine) and the United States of America.

9. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of China.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

10. The Second Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions [62/199](#) of 19 December 2007, [63/222](#) of 19 December 2008, [64/210](#) of 21 December 2009, [65/168](#) of 20 December 2010, [66/210](#) of 22 December 2011, [68/219](#) of 20 December 2013, [70/211](#) of 22 December 2015, [72/227](#) of 20 December 2017 and [74/228](#) of 19 December 2019 on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

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,

Reaffirming further the Paris Agreement¹ 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 Change² that have not yet done so to deposit their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, where appropriate, as soon as possible,

Reaffirming the vital importance of an inclusive, transparent and effective multilateral system to address the urgent global challenges of today, recognizing the universality of the United Nations, and reaffirming its commitment to promote and strengthen the effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations,

Reaffirming also the role and authority of the General Assembly on global matters of concern to the international community, as set out in the Charter of the United Nations,

Acknowledging that the United Nations, particularly the General Assembly, provides a universal and inclusive multilateral forum that confers incomparable value

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

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

to its discussions and its decisions on global matters of concern to the international community,

Recognizing that, notwithstanding the opportunities and strong momentum to world economic growth brought by globalization, major challenges still remain to be addressed through multilateralism, and emphasizing the need to guide the direction of globalization and make it more invigorated, inclusive and sustainable,

Recommitting to setting out together on the path towards sustainable development, remaining devoted to the pursuit of global development and “win-win” cooperation, which can bring huge gains to all countries and all parts of the world, and reaffirming that every State has, and shall freely exercise, full permanent sovereignty over all its wealth, natural resources and economic activity,

Recognizing that globalization and interdependence imply that the economic performance of a country is increasingly affected by factors outside its geographical borders, that maximizing the benefits of globalization in an equitable manner requires coherent responses at the global, regional, national, subnational and local levels and that there remains a need for a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals,

Emphasizing that globalization must give countries the ability and fiscal capacity to pursue domestic policies to improve the well-being of their societies, choose their own development models and pursue the Sustainable Development Goals in their national context, that it is a useful tool for development that should benefit all countries and peoples and that efforts by Governments to establish a national enabling environment conducive to implementing the 2030 Agenda need to be supported by an enabling international economic environment that is inclusive and mutually beneficial for their goods and services and conducive to investment for sustainable development, including investment in sustainable and quality infrastructure,

Reaffirming its strong support for fair and inclusive globalization and the need to translate sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth into sustainable development, particularly the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions and hunger and the reduction of inequality, and, in this regard, its resolve to make the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including women and young people, persons with disabilities, older persons, Indigenous Peoples, local communities and other people in vulnerable situations, one of the central objectives of relevant national and international policies and national development strategies, including strategies to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including with the help of effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, as part of efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as its blueprint,

Acknowledging that globalization has brought many positive developments over the years and that it is credited with a sustainable period of economic growth, poverty reduction and job creation, higher living standards for many, innovative solutions for climate action and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals more generally,

Noting with concern that the gains from globalization have been unevenly distributed within and across countries and that globalization and the process of resource reallocation worldwide have left many people and countries behind, owing to, inter alia, rapid technological changes in the context of deep digital divides, inequalities in access to financial resources and evolving employment structures that have led to job losses,

Reaffirming that evidence shows that gender equality, women's empowerment and women's full and equal participation and leadership in the economy are vital to achieve sustainable development and significantly enhance economic growth and productivity, that women play a critical role in development and contribute to structural transformation and that their full and equal participation in decision-making and the economy is vital in order to achieve sustainable development, and reaffirming also that gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including those living in rural areas, will make a crucial contribution to progress in realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

Reaffirming also that the spread of information and communications technology and global interconnectedness has great potential to accelerate human progress, to bridge digital divides and to develop knowledge societies, as does scientific and technological innovation across areas as diverse as medicine and energy,

Reaffirming further the commitment to eradicate poverty and hunger in all its forms and dimensions and promote sustained, inclusive and equitable growth, sustainable development and global prosperity for all and to promote the development of the productive sectors in developing countries to enable them to participate more meaningfully and effectively in and benefit from the process of globalization,

Recognizing that the international multilateral system should continue to support sustainable development in all countries, particularly in relation to sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, job creation and the efforts of developing countries to eradicate poverty and hunger and achieve environmental sustainability and resilience, and should continue to promote good governance and the rule of law at all levels,

Cognizant that the future prospects of entire economies and societies will depend on how effectively all stakeholders respond to the technological trends and challenges and to the interplay of those trends with other major trends, such as increasing inequality within and among countries, urbanization, the changing nature of employment, the rise of new forms of work and persistent economic informality, demographic shifts, climate change and the increasing magnitude of disasters and environmental challenges,

Recognizing that adverse and persisting impacts of climate change, the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and its ripple effects and geopolitical tensions and conflicts, among other factors, are exposing and exacerbating vulnerabilities of the globalization process and creating additional challenges for the eradication of poverty, food security, energy security and the cost of living, and that developing countries are often disproportionately affected by challenges, and highlighting that the economic recovery has proved uneven, partially because of the lack of access to financial resources for developing countries,

Reaffirming multilateralism as the best way for the world to effectively overcome and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic and prevent future health emergencies,

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 current trade tensions and a surge in trade-restrictive measures are greatly increasing economic uncertainty, and underscoring that prioritizing and strengthening global cooperation, including through multilateral solutions, are in the interest of all and remain crucial elements in fulfilling the promise of globalization,

Expressing concern about the adverse impact of the heightened fragility of the global economy and the declining trends in global growth and trade, including on development, cognizant that the global economy remains in a challenging phase, with many downside risks, including net negative capital flows from developing countries and rising private and public indebtedness in many developing countries, compounded by high interest rates and inflation, high unemployment and job informality, particularly among young people, women, persons with disabilities, older persons, Indigenous Peoples, local communities and people in vulnerable situations, and stressing the need for continuing efforts to address systemic fragilities and imbalances and to reform and strengthen the international financial system while implementing the reforms agreed upon to date in order to attend to those challenges and make progress towards sustaining global demand,

Reiterating the pledge that no one will be left behind, reaffirming the recognition that the dignity of the human person is fundamental, and the wish to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society, and recommitting to endeavour to reach the furthest behind first,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Fulfilling the promise of globalization: advancing sustainable development in an interconnected world”;³

2. *Reiterates* the need for inclusive, transparent and effective multilateral approaches to managing global challenges, and in this regard reaffirms the important role of the United Nations system in ongoing efforts to find common solutions to such challenges;

3. *Recognizes that* a reinvigorated multilateral system, with the United Nations at its centre, is the cornerstone of a renewed approach to fairer and more inclusive and sustainable globalization to ensure that the negative consequences of globalization do not threaten peoples’ livelihoods and the sustainability of the planet;

4. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General to reposition the United Nations development system to better support countries with their implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,⁴ in line with the integrated and indivisible, global and universally applicable nature of the Sustainable Development Goals and in accordance with national development policies, plans, priorities and needs, and cognizant that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, and calls upon all stakeholders to implement the remaining tasks swiftly and coherently throughout the United Nations development system;

³ A/77/253.

⁴ Resolution 70/1.

5. *Takes note with appreciation* of the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for a Just Transition, launched by the Secretary-General jointly with the International Labour Organization;

6. *Reaffirms* the need for the United Nations to play a fundamental role in the promotion of international cooperation for development and the coherence, coordination and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and actions agreed upon by the international community, and reiterates its commitment to strengthening coordination within the United Nations in close cooperation with all other multilateral financial, trade and development institutions in order to support sustainable development in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

7. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Global Crisis Response Group on Food, Energy and Finance, chaired and convened by the Secretary-General, take note of its briefs on the three-dimensional crisis, notes the important efforts undertaken nationally, regionally and internationally to respond to the challenges posed by the persisting risks to the global economy, and recognizes that more needs to be done in order to promote economic recovery and to address, among others, turbulence in global financial and commodity markets, policy uncertainty, trade tensions, financial volatility, unsustainable debt and high unemployment in several countries;

8. *Encourages* Member States to advance economic reforms proactively, as appropriate, innovate the growth model and focus on the inclusiveness of development and, in the meantime, strengthen international cooperation and avoid inward-looking policies and protectionism, so as to promote an open world economy and generate greater positive effects of globalization;

9. *Recognizes* that globalization can be a process that enables sustainable development and that the 2030 Agenda is the road map for ensuring an equitable, inclusive, just, sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and for accelerating the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development and the full implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals;

10. *Underlines* that the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will also depend on facilitating the necessary means of implementation, particularly in the areas of finance, international trade, science, technology and capacity-building for developing countries, as well as appropriate national enabling environments, and in this regard calls for a sincere and effective follow-up on the global commitments of all actors;

11. *Also underlines* that equitable access to financial resources for developing countries is a precondition to achieve a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery from the impact of COVID-19 on the Sustainable Development Goals and that strengthened international cooperation focused on the poorest and most vulnerable countries and populations is needed to respond to global crises;

12. *Notes with concern* that the mobilization of sufficient financing remains a major challenge in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and that progress has not been shared evenly within and among countries, leading to further deepening of existing inequalities;

13. *Recognizes* the critical role of trade and development and interrelated issues in the areas of finance, technology and investment for inclusive and sustainable development and the need to provide integrated policy responses to issues arising in these areas, including to address inequalities within and among countries, and also recognizes the importance of international cooperation, finance, technology and capacity-building to supporting national efforts in line with national priorities and

respecting each country's policy space while remaining consistent with international rules and commitments;

14. *Also recognizes* the need for the multilateral trade, economic and financial architecture to incorporate and promote sustainable development and ensure greater coherence and coordination to promote an enabling international environment that facilitates the work of Member States in addressing, inter alia, poverty, inequalities and environmental challenges;

15. *Calls upon* all countries and stakeholders to support policies conducive to a globalization process that benefits all people and societies, including but not limited to strengthening financing for development, including innovative financing, development cooperation and the international financial, health and trade systems in order to, respectively, enable equitable access to financial resources for recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic; strengthen global health architecture, pandemic prevention, preparedness and response and achieve universal health coverage; promote a universal rules-based, open, transparent, predictable, inclusive, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system with the World Trade Organization at its core, and correct and prevent trade restrictions and distortions non-consistent with World Trade Organization rules in world agricultural markets; as well as achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and broaden and strengthen the participation of developing countries in multilateral institutions and as beneficiaries of financing programmes specially designed in accordance with their specific needs;

16. *Recognizes* that the scaling up of successful policies and approaches in the implementation and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals needs to be complemented by an enhanced and revitalized global partnership and that this partnership should work in the spirit of global solidarity to support a truly universal and transformative global development agenda;

17. *Reaffirms* that the creation, development and diffusion of new innovations and technologies and associated know-how, including the transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms, are powerful drivers of economic growth and sustainable development;

18. *Recognizes* that digital transformation has the potential to provide new solutions to development challenges, drive breakthrough progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and overcoming current disruptions in trade and supply chains and in this regard reaffirms the urgent need to close the digital divides and ensure that the benefits of digital technologies are available to all, by promoting, within and across countries, inclusive and quality access to information and communications technologies and broadband, while reaffirming that any use of digital technologies must protect and respect the same human rights that people have in line with relevant regulations;

19. *Reaffirms* the need to promote the development, transfer, dissemination and diffusion of environmentally sound technologies to developing countries on favourable terms, including on concessional and preferential terms, as mutually agreed;

20. *Underlines* the significant potential of regional economic integration and interconnectivity to promote inclusive growth and sustainable development, and reiterates its commitment to strengthening regional cooperation and regional trade agreements;

21. *Reaffirms* the commitment at the very heart of the 2030 Agenda to leave no one behind and commit to taking more tangible steps to support people in vulnerable situations and the most vulnerable countries and to reach the furthest behind first;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-ninth session an action-oriented report on the implementation of the present resolution, including concrete recommendations to accelerate the implementation of the Goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and decides to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-ninth session, under the item entitled “Globalization and interdependence”, the sub-item entitled “Role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence”.
