

Other political and security questions

In 2014, the United Nations continued to address political and security questions related to its support for regional peace and cooperation, the promotion of decolonization, the peaceful uses of outer space and the Organization's public information activities.

The Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples reviewed progress in implementing the 1960 Declaration, particularly the exercise of self-determination by the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories (NSGTs). In May, the Special Committee organized a Pacific regional seminar in Fiji to identify ways to accelerate decolonization within the framework of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (2011–2021). In December, the General Assembly adopted resolution 69/107, in which it reaffirmed its determination to take all necessary steps to bring about the eradication of colonialism and called on all the administering Powers to cooperate fully in the work of the Special Committee.

The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, at its fifty-seventh session in June, discussed ways and means to maintain outer space for peaceful purposes and to ensure that space-based technology continued to benefit humanity. It took note of the reports of its two subcommittees, one dealing with scientific and technical issues and the other with legal questions. The United Nations Programme on Space Applications continued to promote the use of space technologies and data for sustainable economic and social development in developing countries. In December, the General Assembly recognized the central role of the Office for Outer Space Affairs in fostering capacity-building in the use of space science and technology and their applications, and endorsed the United Nations Programme on Space Applications for 2015.

At its sixty-first session in July, the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation considered scientific reports on an assessment of the levels and effects of radiation exposure due to the 2011 Fukushima Daiichi nuclear accident in Japan and on the effects of radiation exposure on children.

In a December resolution, the Assembly called on Member States to promote consideration of existing and potential threats in the field of information security, as well as possible strategies to address them.

The Committee on Information reviewed UN information policies and the work of the Department of Public Information (DPI). The Committee considered reports of the Secretary-General on DPI activities promoting the work of the Organization through strategic communication, news services and outreach initiatives. In December, the General Assembly increased the membership of the Committee on Information from 114 to 115.

General aspects of international peace and security

Seventieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War

Communications. In a 13 August letter addressed to the Secretary-General [A/69/191], Armenia, Belarus, China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan requested the inclusion of a supplementary item in the agenda of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly entitled "Seventieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War".

On 6 November [A/69/588], Belarus transmitted to the Secretary-General the text of the address by the Heads of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States on the occasion of "the seventieth anniversary of the victory of the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War of 1941–1945", adopted in Minsk, Belarus, on 10 October.

On 29 December (**decision 69/554**), the General Assembly decided that the agenda item on the seventieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War remained for consideration during its resumed sixty-ninth (2015) session.

Regional aspects of international peace and security

South Atlantic

On 29 December (**decision 69/554**), the General Assembly decided that the agenda item on the zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic remained for consideration during its resumed sixty-ninth (2015) session.

Decolonization

The General Assembly's Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples held its annual session in New York in two parts: on 20 February and 1 April (first part); and on 16, 23–24 and 26–27 June (second part). The Special Committee considered various aspects the implementation of the 1960 Declaration, adopted by the Assembly in resolution 1514(XV) [YUN 1960, p. 49], including general decolonization issues and the situation of individual Non-Self-Governing Territories (NSGTs). The Special Committee recommended nine draft resolutions for adoption by the Assembly. In accordance with resolution 68/97 [YUN 2013, p. 543], the Special Committee reported to the Assembly on its 2014 activities [A/69/23].

Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism

Pacific regional seminar

The Special Committee on decolonization organized a Pacific regional seminar (Nadi, Fiji, 21–23 May) [A/69/23] to hear the views of representatives of NSGTs, experts, members of civil society and other stakeholders who could assist in identifying policy approaches and practical ways in which the UN decolonization process could be pursued. Participants identified a number of issues related to decolonization during the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism (2011–2020) [YUN 2010, p. 587], including the impact of climate change, especially in NSGTs; the global economic and financial crisis; the role of regional cooperation, education and public awareness; the role of civil society and women; the empowerment of vulnerable people; and the capacity for full self-governance. They further discussed accelerating action on the implementation of the Third International Decade in the Pacific, the Caribbean and other regions, including follow-up to the 2013 Caribbean regional seminar [YUN 2013, p. 542], and considered the role of the UN system in providing assistance to NSGTs.

Regarding the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, seminar participants reaffirmed that all peoples had the right to self-determination, and to freely determine their political status and pursue their economic, social and cultural development. They also reaffirmed that any attempt aimed at the partial or total disruption of the national unity and the territorial integrity of a country was incompatible with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. The participants suggested that the Special Committee strengthen its interactions and collaboration with regional and sub-

regional organizations; seek, in collaboration with the Department of Public Information, new and innovative ways to promote a public awareness campaign aimed at fostering understanding among the people of the Territories of the options for self-determination in accordance with UN resolutions and decisions on decolonization; and draw up a plan of action for the Third Decade with a view to advancing the decolonization process.

Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 5 December [meeting 64], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth (Special Political and Decolonization) Committee [A/69/462], adopted **resolution 69/107** by recorded vote (173–3–1) [agenda item 59].

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

The General Assembly,

Having examined the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2014,

Recalling its resolution 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all its subsequent resolutions concerning the implementation of the Declaration, the most recent of which was resolution 68/97 of 11 December 2013, as well as the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Bearing in mind its resolution 65/119 of 10 December 2010, by which it declared the period 2011–2020 the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and the need to examine ways to ascertain the wishes of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on the basis of resolution 1514(XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization,

Recognizing that the eradication of colonialism has been one of the priorities of the United Nations and continues to be one of its priorities for the decade that began in 2011,

Regretting that measures to eliminate colonialism by 2010, as called for in its resolution 55/146 of 8 December 2000, have not been successful,

Reiterating its conviction of the need for the eradication of colonialism, as well as racial discrimination and violations of basic human rights,

Noting with satisfaction the continued efforts of the Special Committee in contributing to the effective and complete implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Stressing the importance of the formal participation of the administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee,

Noting with satisfaction the cooperation and active participation of certain administering Powers in the work of the Special Committee, and encouraging the others also to do so,

Noting that the Pacific regional seminar was held in Nadi, Fiji, from 21 to 23 May 2014,

1. *Reaffirms* its resolution 1514(XV) and all other resolutions and decisions on decolonization, including its resolution 65/119, by which it declared the period 2011–2020 the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon the administering Powers, in accordance with those resolutions, to take all steps necessary to enable the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories concerned to exercise fully as soon as possible their right to self-determination, including independence;

2. *Reaffirms once again* that the existence of colonialism in any form or manifestation, including economic exploitation, is incompatible with the Charter of the United Nations, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

3. *Reaffirms its determination* to continue to take all steps necessary to bring about the complete and speedy eradication of colonialism and the faithful observance by all States of the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

4. *Affirms once again its support* for the aspirations of the peoples under colonial rule to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to cooperate fully with the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to develop and finalize, as soon as possible, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

6. *Recalls with satisfaction* the professional, open and transparent conduct of both the February 2006 and the October 2007 referendums to determine the future status of Tokelau, monitored by the United Nations;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to seek suitable means for the immediate and full implementation of the Declaration and to carry out the actions approved by the General Assembly regarding the Second and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism in all Territories that have not yet exercised their right to self-determination, including independence, and in particular:

(a) To formulate specific proposals to bring about an end to colonialism and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventieth session;

(b) To continue to examine the implementation by Member States of resolution 1514(XV) and other relevant resolutions on decolonization;

(c) To continue to examine the political, economic and social situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and to recommend, as appropriate, to the General Assembly the most suitable steps to be taken to enable the populations of those Territories to exercise their right to self-determination, including independence, in accordance with the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(d) To develop and finalize, as soon as possible and in cooperation with the administering Power and the Territory in question, a constructive programme of work on a case-by-case basis for the Non-Self-Governing Territories to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee and the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(e) To continue to dispatch visiting and special missions to the Non-Self-Governing Territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions on decolonization, including resolutions on specific Territories;

(f) To conduct seminars, as appropriate, for the purpose of receiving and disseminating information on the work of the Special Committee, and to facilitate participation by the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in those seminars;

(g) To take all steps necessary to enlist worldwide support among Governments, as well as national and international organizations, for the achievement of the objectives of the Declaration and the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

(h) To observe annually the Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories;

8. *Recalls* that the plan of action for the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, updated as necessary, represents an important legislative authority for the attainment of self-government by the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and that the case-by-case assessment of the attainment of self-government in each Territory can make an important contribution to this process;

9. *Calls upon* all States, in particular the administering Powers, as well as the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to give effect within their respective spheres of competence to the recommendations of the Special Committee for the implementation of the Declaration and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that economic and other activities in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration do not adversely affect the interests of the peoples but instead promote development, and to assist them in the exercise of their right to self-determination;

11. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable rights of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the relevant administering Power to take all steps necessary to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories;

12. *Urges* all States, directly and through their action in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, to provide moral and material assistance, as needed, to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and requests the administering Powers to take steps to enlist and make effective use of all possible assistance, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, in the strengthening of the economies of those Territories;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to provide economic, social and other assistance

to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to continue to do so, as appropriate, after they exercise their right to self-determination, including independence;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, President pro tempore of the Special Committee, to meet informally at least once a year with the Chair and the Bureau of the Committee during the intersessional period, in order to explore innovative ways of using his good offices to help to advance the decolonization agenda on a case-by-case basis;

15. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations visiting missions to the Territories are an effective means of ascertaining the situation in the Territories, as well as the wishes and aspirations of their inhabitants, and calls upon the administering Powers to continue to cooperate with the Special Committee in the discharge of its mandate and to facilitate visiting missions to the Territories;

16. *Calls upon* all the administering Powers to cooperate fully in the work of the Special Committee and to participate formally in its future sessions;

17. *Approves* the report of the Special Committee covering its work during 2014, including the programme of work envisaged for 2015;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Special Committee with the facilities and services required for the implementation of the present resolution, as well as the other resolutions and decisions on decolonization adopted by the General Assembly and the Committee.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 69/107:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Israel, United Kingdom, United States.

Abstaining: France.

Implementation by international organizations

In February [A/69/66], the Secretary-General reported that he had brought General Assembly resolution 68/89 [YUN 2013, p. 546] to the attention of 35 specialized agencies and organizations, and invited them to submit information regarding their implementation activities. Replies received from five agencies and organizations were summarized in an April report of the Economic and Social Council President [E/2014/11] on his consultations with the Special Committee. According to the information received, several specialized agencies and other UN system organizations continued to provide support to the peoples of NSGTS pursuant to the relevant resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Special Committee.

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ACTION

On 16 July [meeting 45], the Economic and Social Council adopted **resolution 2014/25** [draft: E/2014/L.27] by roll-call vote (26–0–21) [agenda item 12].

Support to Non-Self-Governing Territories by the specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations

The Economic and Social Council,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General and the report of the President of the Economic and Social Council containing the information submitted by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system on their activities with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Having heard the statement by the representative of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541(XV) of 15 December 1960, the resolutions of the Special Committee and other relevant resolutions and decisions, including, in particular, Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/43 of 25 July 2013,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

Conscious of the need to facilitate the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514(XV),

Welcoming the current participation, in their capacity as observers, of those Non-Self-Governing Territories that are associate members of the regional commissions in the world conferences in the economic and social sphere, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, including resolutions and decisions of the

Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Noting that only some specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system have been involved in providing assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Welcoming the assistance extended to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Stressing that, because the development options of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, they face special challenges in planning for and implementing sustainable development, and that they will be constrained in meeting those challenges without the continuing cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Stressing also the importance of securing the resources necessary for funding expanded programmes of assistance for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all the major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

Reaffirming the mandates of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all appropriate measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to ensure the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514(XV) and other relevant resolutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum, the Caribbean Community and other regional organizations for the continued cooperation and assistance they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in that regard,

Expressing its conviction that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of programmes of assistance for the Non-Self-Governing Territories concerned,

Mindful of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various decisions of the United Nations relating to decolonization,

Bearing in mind the extremely fragile economies of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sea-level rise, and recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 68/97 of 11 December 2013, entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples",

1. *Takes note* of the report of the President of the Economic and Social Council, and endorses the observations and suggestions arising therefrom;

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;

3. *Recommends* that all States intensify their efforts within the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly

resolution 1514(XV), and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

4. *Reaffirms* that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration and all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

5. *Also reaffirms* that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations organs of the legitimacy of the aspirations of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples, on a case-by-case basis;

6. *Expresses its appreciation* to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514(XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and requests all of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to implement the relevant provisions of those resolutions;

7. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Non-Self-Governing Territory so that they may take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories on a case-by-case basis;

8. *Urges* those specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations system that have not yet provided assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories to do so as soon as possible on a case-by-case basis;

9. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and regional organizations to strengthen existing measures of support and to formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories on a case-by-case basis, within the framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;

10. *Recommends* that the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned and on a case-by-case basis, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and submit those proposals to their governing and legislative organs;

11. *Also recommends* that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review, at the regular meetings of their governing bodies, the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514(XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

12. *Recalls* the preparation by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, of an

informational leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories and its updated online version, and requests that they be disseminated as widely as possible;

13. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining a close liaison between the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and in providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

14. *Encourages* the Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies;

15. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to facilitate, when appropriate, the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, including the resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories, so that they may benefit from the related activities of those agencies and organizations;

16. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts within the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories on a case-by-case basis;

17. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee to the present resolution and to the discussion held on the subject at the substantive session of 2014 of the Economic and Social Council;

18. *Recalls* the adoption by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean on 16 May 1998 of its resolution 574(XXVII), in which the Commission called for the mechanisms necessary for its associate members, including the Non-Self-Governing Territories, to participate, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, in the special sessions of the Assembly convened to review and assess the implementation of the plans of action of those United Nations world conferences in which the Territories had originally participated in their capacity as observers, and in the work of the Council and its subsidiary bodies;

19. *Requests* the President of the Council to continue to maintain close contact on those matters with the Chair of the Special Committee and to report thereon to the Council;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to follow up on the implementation of the present resolution, paying particular attention to cooperation and integration arrangements for maximizing the efficiency of the assistance activities undertaken by various organizations of the United Nations system, and to report thereon to the Council at its 2015 session;

21. *Decides* to keep the above questions under continuous review.

ROLL-CALL VOTE ON RESOLUTION 2014/25:

In favour: Antigua and Barbuda, Bangladesh, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, China, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lesotho, Libya, Mauritius, New Zealand, Panama, South Africa, Togo, Tunisia, Turkmenistan.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Albania, Austria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Congo, Croatia, Denmark, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 5 December [meeting 64], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee [A/69/460], adopted **resolution 69/99** by recorded vote (125-0-53) [agenda item 57].

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled “Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations”,

Having also considered the report of the Secretary-General and the report of the Economic and Social Council on the item,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2014 relating to the item,

Recalling its resolutions 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541(XV) of 15 December 1960 and the resolutions of the Special Committee, as well as other relevant resolutions and decisions, including in particular Economic and Social Council resolutions 2012/22 of 26 July 2012 and 2013/43 of 25 July 2013,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

Conscious of the need to facilitate the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in resolution 1514(XV),

Noting that the large majority of the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories are small island Territories,

Welcoming the assistance extended to Non-Self-Governing Territories by certain specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

Welcoming also the participation in the capacity of observers of those Non-Self-Governing Territories that are associate members of regional commissions in the world conferences in the economic and social spheres, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, including resolutions and decisions of the Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories,

Noting that only some specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system have been involved in providing assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Stressing that, because the development options of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories are limited, there are special challenges to planning for and implementing sustainable development and that those Territories will be constrained in meeting the challenges without the continuing cooperation and assistance of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system,

Stressing also the importance of securing the resources necessary for funding expanded programmes of assistance for the peoples concerned and the need to enlist the support of all major funding institutions within the United Nations system in that regard,

Reaffirming the mandates of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to take all appropriate measures, within their respective spheres of competence, to ensure the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514(XV) and other relevant resolutions,

Expressing its appreciation to the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum, the Caribbean Community and other regional organizations for the continued cooperation and assistance that they have extended to the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in this regard,

Expressing its conviction that closer contacts and consultations between and among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and regional organizations help to facilitate the effective formulation of programmes of assistance to the peoples concerned,

Mindful of the imperative need to keep under continuous review the activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in the implementation of the various resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to decolonization,

Bearing in mind the extremely fragile economies of the small island Non-Self-Governing Territories and their vulnerability to natural disasters, such as hurricanes, cyclones and sea-level rise, and recalling the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 68/89 of 11 December 2013 on the implementation of the Declaration by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;
2. *Recommends* that all States intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in which they are members to ensure the full and effective implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514(XV), and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;
3. *Reaffirms* that the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system should continue to be guided by the relevant resolutions of the United Nations in their efforts to contribute to the implementation of the Declaration and all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;
4. *Also reaffirms* that the recognition by the General Assembly, the Security Council and other United Nations

organs of the legitimacy of the aspirations of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to exercise their right to self-determination entails, as a corollary, the extension of all appropriate assistance to those peoples;

5. *Expresses its appreciation* to those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have continued to cooperate with the United Nations and the regional and subregional organizations in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514(XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and requests all the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to implement the relevant provisions of those resolutions;

6. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their engagement with the work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples as an important element for the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514(XV), including possible participation at the regional seminars on decolonization, upon the invitation of the Special Committee;

7. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and international and regional organizations to examine and review conditions in each Territory so as to take appropriate measures to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of the Territories;

8. *Urges* those specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system that have not yet provided assistance to Non-Self-Governing Territories to do so as soon as possible;

9. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations and institutions of the United Nations system and regional organizations to strengthen existing measures of support and formulate appropriate programmes of assistance to the remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories, within the framework of their respective mandates, in order to accelerate progress in the economic and social sectors of those Territories;

10. *Requests* the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system concerned to provide information on:

- (a) Environmental problems facing the Non-Self-Governing Territories;
- (b) The impact of natural disasters, such as hurricanes and volcanic eruptions, and other environmental problems, such as beach and coastal erosion and droughts, on those Territories;
- (c) Ways and means to assist the Territories to fight drug trafficking, money-laundering and other illegal and criminal activities;
- (d) Illegal exploitation of the marine and other natural resources of the Territories and the need to utilize those resources for the benefit of the peoples of the Territories;

11. *Recommends* that the executive heads of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system formulate, with the active cooperation of the regional organizations concerned, concrete proposals for the full implementation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and submit the proposals to their governing and legislative organs;

12. *Also recommends* that the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system continue to review at the regular meetings of their governing bodies the implementation of General Assembly resolution 1514(XV) and other relevant resolutions of the United Nations;

13. *Recalls* the adoption by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of its resolution 574(XXVII) of 16 May 1998, calling for the necessary mechanisms for its associate members, including Non-Self-Governing Territories, to participate in the special sessions of the General Assembly, subject to the rules of procedure of the Assembly, to review and assess the implementation of the plans of action of those United Nations world conferences in which the Territories originally participated in the capacity of observer, and in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies;

14. *Requests* the Chair of the Special Committee to continue to maintain close contact on these matters with the President of the Economic and Social Council;

15. *Recalls* the publication by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee, of an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, which was updated for the United Nations website on decolonization, and requests its continued updating and wide dissemination;

16. *Welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the United Nations Development Programme in maintaining close liaison among the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, including the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and in providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

17. *Encourages* the Non-Self-Governing Territories to take steps to establish and/or strengthen disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies, inter alia, with the assistance of the relevant specialized agencies;

18. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned to facilitate, when appropriate, the participation of appointed and elected representatives of Non-Self-Governing Territories in the relevant meetings and conferences of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in accordance with relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations, including resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee on specific Territories, so that the Territories may benefit from the related activities of those agencies and organizations;

19. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts in the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to assist the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in working out appropriate measures for implementing the relevant resolutions of the United Nations and to prepare for submission to the relevant bodies, with the assistance of those agencies and organizations, a report on the action taken in implementation of the rel-

evant resolutions, including the present resolution, since the circulation of his previous report;

21. *Commends* the Economic and Social Council for its debate and resolution on this question, and requests it to continue to consider, in consultation with the Special Committee, appropriate measures for the coordination of the policies and activities of the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system in implementing the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly;

22. *Requests* the specialized agencies to report periodically to the Secretary-General on the implementation of the present resolution;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit the present resolution to the governing bodies of the appropriate specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations so that those bodies may take the measures necessary to implement it, and also requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

24. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventieth session.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 69/99:

In favour: Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Singapore, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

Abstaining: Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Micronesia, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States.

Puerto Rico

In accordance with the Special Committee's 2013 resolution, concerning the self-determination and

independence of Puerto Rico [YUN 2013, p. 549], the Special Committee's Rapporteur, in a March report [A/AC.109/2014/L.13], provided information on Puerto Rico, including recent political, economic, military and regional developments, as well as UN action. Following its usual practice, the Committee acceded to requests for hearings from representatives of a number of organizations, which presented their views on 23 June [A/AC.109/2014/SR.4,5]. The Committee adopted a decision by which it reaffirmed the inalienable right of the people of Puerto Rico to self-determination and independence; called on the United States to expedite a process allowing the Puerto Rican people to exercise that right; urged the United States to return the occupied land and installations on Vieques Island and in Ceiba to the people of Puerto Rico and to respect fundamental human rights; and requested the General Assembly to keep the question of Puerto Rico under review. The Rapporteur was requested to report on the resolution's implementation.

Territories under Review

Falkland Islands (Malvinas)

The Special Committee [A/69/23] considered the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) on 26 June [A/AC.109/2014/SR.7]. The Committee had before it a Secretariat working paper on the Territory [A/AC.109/2014/15] that addressed constitutional and political developments, economic and social conditions, mine clearance, participation in international organizations and arrangements, and the future status of the Territory. The Committee heard statements from two members of the Legislative Assembly of the Falkland Islands, the Foreign Minister of Argentina, and two other petitioners. The Committee adopted a draft resolution [A/AC.109/2014/L.7] requesting Argentina and the United Kingdom to consolidate the process of dialogue and cooperation by resuming negotiations aimed at a peaceful solution to the sovereignty dispute relating to the Territory.

Communications. The Secretary-General received a series of letters from Argentina and the United Kingdom concerning the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) [A/68/698, A/68/747, A/68/840, A/68/978, A/69/407]. The letters addressed the anniversary of the occupation of the Islands by the United Kingdom and that country's response; the question of sovereignty over the Islands and the surrounding maritime areas; and the conduct of military exercises by the United Kingdom from 14 to 27 April, including the firing of missiles from the Islands. By a 25 April note [A/68/856], Suriname transmitted to the Secretary-General the Declaration on the Question of the Malvinas Islands, adopted by the Seventh Ordinary Meeting of the Council of Heads of State and Government of the Union of South American Nations (Paramaribo, Suriname, 30 August).

On 29 December, the General Assembly decided that the agenda item pertaining to the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) remained for consideration during the resumed sixty-ninth (2015) session (**decision 69/554**).

Gibraltar

The Special Committee [A/69/23] considered the question of Gibraltar on 16 June [A/AC.109/2014/SR.3]. It had before it a Secretariat working paper [A/AC.109/2014/12] describing political developments and economic and social conditions in the Territory. The paper also presented the positions of the United Kingdom (the administering Power), Gibraltar and Spain concerning Gibraltar's future status. Spain, the Chief Minister of Gibraltar and the Self-Determination for Gibraltar Group made statements at the meeting.

On 5 December (**decision 69/523**), the General Assembly urged Spain and the United Kingdom, while listening to the legitimate interests and aspirations of Gibraltar, to reach, in the spirit of the 1984 Brussels Declaration [YUN 1984, p. 1075], a definitive solution to the question of Gibraltar in the light of the relevant resolutions of the Assembly and applicable principles, and in the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations. The Assembly took note of the desire of the United Kingdom to continue with the trilateral Forum for Dialogue on Gibraltar, and the position of Spain that the Forum no longer existed and should be replaced with a new mechanism for local cooperation in the interest of social well-being and regional economic development, in which the people of the Campo de Gibraltar and Gibraltar were represented.

Communication. In a 7 July letter [A/AC.109/2014/21] addressed to the Chair of the Special Committee, Spain stated that, during the 16 June meeting of the Special Committee, the representative of the Self-Determination for Gibraltar Group made inappropriate references to "corruption scandals" in Spain. Spain objected to matters within its domestic jurisdiction being raised in a public meeting of the United Nations. It also objected to the Group being allowed to participate in future meetings of the Special Committee.

New Caledonia

The Special Committee [A/69/23] considered the question of New Caledonia on 27 June [A/AC.109/2014/SR.9]. It had before it a Secretariat working paper [A/AC.109/2014/16 & Add.1] describing the political and socioeconomic conditions and developments in the Territory, and containing the report of the visiting mission of the Special Committee to New Caledonia (see below). Statements were made by France, Papua New Guinea and Nicaragua. Statements were

also made by the Leader of the Kanak and Socialist National Liberation Front (FLNKS) in the Congress of New Caledonia; the Secretary of the International Unit of FLNKS; and the Deputy Secretary-General, Office of the French High Commission in New Caledonia. Papua New Guinea, also on behalf of Fiji, introduced a draft resolution [A/AC.109/2014/L.12] which the Committee adopted without vote.

Visiting mission. On 20 February, the Special Committee decided to send a visiting mission to New Caledonia to gather information on the implementation of the 1998 Nouméa Accord on the Territory's future status [YUN 1998, p. 574] and take stock of preparations for the May provincial elections. The mission, composed of representatives from Ecuador, Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Sierra Leone, as well as three Secretariat staff, visited New Caledonia from 10 to 16 March [A/AC.109/2014/20/Rev.1]. It met with stakeholders in the Territory's three provinces and held discussions with representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry for Overseas Territories of the administering Power (France) in Paris from 17 to 18 March. The mission noted a lack of a unified interpretation of relevant provisions setting out the conditions for inclusion in the special electoral roll, including the 2007 constitutional amendment [YUN 2007, p. 623], which endorsed the "frozen" interpretation of the restricted electorate. It observed that the 1998 electoral roll had not been made available to the special administrative commissions until 2014. The mission considered the situation in New Caledonia to be fragile and stressed the importance of a dialogue among all stakeholders to find common ground and preserve peace. It also stressed the need to enhance the training of high-level executives for the public and private sectors, and urged the administering Power to develop reliable capacity-building programmes to enable New Caledonians to determine their future.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 5 December [meeting 64], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee [A/69/462], adopted **resolution 69/102** without vote [agenda item 59].

Question of New Caledonia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of New Caledonia,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2014 relating to New Caledonia,

Reaffirming the right of peoples to self-determination as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling its resolutions 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541(XV) of 15 December 1960,

Noting the importance of the positive measures being pursued in New Caledonia by the French authorities, in cooperation with all sectors of the population, to promote equitable political, economic and social development in the Territory, including measures in the area of environmental protection, in order to provide a framework for its peaceful progress to self-determination,

Noting also, in this context, the importance of continued dialogue among the parties involved in New Caledonia in the preparation of the act of self-determination of New Caledonia,

Recalling the report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples on the situation of Kanak people in New Caledonia, submitted to the Human Rights Council at its eighteenth session, held from 12 to 30 September and on 21 October 2011, following his visit to the Territory in February 2011,

Noting with satisfaction the intensification of contacts between New Caledonia and neighbouring countries of the South Pacific region, including through the hosting of New Caledonian delegates in the French diplomatic and consular missions in the region,

Recalling the conclusions of the eighteenth Melanesian Spearhead Group Leaders Summit held in Suva on 31 March 2011 and the recommendations for the annual monitoring and assessment of the Nouméa Accord,

Welcoming the exchange of letters between the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat and the Melanesian Spearhead Group secretariat on the sharing of information on New Caledonia,

Mindful that New Caledonia has entered the most seminal phase of the Nouméa Accord process, a period that requires continued close monitoring by the United Nations of the situation in the Territory in order to help the people of New Caledonia to exercise their right to self-determination in accordance with the objectives set out in the Charter and the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,

Welcoming the Charter of the Kanak people, common base of the fundamental values and principles of the Kanak civilization, which was proclaimed in April 2014 by the customary authorities, Great Chiefs, Chiefs, Presidents of District Councils and Presidents of the Clan Chiefs Councils, as the sole traditional custodians of the Kanak people of New Caledonia,

Welcoming also the dispatch of a United Nations visiting mission to New Caledonia in March 2014,

Having heard the statement of the Chair of the visiting mission,

Having examined the report of the United Nations visiting mission to New Caledonia,

Welcoming the cooperation of the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to New Caledonia and its readiness for and concurrence with the dispatching of the 2014 visiting mission,

Having heard the statement of the representative of the administering Power,

Acknowledging the successful conduct by New Caledonia of municipal and provincial elections in May 2014,

Taking note of the information presented to the Pacific regional seminar on the implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: accelerating action, held in Nadi, Fiji, from 21 to 23 May

2014, on the situation in the Territory, including on the issues related to the 2014 elections,

Aware of the challenges encountered in the 2014 provincial electoral process, particularly with regard to the work of the special administrative committees in updating the special electoral roll, the non-existence of the supplementary electoral roll from 1998 and the unavailability of the 1998 general electoral roll prior to 2014, and their potential impact on the referendum on self-determination,

1. *Approves* the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2014 relating to New Caledonia;

2. *Also approves* the report, observations, conclusions and suggested recommendations of the United Nations visiting mission to New Caledonia conducted in 2014;

3. *Expresses its appreciation* to the administering Power and the Government of New Caledonia for the close cooperation and assistance extended to the visiting mission;

4. *Notes* the concerns expressed regarding the challenges encountered in the provincial elections process with respect to the persistent varying interpretations of the restricted electorate provisions and the voter registration appeal process, and encourages the administering Power and the people of New Caledonia to address in an amicable manner the concerns of all stakeholders under the existing relevant laws in the Territory and in France, while also respecting and upholding the spirit and letter of the Nouméa Accord;

5. *Expresses the view* that adequate measures for conducting the upcoming consultations on access to full sovereignty, including a just, fair and transparent electoral roll, as provided in the Nouméa Accord, are essential for the conduct of a free and genuine act of self-determination consistent with United Nations principles and practices;

6. *Calls upon* France, the administering Power, in the light of the observations, conclusions and suggested recommendations of the visiting mission, to consider developing an education programme to inform the people of New Caledonia about the nature of self-determination so that they may be better prepared to face a future decision on the matter, and requests the Special Committee to provide all available assistance in that regard;

7. *Commends* the observations, conclusions and suggested recommendations of the visiting mission to the Government of France, as the administering Power, and the Government of New Caledonia for appropriate action;

8. *Urges* all the parties involved, in the interest of the people of New Caledonia and within the framework of the Nouméa Accord, to maintain their dialogue in a spirit of harmony in order to continue to promote a framework for the peaceful progress of the Territory towards an act of self-determination in which all options are open and which would safeguard the rights of all sectors of the population, based on the principle that it is for the populations of New Caledonia to choose how to determine their destiny;

9. *Notes* that, at its eleventh meeting, held on 11 October 2013, the Committee of Signatories of the Nouméa Accord, inter alia:

(a) Examined the transfer of powers undertaken in 2013 and conducted an initial review of the work of the interministerial standing committee responsible for supporting the transfer of powers under way or completed;

(b) Considered proposed amendments to the Organic Law of 19 March 1999 relating to New Caledonia and a draft law containing various provisions related to overseas territories, including several measures concerning New Caledonia;

(c) Considered the work of the steering committee to assess progress under the Nouméa Accord, welcomed the outcome of the working group established in 2013, and called for its continuation;

(d) Took note of the discussion paper presented by the mission responsible for considering the institutional future of New Caledonia, and agreed that it could be used as a basis for work and debate with a view to preparing for the referendum prescribed by the Nouméa Accord and that it should be widely disseminated;

(e) Discussed the conditions under which preparations would be made for the referendum after the provincial elections in 2014 with the assistance of France, if requested;

(f) Noted the status of the discussions on nickel markets and activities undertaken within the framework of the Conference of Presidents, and reiterated the need to build a coherent, long-term industrial strategic framework, with the participation of all stakeholders, in order to ensure the sustainable future development of mining and metallurgical activities and to maximize their socioeconomic benefits;

(g) Noted with satisfaction the work accomplished by the special congressional commission responsible for adopting a flag that expresses both the Kanak identity and the future to be shared by all;

(h) Examined the work carried out for the establishment of structured mechanisms for the advancement of New Caledonians in the civil service, particularly the sovereign civil service;

10. *Reaffirms* its resolution 68/87 of 11 December 2013, in which the General Assembly, inter alia, reaffirmed that, in the absence of a decision by the Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 e of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

11. *Notes* the continuing concerns expressed by the Kanak people regarding their underrepresentation in governmental and social structures, incessant migratory flows and the impact of mining on the environment;

12. *Commends* the “Cadres for the future” programme, and encourages further enhancement of the training and capacity-building of high-level executives in the public and private sectors in the Territory, particularly in view of the ongoing transfer of powers from the Government of France to New Caledonia, while ensuring that the transfer of powers is undertaken in a manner consistent with the Nouméa Accord;

13. *Recalls* the observations and recommendations contained in the report of the Special Rapporteur on the rights of indigenous peoples on the situation of Kanak people in New Caledonia, made in the light of relevant international standards, to assist with ongoing efforts to advance the rights of the Kanak people in the context of the implementation of the Nouméa Accord and the United Nations-supported decolonization process;

14. *Welcomes* the strengthening of the economic and social rebalancing initiatives undertaken by the administering Power, and urges its continuation in all areas and

communities of the Territory, especially of the well-being of the Kanak indigenous people;

15. *Encourages* the administering Power, with the cooperation of the Government of New Caledonia, to ensure and enhance safeguards for and guarantees of the inalienable right of the people of the Territory to own, access, use and manage their natural resources, including proprietary rights for their future development;

16. *Recalls* the relevant provisions of the Nouméa Accord to the effect that New Caledonia may become a member or associate member of certain international organizations, and notes the continuing strengthening of ties between New Caledonia and both the European Union and the European Development Fund;

17. *Welcomes* the accession of the Front de libération nationale kanak socialiste to the Chair of the Melanesian Spearhead Group, the hosting, for the first time in New Caledonia, in June 2013, of the meetings of officials and leaders of the Group and the opening, in February 2013, of the Front de libération nationale kanak socialiste unit at the headquarters of the Group secretariat in Port Vila;

18. *Acknowledges* the contribution of the Jean-Marie Tjibaou Cultural Centre to the protection of the indigenous Kanak culture of New Caledonia;

19. *Welcomes* the cooperative attitude of other States and Territories in the region towards New Caledonia, its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

20. *Takes note* of the information shared by participants from New Caledonia at the Pacific regional seminar on the implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: accelerating action held in Nadi, from 21 to 23 May 2014, including on measured progress made in the social, economic, political and environmental spheres and more focused efforts, particularly on the rebalancing initiatives and electoral roll concerns, necessary for the long-term shared mutual benefit of all New Caledonians, and urges the administering Power and the Government of New Caledonia to devote appropriate attention to addressing these issues;

21. *Welcomes* the peaceful conduct of provincial elections in New Caledonia on 11 May 2014, the preceding municipal elections and the subsequent ongoing efforts to form a new Government of New Caledonia, and encourages constructive engagement by all stakeholders in further developing New Caledonia for all, including by respecting and upholding the Nouméa Accord;

22. *Also welcomes* the actions taken by the administering Power to continue to transmit to the Secretary-General information as required under Article 73 *e* of the Charter, particularly the submissions on 4 February and 15 May 2014 on the most recent developments in New Caledonia;

23. *Notes* the agreement between the signatories to the Nouméa Accord that the progress made in the emancipation process shall be brought to the attention of the United Nations;

24. *Decides* to keep under continuous review the process unfolding in New Caledonia as a result of the signing of the Nouméa Accord;

25. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue the examination of the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of New Caledonia and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventieth session.

French Polynesia

The Special Committee [A/69/23] considered the question of French Polynesia on 27 June [A/AC.109/2014/SR.9]. It had before it a Secretariat working paper [A/AC.109/2014/19] that contained information on political developments and economic and social conditions in the Territory. Saint Lucia, Sierra Leone and two representatives of the Union pour la démocratie made statements. The Committee adopted a draft resolution [A/AC.109/2014/L.16] and recommended it for adoption by the General Assembly.

Report of Secretary-General. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/93 [YUN 2013, p. 550], the Secretary-General submitted a July report [A/69/189] on the environmental, ecological, health and other impacts of the 30-year period of nuclear testing in French Polynesia. In April, the Secretary-General invited 22 specialized agencies and other international organizations to submit information on the impacts of nuclear testing in the Territory. Responses were received from eight UN entities. Information submitted by the International Atomic Energy Agency and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights was set out in the report.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 5 December [meeting 64], the General Assembly adopted **resolution 69/103** [draft: A/69/462] without vote [agenda item 59].

Question of French Polynesia

The General Assembly,

Having considered the question of French Polynesia,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2014 relating to French Polynesia,

Reaffirming the right of peoples to self-determination, as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and in accordance with all relevant resolutions, including General Assembly resolutions 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541(XV) of 15 December 1960,

Recalling its resolution 67/265 of 17 May 2013, entitled “Self-determination of French Polynesia”, in which it affirmed the inalienable right of the people of French Polynesia to self-determination and independence in accordance with Chapter XI of the Charter and its resolution 1514(XV), recognized that French Polynesia remains a Non-Self-Governing Territory within the meaning of the Charter, and declared that an obligation exists under Article 73 *e* of the Charter on the part of the Government of France, as the administering Power of the Territory, to transmit information on French Polynesia,

Taking note of the section related to French Polynesia of the Final Document of the Seventeenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries held in Algiers from 26 to 29 May 2014,

Expressing concern that 54 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial

Countries and Peoples, there still remain a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned, on a case-by-case basis and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514(XV), 1541(XV) and other relevant resolutions of the Assembly,

Recognizing also that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the peoples of the Territories require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, on a case-by-case basis,

Conscious of the responsibility of the administering Power to ensure the full and speedy implementation of the Declaration in respect of French Polynesia,

Mindful that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the peoples of the Territories and to fulfil its mandate effectively, on a case-by-case basis, it is important for it to be apprised by the administering Powers and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territories, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the people of the Territories,

Recognizing the significant health and environmental impacts of nuclear testing conducted by the administering Power in the Territory over a 30-year period, and recognizing also the concerns in the Territory related to the consequences of those activities for the lives and health of the people, especially children and vulnerable groups, as well as the environment of the region, and bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 68/73 of 11 December 2013, entitled "Effects of atomic radiation",

Recognizing also the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the peoples of the Territories in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the people of French Polynesia to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514(XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the people of French Polynesia to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection calls upon the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territory in order to foster an awareness among the people of French Polynesia of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541(XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

3. *Calls upon* the administering Power to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration

and in order to advise the Special Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in French Polynesia, and encourages the administering Power to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territory;

4. *Regrets* that the administering Power has not responded to the request to submit information on French Polynesia under article 73 *e* of the Charter;

5. *Reaffirms* that an obligation exists on the part of the administering Power to transmit information under Chapter XI of the Charter, and requests the administering Power to transmit to the Secretary-General such information on French Polynesia as called for under the Charter;

6. *Calls upon* the administering Power to intensify its dialogue with French Polynesia in order to facilitate rapid progress towards a fair and effective self-determination process, under which the terms and timelines for an act of self-determination would be agreed;

7. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the environmental, ecological, health and other impacts of the 30-year period of nuclear testing in French Polynesia, prepared pursuant to paragraph 5 of General Assembly resolution 68/93 of 11 December 2013;

8. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of French Polynesia and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventieth session.

Tokelau

The Special Committee [A/69/23], at its 24 and 27 June meetings [A/AC.109/2014/SR.6, 9], considered the question of Tokelau (the three small atolls of Nukunono, Fakaofu and Atafu in the South Pacific) administered by New Zealand. Before it was a Secretariat working paper [A/AC.109/2014/2] covering constitutional and political developments, external relations and economic and social conditions in the Territory, and presenting the positions of New Zealand and Tokelau on the Territory's future status. Statements were made by the Ulu-o-Tokelau (titular head of the Territory's government, a position rotated annually among the three leaders of each atoll) and the Administrator of Tokelau. Statements were also made by Papua New Guinea, Sierra Leone, Fiji and New Zealand. The Special Committee adopted a draft resolution [A/AC.109/2014/L.15], which was recommended to the General Assembly for adoption.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 5 December [meeting 64], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee [A/69/462], adopted **resolution 69/104** without vote [agenda item 59].

Question of Tokelau

The General Assembly,
Having considered the question of Tokelau,
Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the

Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2014 relating to Tokelau,

Recalling its resolution 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to Non-Self-Governing Territories, in particular General Assembly resolution 68/94 of 11 December 2013,

Noting with appreciation the continuing exemplary cooperation of New Zealand as the administering Power with regard to the work of the Special Committee relating to Tokelau and its readiness to permit access by United Nations visiting missions to the Territory,

Noting with appreciation also the collaborative contribution to the development of Tokelau by New Zealand and the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme,

Noting that, as a small island Territory, Tokelau exemplifies the situation of most remaining Non-Self-Governing Territories and that, as a case study pointing to successful cooperation for decolonization, Tokelau has wider significance for the United Nations as it seeks to complete its work in decolonization,

Noting also the status of Tokelau as an associate member of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations,

Recalling that New Zealand and Tokelau signed on 21 November 2003 a document entitled “Joint statement of the principles of partnership”, which sets out the rights and responsibilities of the two partners,

Bearing in mind the decision of the General Fono at its meeting in November 2003, following extensive consultations undertaken in all three villages, to explore formally with New Zealand the option of self-government in free association and its decision in August 2005 to hold in February 2006 a referendum on self-determination on the basis of a draft constitution for Tokelau and a draft treaty of free association with New Zealand, and its subsequent decision to hold a further referendum in October 2007, and that the two referendums did not produce the two-thirds majority of the valid votes cast required by the General Fono to change the status of Tokelau from that of a Non-Self-Governing Territory under the administration of New Zealand,

Noting the holding of free and fair elections in the Territory in January 2014,

Noting also the 2013 constitutional consultations, to be further considered by the Constitution Committee, which were driven by the people of Tokelau and which aimed at developing a model of government structure that is culturally appropriate and sensitive to their current situation, culminating in the approval and ratification of the national symbol of the Territory, along with the constitution, national anthem and national flag,

Bearing in mind the statement made by the Ulu-o-Tokelau at the Pacific regional seminar on the implementation of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism: accelerating action, held in Nadi, Fiji, from 21 to 23 May 2014, that the self-determination process of the Territory could not be addressed in isolation from the threat of climate change and the rise in sea level, and also bear-

ing in mind the intention of Tokelau to further review the National Strategic Plan in order to determine development and other priorities beyond 2015, including consideration of the issue of self-determination and how it would address a possible referendum on self-determination in cooperation with the administering Power,

Cognizant of the statement made at the seminar by the representative of the Government of New Zealand, as the administering Power, citing the close and cordial cooperation that has existed for nearly 90 years between the Territory and the administering Power, with an emphasis on quality health care and education, telecommunications, renewable energy, support for the fisheries sector and the establishment of transport infrastructure and services, including the ongoing construction of a new purpose-built ferry vessel for the people of Tokelau, to be delivered in 2015,

1. *Acknowledges* the decision of the General Fono in 2008 that consideration of any future act of self-determination by Tokelau will be deferred and that New Zealand and Tokelau will devote renewed effort and attention to ensuring that essential services and infrastructure on the atolls of Tokelau are enhanced and strengthened, thereby ensuring an enhanced quality of life and opportunities for the people of Tokelau;

2. *Welcomes* the progress made towards the devolution of power to the three taupulega (village councils) since 2004, and notes that further discussion is planned on the recommendations of the report on the devolution review, compiled in 2012;

3. *Notes* that Tokelau and New Zealand remain firmly committed to the ongoing development of Tokelau for the long-term benefit of the people of Tokelau, with particular emphasis on the further development of facilities on each atoll that meet their current requirements;

4. *Recalls* the adoption by Tokelau of its National Strategic Plan for 2010–2015 and that the Joint Commitment for Development between Tokelau and New Zealand 2011–2015 prioritizes four main development pillars, including good governance, infrastructure development, human resources capacity development and sustainable development;

5. *Acknowledges* the ongoing and consistent commitment of New Zealand to meeting the social and economic requirements of the people of Tokelau, including the completion of the Tokelau Renewable Energy Project and a new shipping charter service, as well as the support and cooperation of the United Nations Development Programme and the World Health Organization;

6. *Commends* the achievement by Tokelau in 2013 of 60 per cent of the objectives of its National Strategic Plan, including the completion of the Tokelau Renewable Energy Project with the support of the administering Power and the granting of the Renewable Energy Award to the Government of Tokelau by the New Zealand Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority;

7. *Acknowledges* the need of Tokelau for continued support from the international community and its desire to become part of the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda, the impacts of climate change and the protection of the environment and oceans;

8. *Notes* the intention of Tokelau to further review its National Strategic Plan in order to determine development and other priorities beyond 2015 and include consideration

of the issue of self-determination and how the Territory would address a possible referendum on self-determination in cooperation with the administering Power;

9. *Recalls with satisfaction* the establishment and operation of the Tokelau International Trust Fund to support the ongoing needs of Tokelau, and calls upon Member States and international and regional agencies to contribute to the Fund and thereby lend practical support to Tokelau in overcoming the problems of smallness, isolation and lack of resources;

10. *Welcomes* the cooperative attitude of the other States and territories in the region towards Tokelau and their support for its economic and political aspirations and its increasing participation in regional and international affairs;

11. *Calls upon* the administering Power and United Nations agencies to continue to provide assistance to Tokelau as it further develops;

12. *Welcomes* the positive actions taken by the administering Power to transmit to the Secretary-General under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations information regarding the political, economic and social situation of Tokelau;

13. *Also welcomes* the commitment of both Tokelau and New Zealand to continue to work together in the interests of Tokelau and its people;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territory of Tokelau and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventieth session.

Western Sahara

The Special Committee [A/69/23] considered the question of Western Sahara on 16 June [A/AC.109/2014/SR.3]. The Committee had before it a Secretariat working paper [A/AC.109/2014/1] that described the Secretary-General's good offices with the parties concerned and actions taken by the General Assembly and the Security Council (see p. 000). The Committee heard a statement from a representative of the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguía el-Hamra y de Río de Oro (Frente Polisario).

The Special Committee transmitted the relevant documentation to the General Assembly to facilitate the Fourth Committee's consideration of the question, subject to the directives that the Assembly might give to its sixty-ninth (2014) session. In April [S/2014/258], the Secretary-General submitted to the Security Council his report on the situation concerning Western Sahara, which covered the period from 1 July 2013 to 30 June 2014. In August [A/69/344], the Secretary-General submitted to the Assembly his report on the question of Western Sahara, which summarized his April report.

By **resolution 69/101** of 5 December (see p. 000), the General Assembly expressed its support for the process of negotiations initiated by the Security

Council in 2007, with a view to achieving a political solution that would provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara; called on the parties to cooperate with the International Committee of the Red Cross and to abide by their obligations under international humanitarian law; and requested the Special Committee to continue to consider the situation in Western Sahara and to report to the Assembly's seventieth (2015) session.

Island Territories

On 24 June [A/AC.109/2014/SR.6], the Special Committee [A/69/23] considered working papers on American Samoa [A/AC.109/2014/13], Anguilla [A/AC.109/2014/3], Bermuda [A/AC.109/2014/5], the British Virgin Islands [A/AC.109/2014/6], the Cayman Islands [A/AC.109/2014/8], Guam [A/AC.109/2014/14], Montserrat [A/AC.109/2014/10], Pitcairn [A/AC.109/2014/4], Saint Helena [A/AC.109/2014/7], the Turks and Caicos Islands [A/AC.109/2014/9] and the United States Virgin Islands [A/AC.109/2014/11], describing political developments and economic and social conditions in each of the those 11 island Territories. The United Kingdom and the United States—the administering Powers concerned—did not participate in the Committee's consideration of the Territories under their administration. The Committee adopted a draft resolution [A/AC.109/2014/L.8] and recommended it for adoption by the General Assembly.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 5 December [meeting 64], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee [A/69/462], adopted **resolutions 69/105 A and B** without vote [agenda item 59].

Questions of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands

A

GENERAL

The General Assembly,

Having considered the questions of the Non-Self-Governing Territories of American Samoa, Anguilla, Bermuda, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Guam, Montserrat, Pitcairn, Saint Helena, the Turks and Caicos Islands and the United States Virgin Islands, hereinafter referred to as "the Territories",

Having examined the relevant chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2014,

Recalling all resolutions and decisions of the United Nations relating to those Territories, including, in particular, the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session on the individual Territories covered by the present resolutions,

Recognizing that all available options for self-determination of the Territories are valid as long as they are in accordance with the freely expressed wishes of the peoples concerned and in conformity with the clearly defined principles contained in General Assembly resolutions 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960, 1541(XV) of 15 December 1960 and other resolutions of the Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1541(XV), containing the principles that should guide Member States in determining whether or not an obligation exists to transmit the information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

Expressing concern that 54 years after the adoption of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, there still remain a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Conscious of the importance of continuing effective implementation of the Declaration, taking into account the target set by the United Nations to eradicate colonialism by 2020 and the plans of action for the Second and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Recognizing that the specific characteristics and the aspirations of the peoples of the Territories require flexible, practical and innovative approaches to the options for self-determination, without any prejudice to territorial size, geographical location, size of population or natural resources,

Noting the stated position of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the stated position of the Government of the United States of America on the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration,

Noting also the constitutional developments in some Non-Self-Governing Territories affecting the internal structure of governance about which the Special Committee has received information,

Convinced that the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories should continue to guide the development of their future political status and that referendums, free and fair elections and other forms of popular consultation play an important role in ascertaining the wishes and aspirations of the people,

Convinced also that any negotiations to determine the status of a Territory must take place with the active involvement and participation of the people of that Territory, under the auspices of the United Nations, on a case-by-case basis, and that the views of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in respect of their right to self-determination should be ascertained,

Noting that a number of Non-Self-Governing Territories have expressed concern at the procedure followed by some administering Powers, contrary to the wishes of the Territories themselves, of amending or enacting legislation for application to the Territories, either through orders in council, in order to apply to the Territories the international treaty obligations of the administering Power, or through the unilateral application of laws and regulations,

Aware of the importance of the international financial services and tourism sectors for the economies of some of the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Noting the continued cooperation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories at the local and regional levels, including participation in the work of regional organizations,

Mindful that United Nations visiting and special missions provide an effective means of ascertaining the

situation in the Territories, that some Territories have not received a United Nations visiting mission for a long time and that no visiting missions have been sent to some of the Territories, and considering the possibility of sending further visiting missions to the Territories at an appropriate time, in consultation with the relevant administering Powers and in accordance with the relevant resolutions and decisions of the United Nations on decolonization,

Mindful also that, in order for the Special Committee to enhance its understanding of the political status of the peoples of the Territories and to fulfil its mandate effectively, it is important for it to be apprised by the relevant administering Powers and to receive information from other appropriate sources, including the representatives of the Territories, concerning the wishes and aspirations of the peoples of the Territories,

Acknowledging the regular transmission by the administering Powers to the Secretary-General of information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter,

Aware of the importance both to the Territories and to the Special Committee of the participation of elected and appointed representatives of the Territories in the work of the Committee,

Recognizing the need for the Special Committee to ensure that the appropriate bodies of the United Nations actively pursue a public awareness campaign aimed at assisting the peoples of the Territories in gaining a better understanding of the options for self-determination,

Mindful, in that connection, that the holding of regional seminars in the Caribbean and Pacific regions and at Headquarters, with the active participation of representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, provides a helpful means for the Special Committee to fulfil its mandate and that the regional nature of the seminars, which alternate between the Caribbean and the Pacific, is a crucial element in the context of a United Nations programme for ascertaining the political status of the Territories,

Noting the stated positions of the representatives of the Non-Self-Governing Territories before the Special Committee and at its regional seminars,

Welcoming the 2014 Pacific regional seminar held by the Special Committee in Nadi, Fiji, from 21 to 23 May 2014, as a significant and forward-looking event, which enabled the participants to assess the progress made in the decolonization process and to review the existing working methods of the Committee and renew its momentum in implementing its historic task,

Recognizing the importance of the conclusions and recommendations adopted by the seminar, which are annexed to the report of the Special Committee and which outline the findings of the seminar, including, especially, the way forward for the decolonization process within the context of the proclamation by the General Assembly of the period 2011–2020 as the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation, and in that connection bearing in mind the applicability to the Territories of the programmes of action or outcome documents of all United Nations world conferences and special sessions of the General Assembly in the economic and social spheres,

Noting with appreciation the contribution to the development of some Territories by the specialized agencies

and other organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, as well as regional institutions such as the Caribbean Development Bank, the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States, the Pacific Islands Forum and the agencies of the Council of Regional Organizations in the Pacific,

Recalling the statement made by the representative of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Kingstown from 31 May to 2 June 2011 that all six Caribbean Non-Self-Governing Territories are active associate members of the Commission,

Aware that the Human Rights Committee, as part of its mandate under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, reviews the status of the self-determination process, including in small island Territories under examination by the Special Committee,

Recalling the ongoing efforts of the Special Committee in carrying out a critical review of its work with the aim of making appropriate and constructive recommendations and decisions to attain its objectives in accordance with its mandate,

Recognizing that the annual working papers prepared by the Secretariat on developments in each of the small Territories, as well as the substantive documentation and information furnished by experts, scholars, non-governmental organizations and other sources, have provided important inputs to update the present resolutions,

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General on the Second International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,

1. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514(XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

2. *Also reaffirms* that, in the process of decolonization, there is no alternative to the principle of self-determination, which is also a fundamental human right, as recognized under the relevant human rights conventions;

3. *Further reaffirms* that it is ultimately for the peoples of the Territories themselves to determine freely their future political status in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter, the Declaration and the relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, and in that connection reiterates its long-standing call for the administering Powers, in cooperation with the territorial Governments and appropriate bodies of the United Nations system, to develop political education programmes for the Territories in order to foster an awareness among the people of their right to self-determination in conformity with the legitimate political status options, based on the principles clearly defined in Assembly resolution 1541(XV) and other relevant resolutions and decisions;

4. *Stresses* the importance of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples being apprised of the views and wishes of the peoples of the Territories and enhancing its

understanding of their conditions, including the nature and scope of the existing political and constitutional arrangements between the Non-Self-Governing Territories and their respective administering Powers;

5. *Requests* the administering Powers to continue to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General information called for under Article 73 *e* of the Charter;

6. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to participate in and cooperate fully with the work of the Special Committee in order to implement the provisions of Article 73 *e* of the Charter and the Declaration and in order to advise the Committee on the implementation of the provisions under Article 73 *b* of the Charter on efforts to promote self-government in the Territories, and encourages the administering Powers to facilitate visiting and special missions to the Territories;

7. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the economic and social development and to preserve the cultural identity of the Territories, and, as a priority, to mitigate the effects of the current global financial crisis where possible, in consultation with the territorial Governments concerned, towards the strengthening and diversification of their respective economies;

8. *Requests* the Territories and the administering Powers to take all measures necessary to protect and conserve the environment of the Territories against any degradation, and once again requests the specialized agencies concerned to continue to monitor environmental conditions in the Territories and to provide assistance to those Territories, consistent with their prevailing rules of procedure;

9. *Welcomes* the participation of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in regional activities, including the work of regional organizations;

10. *Stresses* the importance of implementing the plans of action for the Second and Third International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism, in particular by expediting the application of the work programme for the decolonization of each Non-Self-Governing Territory, on a case-by-case basis, as well as by ensuring that periodic analyses are undertaken of the progress and extent of the implementation of the Declaration in each Territory, and that the working papers prepared by the Secretariat on each Territory should fully reflect developments in those Territories;

11. *Urges* Member States to contribute to the efforts of the United Nations to usher in a world free of colonialism within the context of the International Decades for the Eradication of Colonialism, and calls upon them to continue to give their full support to the Special Committee in its endeavours towards that noble goal;

12. *Stresses* the importance of the various constitutional exercises in the respective Territories administered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America, and led by the territorial Governments, designed to address internal constitutional structures within the present territorial arrangements, and decides to follow closely the developments concerning the future political status of those Territories;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report to the General Assembly on a regular basis on the implementation of decolonization resolutions adopted since the declaration of the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism;

14. *Reiterates its request* that the Human Rights Committee collaborate with the Special Committee, within the framework of its mandate on the right to self-determination as contained in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, with the aim of exchanging information, given that the Human Rights Committee is mandated to review the situation, including political and constitutional developments, in many of the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are within the purview of the Committee;

15. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to collaborate with the Economic and Social Council and its relevant subsidiary intergovernmental bodies, within the framework of their respective mandates, with the aim of exchanging information on developments in those Non-Self-Governing Territories which are reviewed by those bodies;

16. *Also requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine the question of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventieth session and on the implementation of the present resolutions.

B

INDIVIDUAL TERRITORIES

*The General Assembly,
Referring to resolution A above,*

I

American Samoa

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on American Samoa and other relevant information,

Taking note also of the statement made by the representative of the Governor of American Samoa at the Pacific regional seminar held in Nadi, Fiji, from 21 to 23 May 2014 that, while the Territory enjoyed a great deal of self-government, its current legal status was seen as an anachronism that exposed the Territory to situations beyond its control and needed to be remedied,

Noting the constitutional amendment, approved in 2014 and to be put to the vote at the end of the year, that would give the Fono, the Territory's legislature, the authority to override the Governor's veto,

Noting also, in that regard, the announcement of a voter education process ahead of the constitutional amendment poll,

Aware that, under United States law, the Secretary of the Interior has administrative jurisdiction over American Samoa,

Recalling the position of the administering Power and the statements made by representatives of American Samoa at regional seminars inviting the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to send a visiting mission to the Territory,

Aware of the work of the Future Political Status Study Commission, completed in 2006, the release of its report, with recommendations, in January 2007 and the creation of the American Samoa Constitutional Review Committee, as well as the holding in June 2010 of the Territory's fourth Constitutional Convention,

Noting, in that regard, that, in 2013, the Governor recalled the recommendation of the Future Political Status Study Commission that American Samoa continue as an unorganized and unincorporated Territory, and that a process of negotiation with the United States Congress for a permanent political status be initiated,

Acknowledging the indication by the territorial Government, including at the 2014 Pacific regional seminar, that the effects of certain federal laws on the economy of the Territory give serious cause for concern,

Aware that, in July 2012, the United States passed Public Law 112–149, which includes a provision to delay the minimum wage increases in American Samoa, as provided by United States Public Law 110–28, until September 2015,

Aware also that American Samoa continues to be the only United States Territory to receive financial assistance from the administering Power for the operations of the territorial Government,

1. *Welcomes* the work of the territorial Government with respect to moving forward on political status, local autonomy and self-governance issues with a view to making political and economic progress and in particular the announcement of a dialogue, to commence in 2015, among the people of American Samoa on the Territory's future political status;

2. *Expresses once again its appreciation* for the invitation extended in 2011 by the Governor of American Samoa to the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to send a visiting mission to the Territory, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the steps necessary to that end;

3. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning a public awareness programme, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter of the United Nations, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

4. *Calls upon* the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in the diversification and sustainability of the economy of the Territory and to address employment and cost-of-living issues;

II

Anguilla

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Anguilla and other relevant information,

Recalling the holding of the 2003 Caribbean regional seminar in Anguilla, hosted by the territorial Government and made possible by the administering Power, the first time that the seminar had been held in a Non-Self-Governing Territory,

Recalling also the statement made by the representative of Anguilla at the Pacific regional seminar held in Quito from 30 May to 1 June 2012 that the people of the Territory are concerned that they are being denied the full range of decolonization options under a drafting exercise that began in 2011,

Aware of the follow-up meeting, held after the 2012 Pacific regional seminar, between the Chair of the Special

Committee and the Chief Minister of Anguilla, who reiterated the urgent need for a visiting mission,

Noting the internal constitutional review process resumed by the territorial Government in 2006, the work of the Constitutional and Electoral Reform Commission, which prepared its report in August 2006, the holding of public and other consultative meetings in 2007 on proposed constitutional amendments to be presented to the administering Power, the decisions taken in 2008 and 2011 to set up a drafting team to prepare a new constitution and present it for public consultation in the Territory and the efforts undertaken in that regard in 2013 and 2014,

Noting also the participation of the Territory as a member in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council and an associate member in the Caribbean Community, the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

1. *Welcomes* the preparations made for a new constitution, and urges that constitutional discussions with the administering Power, including public consultations, be concluded as soon as possible;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory in its current efforts with regard to advancing the internal constitutional review exercise, if requested;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the previously expressed desire of the territorial Government for a visiting mission by the Special Committee, calls upon the administering Power to facilitate such a mission, if the territorial Government so desires, and requests the Chair of the Special Committee to take all the necessary steps to that end;

4. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public consultative outreach efforts consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

5. *Calls upon* the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in strengthening its commitments in the economic domain, including budgetary matters, with regional support as needed and appropriate;

6. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

III Bermuda

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Bermuda and other relevant information,

Aware of the statement made by the representative of Bermuda at the Pacific regional seminar held in Quito from 30 May to 1 June 2012,

Conscious of the different viewpoints of the political parties on the future status of the Territory, and noting the results of successive surveys by local media, according to which a majority of respondents did not wish to sever ties with the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the administering Power, and a minority was in favour of independence,

Recalling the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to Bermuda in 2005, at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering

Power, which provided information to the people of the Territory on the role of the United Nations in the process of self-determination, on the legitimate political status options as clearly defined in General Assembly resolution 1541(XV) of 15 December 1960 and on the experiences of other small States that have achieved a full measure of self-government,

Aware of serious concerns regarding good governance, transparency and accountability in the Territory, including with respect to external election campaign financing originating in a neighbouring country, which led the Premier to resign in May 2014 with a view to maintaining integrity and confidence in the political landscape,

Cognizant of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory and of Bermuda's associate membership in the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean,

1. *Stresses* the importance of the 2005 report of the Bermuda Independence Commission, which provides a thorough examination of the facts surrounding independence, and continues to regret that the plans for public meetings and the presentation of a Green Paper to the House of Assembly followed by a White Paper outlining the policy proposals for an independent Bermuda have so far not materialized;

2. *Underlines* the need further to strengthen good governance, transparency and accountability in government for the benefit of the Territory;

3. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public educational outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

4. *Welcomes* the active participation of Bermuda in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

IV British Virgin Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the British Virgin Islands and other relevant information,

Noting the statement made by the representative of the British Virgin Islands at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Quito from 28 to 30 May 2013 that while the Territory's relationship with the administering Power was stable and not problematic, it could be enhanced,

Aware of the negative impact of the global economic slowdown on the growth of the financial and tourism services sectors of the Territory,

Cognizant of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory and of the Territory's membership in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council,

1. *Recalls* the 2007 Constitution of the British Virgin Islands, and stresses the importance of continued discussions on constitutional matters, to accord greater responsibility to the territorial Government for the effective implementation of the Constitution and increased levels of education relating to constitutional matters;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach

efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

4. *Notes* the holding, in March 2014, of the meeting of the Inter-Virgin Islands Council between the Territory and the United States Virgin Islands;

V

Cayman Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Cayman Islands and other relevant information,

Conscious of the statement made by the representative of the territorial Government at the 2010 Pacific regional seminar held in Nouméa,

Aware of the work, in accordance with the 2009 Constitution, of the Constitutional Commission, which serves as an advisory body on constitutional matters,

Acknowledging that, in spite of the global economic downturn and unemployment issues, the financial services, tourism and construction sectors of the Territory reportedly grew in 2013,

Cognizant of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory and of the Territory's membership in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council,

1. *Recalls* the 2009 Constitution of the Cayman Islands, and stresses the importance of the work of the Constitutional Commission, including its work on human rights education;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public awareness outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

4. *Also welcomes* the efforts made by the territorial Government to continue to implement financial sector management policies, medical and sports tourism initiatives and unemployment alleviation programmes in various economic sectors;

VI

Guam

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Guam and other relevant information,

Noting the statement made by the representative of the Governor of Guam at the Pacific regional seminar held in Nadi, Fiji from 21 to 23 May 2014, presenting an update on the efforts of Guam towards decolonization and on the engagement of the Guam Commission on Decolonization for the Implementation and Exercise of Chamorro Self-Determination in reinforcing public awareness in order to address the limited and distorted understanding of decolonization,

Cognizant of the efforts made by the Guam Commission on Decolonization to promote in the Territory the holding of a plebiscite on self-determination, to populate the decolonization registry, as required by public law, to enhance the ability to expediently register those who have not yet been registered and to identify and secure territorial and federal resources for a self-determination education programme,

Aware that, under United States law, the relations between the territorial Government and the federal Government in all matters that are not the programme responsibility of another federal department or agency are under the general administrative supervision of the Secretary of the Interior,

Recalling that, in a referendum held in 1987, the registered and eligible voters of Guam endorsed a draft Guam Commonwealth Act that would establish a new framework for relations between the Territory and the administering Power, providing for a greater measure of internal self-government for Guam and recognition of the right of the Chamorro people of Guam to self-determination for the Territory,

Aware that negotiations between the administering Power and the territorial Government on the draft Guam Commonwealth Act ended in 1997 and that Guam has subsequently established a non-binding plebiscite process for a self-determination vote by the eligible Chamorro voters,

Cognizant of the importance of the administering Power continuing to implement its programme of transferring surplus federal land to the Government of Guam,

Noting that the people of the Territory have called for reform in the programme of the administering Power with respect to the thorough, unconditional and expeditious transfer of land property to the people of Guam,

Aware of the deep concern expressed by civil society and other parties regarding the potential social, cultural, economic and environmental impacts of the planned transfer of additional military personnel of the administering Power to the Territory,

Conscious that immigration into Guam has resulted in the indigenous Chamorros becoming a minority in their homeland,

1. *Welcomes* the convening of the Guam Commission on Decolonization for the Implementation and Exercise of Chamorro Self-Determination and its ongoing work on a self-determination vote, as well as its public education efforts;

2. *Calls once again upon* the administering Power to take into consideration the expressed will of the Chamorro people as supported by Guam voters in the referendum of 1987 and as subsequently provided for in Guam law regarding Chamorro self-determination efforts, encourages the administering Power and the territorial Government to enter into negotiations on the matter, and stresses the need for continued close monitoring of the overall situation in the Territory;

3. *Requests* the administering Power, in cooperation with the territorial Government, to continue to transfer land to the original landowners of the Territory, to continue to recognize and to respect the political rights and the cultural and ethnic identity of the Chamorro people of Guam and to take all measures necessary to address the concerns of the territorial Government with regard to the question of immigration;

4. *Also requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating public outreach efforts, including through the funding of the public education campaign, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested, and welcomes the recent outreach work by the territorial Government;

5. *Further requests* the administering Power to cooperate in establishing programmes for the sustainable development of the economic activities and enterprises of the Territory, noting the special role of the Chamorro people in the development of Guam;

VII

Montserrat

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Montserrat and other relevant information,

Noting with concern the continuing consequences of the 1995 volcanic eruption which led to the evacuation of three quarters of the population of the Territory to safe areas of the island and to areas outside the Territory and which continues to have enduring consequences for the economy of the island,

Acknowledging the continuing assistance provided to the Territory by States members of the Caribbean Community, in particular Antigua and Barbuda, which has offered safe refuge and access to educational and health facilities, as well as employment for thousands who have left the Territory,

Noting the continuing efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to deal with the consequences of the volcanic eruption,

Aware that Montserrat continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

Cognizant of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory and of the Territory's membership in the Caribbean Overseas Countries and Territories Council,

1. *Recalls* the 2011 Constitution of Montserrat and the work of the territorial Government with respect to moving forward to consolidate the gains provided for in the Constitution;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Welcomes* the Territory's participation in the 2012 inauguration of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States Assembly and in the work of that Organization and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

4. *Calls upon* the administering Power, the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system, as well as regional and other organizations, to continue to provide assistance to the Territory in alleviating the consequences of the volcanic eruption;

VIII

Pitcairn

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Pitcairn and other relevant information,

Taking into account the unique character of Pitcairn in terms of population, area and access,

Aware that the administering Power and the territorial Government have implemented a governance structure to strengthen administrative capacity in the Territory, based on consultations with the people of the Territory, and that Pitcairn continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

Cognizant that the administering Power and the territorial Government have developed a five-year strategic development plan that sets out the views and aspirations of the people of the Territory for the socioeconomic development of the Territory,

Aware of the assessment made in 2013 that the population of the Territory needs to be boosted if the Territory is to have a sustainable future and of the approval by the Pitcairn Island Council of an immigration policy designed to promote immigration and repopulation and bring people with the necessary skills and commitment to Pitcairn,

1. *Welcomes* all efforts by the administering Power and the territorial Government that would further devolve operational responsibilities to the Territory, with a view to gradually expanding self-government, including through training of local personnel;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Also requests* the administering Power to continue its assistance for the improvement of the economic, social, educational and other conditions of the population of the Territory and to continue its discussions with the territorial Government on how best to support socioeconomic and environmental security in Pitcairn, including concerning demographic matters;

4. *Welcomes* the work carried out on the preparation of the five-year strategic development plan for the island;

IX

Saint Helena

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on Saint Helena and other relevant information,

Recalling the statement made by the representative of Saint Helena at the Caribbean regional seminar held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, from 12 to 14 May 2009,

Taking into account the unique character of Saint Helena in terms of its population, geography and natural resources,

Noting the fact that, in January 2013, following a resolution passed in September 2012 by the Legislative Council to undertake minor adjustments to the 2009 Constitution of Saint Helena, a public consultation process was launched,

Aware that a consultative poll was held in March 2013, with the majority opting for no change to the Constitution, and that, for the first time, a general election based on one constituency was held in July 2013,

Cognizant that Saint Helena continues to receive budgetary aid from the administering Power for the operation of the territorial Government,

Aware of the efforts of the administering Power and the territorial Government to improve the socioeconomic conditions of the population of Saint Helena, in particular in the areas of employment and transport and communications infrastructure,

Noting the efforts of the Territory to address demands on its labour market, including through the Labour Market Strategy for the period 2012–2014, the Sustainable Economic Development Plan 2012/13–2021/22 and the new National Strategy for the Development of Statistics,

Noting also the importance of improving the infrastructure and accessibility of Saint Helena and, in that regard, the approval of the administering Power of the building of an airport on the island of Saint Helena,

1. *Stresses* the importance of the 2009 Constitution of the Territory and the further development of democratic and good governance;

2. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

3. *Requests* the administering Power and relevant international organizations to continue to support the efforts of the territorial Government to address the socioeconomic development challenges of the Territory;

X

Turks and Caicos Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the Turks and Caicos Islands and other relevant information,

Recalling the statement made by the representative of the Turks and Caicos Islands at the 2009 Caribbean regional seminar held in Frigate Bay, Saint Kitts and Nevis,

Recalling also the dispatch of the United Nations special mission to the Turks and Caicos Islands in 2006 at the request of the territorial Government and with the concurrence of the administering Power,

Aware of the 2002 report of the Constitutional Modernization Review Body, and acknowledging the 2006 Constitution of the Turks and Caicos Islands agreed upon between the administering Power and the elected territorial Government,

Noting the decision of the administering Power to suspend parts of the 2006 Constitution, the subsequent presentation of a draft constitution for public consultation in 2011 and the introduction of a new constitution for the Territory, as well as the election of a new territorial Government in 2012,

Aware that, in 2013, the Territory established the Constitutional Review Committee, which, following public consultations, is expected to formulate a document on constitutional matters for presentation to the administering Power,

Aware also that, in March 2014, the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community received an update on the situation in the Turks and Caicos Islands, which they will continue to monitor, and that they expressed their support for the full restoration of democracy in the Territory on terms driven by its people,

Acknowledging the impact that the global economic slowdown and other relevant developments have had on tourism and related real estate development, the mainstays of the economy of the Territory, including on construction output during 2012 and 2013, and noting that the Territory has begun a number of fresh economic development programmes,

1. *Expresses its support* for the full restoration of democracy in the Territory and the work of the Constitutional Review Committee in that regard, and notes the efforts of the administering Power to restore good governance, including through the introduction in 2011 of a new constitution and the holding of elections in November 2012, and sound financial management in the Territory;

2. *Notes* the positions and repeated calls of the Caribbean Community and the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries in support of a democratically elected territorial Government and of the full restoration of democracy in the Territory as decided by its people;

3. *Also notes* the continuing debate on constitutional reform within the Territory, and stresses the importance of participation by all groups and interested parties in the consultation process;

4. *Stresses* the importance of having in place in the Territory a constitution that reflects the aspirations and wishes of its people, based on the mechanisms for popular consultation;

5. *Requests* the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning public outreach efforts, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

6. *Welcomes* the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

7. *Also welcomes* the continuing efforts made by the territorial Government addressing the need for attention to be paid to the enhancement of socioeconomic development across the Territory, including through public-private consultative partnerships and small business development programmes;

XI

United States Virgin Islands

Taking note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat on the United States Virgin Islands and other relevant information,

Aware that, under United States law, the relations between the territorial Government and the federal Government in all matters that are not the programme responsibility of another federal department or agency are under the general administrative supervision of the Secretary of the Interior,

Aware also of the fifth attempt of the Territory to review the existing Revised Organic Act, which organizes its internal governance arrangements, as well as its requests to the administering Power and the United Nations system for assistance to its public education programme,

Cognizant that a draft constitution was proposed in 2009 and subsequently forwarded to the administering Power, which in 2010 requested the Territory to consider its objections to the draft constitution,

Cognizant also that the Fifth Revision Convention, established and convened in 2012, was mandated to ratify and approve the final revised draft constitution,

Noting the holding of elections in the Territory in November 2012,

Aware of the closing of the Hovensa plant, and noting the continuing negative impact on manufacturing and on the employment situation in the Territory,

Cognizant of the potential usefulness of regional ties for the development of a small island Territory,

1. Welcomes the proposal of a draft constitution emanating from the Territory in 2009, as a result of the work of the United States Virgin Islands Fifth Constitutional Convention, for review by the administering Power, and requests the administering Power to assist the territorial Government in achieving its political, economic and social goals, in particular the successful conclusion of the ongoing internal Constitutional Convention exercise;

2. Requests the administering Power to facilitate the process for approval of the proposed territorial constitution in the United States Congress and its implementation, once agreed upon in the Territory;

3. Also requests the administering Power to assist the Territory by facilitating its work concerning a public education programme, consistent with Article 73 *b* of the Charter, and in that regard, calls upon the relevant United Nations organizations to provide assistance to the Territory, if requested;

4. Expresses its concern regarding the continuing negative impact of the Hovensa plant closure;

5. Reiterates its call for the inclusion of the Territory in regional programmes of the United Nations Development Programme, consistent with the participation of other Non-Self-Governing Territories;

6. Welcomes the active participation of the Territory in the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;

7. Notes the holding, in March 2014, of the meeting of the Inter-Virgin Islands Council between the Territory and the British Virgin Islands.

Other issues

Economic and other activities affecting NSGTs

On 24 June [A/69/23], the Special Committee considered the issue of economic and other activities affecting the interests of the peoples of NSGTs and adopted draft resolution [A/AC.109/2014/L.11] for adoption by the General Assembly (see below).

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 5 December [meeting 64], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee [A/69/459], adopted **resolution 69/98** by recorded vote (175-2-2) [agenda item 56].

Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Having considered the item entitled “Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories”,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2014 relating to the item,

Recalling its resolution 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960, as well as all other relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, including, in particular, resolutions 46/181 of 19 December 1991, 55/146 of 8 December 2000 and 65/119 of 10 December 2010,

Reaffirming the solemn obligation of the administering Powers under the Charter of the United Nations to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the inhabitants of the Territories under their administration and to protect the human and natural resources of those Territories against abuses,

Reaffirming also that any economic or other activity that has a negative impact on the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and on the exercise of their right to self-determination in conformity with the Charter and General Assembly resolution 1514(XV) is contrary to the purposes and principles of the Charter,

Reaffirming further that the natural resources are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations,

Aware of the special circumstances of the geographical location, size and economic conditions of each Territory, and bearing in mind the need to promote the stability, diversification and strengthening of the economy of each Territory,

Conscious of the particular vulnerability of the small Territories to natural disasters and environmental degradation,

Conscious also that foreign economic investment, when undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes, could make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories and also to the exercise of their right to self-determination,

Concerned about any activities aimed at exploiting the natural and human resources of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to the detriment of the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolutions adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Pacific Islands Forum and the Caribbean Community,

1. Reaffirms the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with General Assembly resolution 1514(XV), containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, as well as their right to the enjoyment of their natural resources and their right to dispose of those resources in their best interest;

2. Affirms the value of foreign economic investment undertaken in collaboration with the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories and in accordance with their wishes in order to make a valid contribution to the socio-economic development of the Territories, especially during times of economic and financial crisis;

3. *Reaffirms* the responsibility of the administering Powers under the Charter to promote the political, economic, social and educational advancement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and reaffirms the legitimate rights of their peoples over their natural resources;

4. *Reaffirms its concern* about any activities aimed at the exploitation of the natural resources that are the heritage of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including the indigenous populations, in the Caribbean, the Pacific and other regions, and of their human resources, to the detriment of their interests, and in such a way as to deprive them of their right to dispose of those resources;

5. *Reaffirms* the need to avoid any economic and other activities that adversely affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

6. *Calls once again upon* all Governments that have not yet done so to take, in accordance with the relevant provisions of General Assembly resolution 2621(XXV) of 12 October 1970, legislative, administrative or other measures in respect of their nationals and the bodies corporate under their jurisdiction that own and operate enterprises in the Non-Self-Governing Territories that are detrimental to the interests of the inhabitants of those Territories, in order to put an end to such enterprises;

7. *Calls upon* the administering Powers to ensure that the exploitation of the marine and other natural resources in the Non-Self-Governing Territories under their administration is not in violation of the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, and does not adversely affect the interests of the peoples of those Territories;

8. *Invites* all Governments and organizations of the United Nations system to take all possible measures to ensure that the permanent sovereignty of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories over their natural resources is fully respected and safeguarded in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

9. *Urges* the administering Powers concerned to take effective measures to safeguard and guarantee the inalienable right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to their natural resources and to establish and maintain control over the future development of those resources, and requests the administering Powers to take all steps necessary to protect the property rights of the peoples of those Territories in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization;

10. *Calls upon* the administering Powers concerned to ensure that no discriminatory working conditions prevail in the Territories under their administration and to promote in each Territory a fair system of wages applicable to all the inhabitants without any discrimination;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue, through all means at his disposal, to inform world public opinion of any activity that affects the exercise of the right of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories to self-determination in conformity with the Charter and General Assembly resolution 1514(XV);

12. *Appeals* to trade unions and non-governmental organizations, as well as individuals, to continue their efforts to promote the economic well-being of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, and also appeals to the media to disseminate information about the developments in this regard;

13. *Decides* to follow the situation in the Non-Self-Governing Territories so as to ensure that all economic activities in those Territories are aimed at strengthening and diversifying their economies in the interest of their peoples, including the indigenous populations, and at promoting the economic and financial viability of those Territories;

14. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to examine this question and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventieth session.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 69/98:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Israel, United States.

Abstaining: France, United Kingdom.

Visiting missions

The Special Committee considered the question of sending visiting missions to NSGTS on 16 June [A/69/23]. It adopted a draft resolution [A/AC.109/2014/L.5/Rev.1], in which the Committee stressed the need to dispatch periodic visiting missions to facilitate the full implementation of the 1960 Declaration on decolonization, and called upon the administering Powers to facilitate such missions to the Territories under their administration. It requested the administering Powers to cooperate with the Committee in exploring the possibility of undertaking visiting or special missions in furtherance of the decolonization mandate of the General Assembly. The Committee

also requested its Chair to consult with the administering Powers concerned and report on the results.

Dissemination of information

On 16 June, the Special Committee [A/69/23] held consultations with representatives of the UN Departments of Political Affairs and of Public Information on the dissemination of information on decolonization. It also considered a report of the Secretary-General on the subject, covering the period from April 2013 to March 2014 [A/AC.109/2014/18], and adopted a draft resolution [A/AC.109/2014/L.4] for adoption by the General Assembly (see below).

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 5 December [meeting 64], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee [A/69/462], adopted **resolution 69/106** by recorded vote (173-3-1) [agenda item 59].

Dissemination of information on decolonization

The General Assembly,

Having examined the chapter of the report of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples for 2014 relating to the dissemination of information on decolonization and publicity for the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization,

Recalling its resolution 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960, containing the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, and other resolutions and decisions of the United Nations concerning the dissemination of information on decolonization, in particular General Assembly resolution 68/96 of 11 December 2013,

Recognizing the need for flexible, practical and innovative approaches towards reviewing the options of self-determination for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories with a view to implementing the plan of action for the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism,

Reiterating the importance of dissemination of information as an instrument for furthering the aims of the Declaration, and mindful of the role of world public opinion in effectively assisting the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories to achieve self-determination,

Recognizing the role played by the administering Powers in transmitting information to the Secretary-General in accordance with the terms of Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recognizing also the role of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat, through the United Nations information centres, in the dissemination of information at the regional level on the activities of the United Nations,

Recalling the issuance by the Department of Public Information, in consultation with the United Nations Development Programme, the specialized agencies and the Special Committee, of an information leaflet on assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Aware of the role of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization,

1. *Approves* the activities in the field of dissemination of information on decolonization undertaken by the Department of Public Information and the Department of Political Affairs of the Secretariat, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations on decolonization, and recalls with satisfaction the publication, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 61/129 of 14 December 2006, of the information leaflet on what the United Nations can do to assist Non-Self-Governing Territories, which was updated for the United Nations website on decolonization in May 2009, and encourages continued updating and wide dissemination of the information leaflet;

2. *Considers it important* to continue and expand its efforts to ensure the widest possible dissemination of information on decolonization, with particular emphasis on the options for self-determination available for the peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories, and, to this end requests the Department of Public Information, through the United Nations information centres in the relevant regions, to actively engage and seek new and innovative ways to disseminate material to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to further enhance the information provided on the United Nations decolonization website and to continue to include the full series of reports of the regional seminars on decolonization, the statements and scholarly papers presented at those seminars and links to the full series of reports of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples;

4. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts to update web-based information on the assistance programmes available to the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

5. *Requests* the Department of Political Affairs and the Department of Public Information to implement the recommendations of the Special Committee and to continue their efforts to take measures through all of the media available, including publications, radio and television, as well as the Internet, to give publicity to the work of the United Nations in the field of decolonization and, inter alia:

(a) To develop procedures to collect, prepare and disseminate, particularly to the Non-Self-Governing Territories, basic material on the issue of self-determination of the peoples of the Territories;

(b) To seek the full cooperation of the administering Powers in the discharge of the tasks referred to above;

(c) To explore further the idea of a programme of collaboration with the decolonization focal points of territorial Governments, particularly in the Pacific and Caribbean regions, to help to improve the exchange of information;

(d) To encourage the involvement of non-governmental organizations in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(e) To encourage the involvement of the Non-Self-Governing Territories in the dissemination of information on decolonization;

(f) To report to the Special Committee on measures taken in the implementation of the present resolution;

6. *Requests* all States, including the administering Powers, to accelerate the dissemination of information referred to in paragraph 2 above;

7. *Requests* the Special Committee to continue to examine this question and to report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 69/106:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: Israel, United Kingdom, United States.

Abstaining: France.

Information on Territories

In response to General Assembly resolution 68/87 [YUN 2013, p. 566], the Secretary-General, in March [A/69/69], submitted a report indicating the dates of transmittal of information from the administering Powers on economic, social and educational conditions in NSGTs for 2013, under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 5 December [meeting 64], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee [A/69/458], adopted **resolution 69/97** by recorded vote (174-0-4) [agenda item 55].

Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 1970(XVIII) of 16 December 1963, in which it requested the Special Committee on the Sit-

uation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to study the information transmitted to the Secretary-General in accordance with Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations and to take such information fully into account in examining the situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration, contained in General Assembly resolution 1514(XV) of 14 December 1960,

Recalling also its resolution 68/87 of 11 December 2013, in which it requested the Special Committee to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under resolution 1970(XVIII),

Stressing the importance of timely transmission by the administering Powers of adequate information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter, in particular in relation to the preparation by the Secretariat of the working papers on the Territories concerned,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General,

1. *Reaffirms* that, in the absence of a decision by the General Assembly itself that a Non-Self-Governing Territory has attained a full measure of self-government in terms of Chapter XI of the Charter of the United Nations, the administering Power concerned should continue to transmit information under Article 73 *e* of the Charter with respect to that Territory;

2. *Requests* the administering Powers concerned, in accordance with their Charter obligations, to transmit or continue to transmit regularly to the Secretary-General for information purposes, subject to such limitation as security and constitutional considerations may require, statistical and other information of a technical nature relating to economic, social and educational conditions in the Territories for which they are respectively responsible, as well as the fullest possible information on political and constitutional developments in the Territories concerned, including the constitution, legislative act or executive order providing for the government of the Territory and the constitutional relationship of the Territory to the administering Power, within a maximum period of six months following the expiration of the administrative year in those Territories;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure that adequate information is drawn from all available published sources in connection with the preparation of the working papers relating to the Territories concerned;

4. *Requests* the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to continue to discharge the functions entrusted to it under General Assembly resolution 1970(XVIII), in accordance with established procedures.

RECORDED VOTE ON RESOLUTION 69/97:

In favour: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea,

Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against: None.

Abstaining: France, Israel, United Kingdom, United States.

Study and training

In response to General Assembly resolution 68/90 [YUN 2013, p. 567], the Secretary-General, in March [A/69/67], submitted a report on replies from Member States related to scholarships and training facilities made available to the inhabitants of NSGTs during the period from 18 March 2013 to 5 March 2014. Replies were submitted by Argentina, Australia, Austria, India, New Zealand, Saudi Arabia and United Kingdom. Over the years, 61 Member States and one non-member State—the Holy See—had made such scholarships available.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 5 December [meeting 64], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee [A/69/461], adopted **resolution 69/100** without vote [agenda item 58].

Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 68/90 of 11 December 2013,

Having examined the report of the Secretary-General, prepared pursuant to its resolution 845(IX) of 22 November 1954,

Conscious of the importance of promoting the educational advancement of the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories,

Strongly convinced that the continuation and expansion of offers of scholarships is essential in order to meet the increasing need of students from Non-Self-Governing Territories for educational and training assistance, and considering that students in those Territories should be encouraged to avail themselves of such offers,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;
2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States that have made scholarships available to the inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories;
3. *Invites* all States to make or continue to make generous offers of study and training facilities to the inhabitants of those Territories that have not yet attained self-government or independence and, wherever possible, to provide travel funds to prospective students;
4. *Urges* the administering Powers to take effective measures to ensure the widespread and continuous dissemination in the Territories under their administration of information relating to offers of study and training facilities made by States and to provide all the facilities necessary to enable students to avail themselves of such offers;
5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session on the implementation of the present resolution;
6. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples to the present resolution.

Peaceful uses of outer space

The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, at its fifty-seventh session (Vienna, 11–20 June) [A/69/20], discussed ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes; space and sustainable development; the spin-off benefits of space technology; space and water; space and climate change; the use of space technology in the UN system; and the future role of the Committee. It also reviewed the work of its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and its Legal Subcommittee.

Scientific and Technical Subcommittee

The Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, at its fifty-first session (Vienna, 10–21 February) [A/AC.105/1065], considered the United Nations Programme on Space Applications and space technology for socioeconomic development in the context of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the post-2015 development agenda. It also dealt with matters relating to remote sensing of the Earth by satellite, including applications for developing countries and monitoring of the Earth's environment; space debris; space-system-based disaster management support; developments in global navigation satellite systems (GNSS); space weather; near-Earth objects; the use of nuclear power sources in outer space; the long-term sustainability of outer space activities; and the examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and its utilization and applications.

UN Programme on Space Applications

The United Nations Programme on Space Applications, as mandated by General Assembly resolution 37/90 [YUN 1982, p. 163], continued to promote, through international cooperation, the use of space technologies and data for sustainable economic and social development in developing countries by raising awareness of decision makers of the cost-effectiveness and additional benefits to be obtained; establishing and strengthening capacity in developing countries to use space technology; and strengthening outreach activities to disseminate awareness of the benefits obtained. The Programme focused on environmental monitoring, natural resource management, satellite communications for tele-education and telemedicine applications, disaster risk reduction, the use of GNSS, the Basic Space Science Initiative, space law, climate change, the Basic Space Technology Initiative, the Human Space Technology Initiative, and biodiversity and wildlife management.

In December [A/AC.105/1085], the United Nations Expert on Space Applications reported that the Programme continued to support education and training for capacity-building in developing countries through the regional centres for space science and technology education affiliated with the United Nations. The sixth Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Asia and the Pacific, hosted by Beihang University in Beijing, was formally inaugurated on 17 November. The Programme organized expert meetings, workshops and seminars on advanced space applications and space technology, as well as short- and medium-term training programs. In 2014, two symposiums [A/AC.105/1082, A/AC.105/1086], one international conference [A/AC.105/1073], three workshops [A/AC.105/1081, A/AC.105/1087, A/AC.105/1089] and one expert meeting [A/AC.105/1069] were conducted.

The Basic Space Science Initiative, launched in 1990 as a long-term effort for the development of astronomy and space science through regional and international cooperation in the field, led to the establishment of planetariums, astronomical telescopes and space weather instrument arrays, particularly in developing countries. In 2014, the Programme organized a symposium to consider the future of the Initiative. The Basic Space Technology Initiative, launched in 2009 to support capacity-building in space technology development focused particularly on small-satellite missions, continued to support space technology development through international conferences on capacity-building in basic space technology, the development of space technology curricula to ensure a common minimum standard of teaching, and a long-term educational fellowship programme. The Human Space Technology Initiative, launched in 2010 to promote international cooperation in spaceflight and space exploration-related activities, conducted its

primary science activity, the Zero-Gravity Instrument Project, and a fellowship programme called the Drop Tower Experiment Series.

The Scientific and Technical Subcommittee considered the January report of the United Nations Expert on Space Applications [A/AC.105/1062], which described the Programme's 2013 activities, those scheduled for 2014, and the activities of UN-affiliated regional centres for the 2012–2014 period.

The General Assembly, in resolution 69/85 of 5 December (see p. 000), endorsed the Programme on Space Applications for 2015, as proposed by the Expert and endorsed by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space.

Space technology for socioeconomic development

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 68/75 [YUN 2013, p. 572], the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee [A/AC.105/1065] considered the agenda item on space technology for socioeconomic development in the context of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development [YUN 2012, p. 780] and the post-2015 development agenda. The item was renamed from “Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III)” in 2013 [YUN 2013, p. 568]. Among the documents before the Subcommittee were a Secretariat note containing the progress report of the Open Working Group of the General Assembly on Sustainable Development Goals [A/AC.105/C.1/2014/CRP.23]; a conference room paper providing an update on recent developments in the context of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development and the post-2015 development agenda [A/AC.105/C.1/2014/CRP.21]; and a discussion paper submitted by Japan entitled “Draft proposed workplan for a mechanism of cooperative deliberation for ‘space and sustainable development’: bridging the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee” [A/AC.105/C.1/2014/CRP.22]. The Subcommittee's Working Group of the Whole agreed with the overall objective of the draft proposed workplan. On the basis of a proposal by Canada, the Working Group also agreed on the establishment of a focused expert group on space and global health to consider issues related to the use of space technology for public health.

The Committee [A/69/20] endorsed the recommendations and decisions on the item made by the Subcommittee and its Working Group of the Whole.

Scientific and technical issues

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 68/75, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee [A/AC.105/1065] considered matters relating to remote

sensing of the Earth by satellite, including applications for developing countries and monitoring of the Earth's environment. The Subcommittee noted the increased availability of space-based data at little or no cost, including remote sensing data, made available from the China-Brazil Earth resources satellites, the sac-c international mission, Landsat of the United States, the greenhouse gases observing satellites of Japan, oceansat-2 of India

and the Megha-Tropiques Indian-French joint satellite mission. A growing number of developing countries were deploying their own remote sensing satellite systems and utilizing space-based data to advance socioeconomic development. The Subcommittee also took note of the importance of data democracy policies in empowering users in developing countries so that they could make full use of remote sensing applications for the benefit of their own societies.

For its consideration of the issue of space debris, the Subcommittee had before it a report [A/AC.105/C.1/108] containing information from five Member States and three non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with permanent observer status with the Committee on research on space debris, the safety of space objects with nuclear power sources on board and problems relating to the collision of such space objects with space debris. The Subcommittee expressed concern over the increasing amount of space debris and encouraged States that had not yet done so to consider voluntary implementation of the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space [YUN 2007, p. 640]. It agreed that States, particularly spacefaring nations, should pay greater attention to the problem of collisions of space objects, including those with nuclear power sources on board. The Subcommittee noted that States had taken action to mitigate space debris, including the improvement of launch vehicles and spacecraft design.

For its review of developments in global navigation satellite systems (GNSS), the Subcommittee had before it the report on the United Nations/Croatia Workshop on the Applications of Global Navigation Satellite Systems (Baška, Croatia, 21–25 April 2013) [A/AC.105/1055]; a Secretariat note on the Eighth Meeting of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 9–14 November 2013) [A/AC.105/1059]; and the Secretariat report on activities conducted in the framework of the workplan of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems [A/AC.105/1060].

The following reports, issued in 2014 for consideration by the Subcommittee at its 2015 session, dealt with the Ninth Meeting of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (Prague, Czech Republic, 10–14 November 2014) [A/AC.105/1083]; the United Nations/Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics Work-

shop on the Use of Global Navigation Satellite Systems for Scientific Applications (Trieste, Italy, 1–5 December) [A/AC.105/1087]; and activities carried out in 2014 in the framework of the workplan of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems [A/AC.105/1084].

In accordance with resolution 68/75, the Subcommittee considered the agenda item on near-Earth objects (NEOs). The Subcommittee noted the importance of information-sharing in discovering, monitoring and physically characterizing potentially hazardous NEOs, and that effective responses for the mitigation of hazard threats from such objects were best carried out through international cooperation. It noted that the Action Team on Near-Earth Objects, in collaboration with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and the European Space Agency (ESA) organized two meetings in 2014 to establish an international asteroid warning network (IAWN) (Cambridge, United States, 13–14 January) and a space mission planning advisory group (SMPAG) (Darmstadt, Germany, 6–7 February). The Subcommittee further noted that the Action Team should continue to support the work of IAWN and SMPAG in the short term to facilitate their interaction with the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and Governments, intergovernmental organizations and NGOs that were not participating in those bodies.

The Subcommittee continued its consideration of the use of nuclear power sources in outer space. It encouraged States and international intergovernmental organizations to implement the Safety Framework for Nuclear Power Source Applications in Outer Space [YUN 2009, p. 605]. The Subcommittee reconvened the Working Group on the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space and endorsed its report, which was annexed to the Subcommittee's 2014 report.

For its consideration of the agenda item on the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, the Subcommittee had before it a Secretariat note [A/AC.105/1041/Rev.1] containing the compilation of draft guidelines proposed by expert groups as at the fifty-sixth (2013) session of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for consideration by the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities. The Subcommittee reconvened the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities and endorsed the Working Group's report, which was annexed to the Subcommittee's report.

In accordance with resolution 68/75, the Subcommittee considered the agenda item "Examination of the physical nature and technical attributes of the geostationary orbit and its utilization and applications, including in the field of space communications, as well as other questions relating to developments in space communications, taking particular account of the needs

and interests of developing countries, without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union". The Subcommittee had before it the annual report for 2013 of the Radiocommunication Bureau of the International Telecommunication Union on the use of the geostationary orbit and other orbits, as well as other documents referred to in a 3 February Secretariat note [A/AC.105/C.1/2014/CRP.9].

Space-system-based disaster management support

The Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its fifty-first session, had before it a report [A/AC.105/1057] on the activities carried out in 2013 in the framework of the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER), established by the General Assembly in resolution 61/110 [YUN 2006, p. 748]; a Secretariat report on technical advisory support activities carried out in 2013 in the framework of UN-SPIDER [A/AC.105/1056]; a report of the United Nations/Germany Expert Meeting on the Use of Space-based Information in Early Warning Systems (Bonn, Germany, 25–26 June 2013) [A/AC.105/1047]; and a report on the UN International Conference on Space-based Technologies for Disaster Management (Beijing, 23–25 October 2013) [A/AC.105/1061]. The Subcommittee heard technical presentations by representatives of China and India, as well as the International Society for Photogrammetry and the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs, and noted progress made regarding planned activities, including the support provided for emergency response efforts following Typhoon Bopha in Palau and the Philippines in 2012 [YUN 2012, p. 912], Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines in 2013 [YUN 2013, p. 879], and floods in Iraq. The fifth annual meeting of the UN-SPIDER regional support offices (Vienna, 13–14 February 2014) was hosted by the Office for Outer Space Affairs to review joint activities implemented in 2013, and to develop a joint workplan for 2014 and the 2014–2015 biennium. The Subcommittee noted the ongoing activities of Member States that were contributing to the use of space-based solutions in support of disaster management.

The following reports, issued in 2014 for consideration by the Subcommittee at its 2015 session, dealt with activities carried out in 2014 in the framework of UN-SPIDER [A/AC.105/1078]; the United Nations/Germany Expert Meeting on the Use of Space-based Information for Flood and Drought Risk Reduction (Bonn, Germany, 5–6 June 2014) [A/AC.105/1074]; the UN-SPIDER knowledge portal [A/AC.105/1075]; the United Nations International Conference on Space-based Technologies for Disaster Management: Multi-hazard Disaster Risk Assessment (Beijing, 15–17 September 2014) [A/AC.105/1076]; and joint activities carried out in 2014 by the UN-SPIDER regional support offices [A/AC.105/1079].

Space weather

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 68/75, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee considered the agenda item on space weather. It had before it the report on the United Nations/Austria Symposium on Space Weather Data, Instruments and Models: Looking Beyond the International Space Weather Initiative (Graz, Austria, 16–18 September 2013) [A/AC.105/1051]. The Subcommittee heard technical presentations by the representatives of Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Italy, Japan, and the United States, as well as the Scientific Committee on Solar-Terrestrial Physics. It noted that progress was made over the previous year in advancing space weather capabilities at the national and international levels. Space weather involved global phenomena driven by large solar eruptions that impacted large areas of the Earth simultaneously. It was therefore important to monitor and understand the drivers of space weather, as well as the impacts on Earth and in space. The Subcommittee further noted that new space missions and ground-based instrumentation would ultimately provide data that could improve space weather predictions.

Legal Subcommittee

The Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, at its fifty-third session (Vienna, 24 March–4 April) [A/AC.105/1067], considered the status and application of the five UN treaties on outer space (see below); information on the activities of international intergovernmental organizations and NGOs relating to space law; matters related to the definition and delimitation of outer space and the character and utilization of the geostationary orbit; national legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space; capacity-building in space law; review and possible revision of the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space; exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation measures; exchange of information on non-legally binding UN instruments on outer space; review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space; and proposals to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space for new items to be considered by the Legal Subcommittee at its fifty-fourth (2015) session.

The Subcommittee reconvened its Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space and its Working Group on the Definition and Delimitation of Outer Space, and it established the Working Group on the Review of International Mechanisms for Cooperation in the Peaceful Exploration and Use of Outer Space.

The reports of the Working Groups were endorsed by the Subcommittee and annexed to its report.

For its consideration of the agenda item on the activities of international intergovernmental organizations and NGOs relating to space law, the Subcommittee had before it a Secretariat note containing information received from the International Law Association (ILA) [A/AC.105/C.2/104] and a conference room paper containing information received from Intersputnik and the European Centre for Space Law [A/AC.105/C.2/2014/CRP.21]. The Subcommittee noted the contributions of international intergovernmental organizations and NGOs relating to the development and study of space law and agreed that such organizations should be invited to report to the Subcommittee at its fifty-fourth (2015) session on their activities related to space law.

In addressing matters related to the definition and delimitation of outer space and the character and utilization of the geostationary orbit, the Subcommittee had before it Secretariat notes on national legislation and practice relating to the definition and delimitation of outer space [A/AC.105/865/Add.14, 15]; replies from Member States on questions concerning the definition and delimitation of outer space [A/AC.105/889/Add.13, 14]; and questions on suborbital flights for scientific missions and/or for human transportation [A/AC.105/1039/Add.2, 3].

For its consideration of the item on national legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space, the Subcommittee had before it a Secretariat note on the schematic overview of national regulatory frameworks for space activities [A/AC.105/C.2/2014/CRP.5] and a conference room paper on the development of a system for legal regulation of space activities of the Russian Federation [A/AC.105/C.2/2014/CRP.14]. The Subcommittee noted the development of the African space policy, within the institutional framework of the African Union, which would guide the African presence in space-related endeavours. It was important to take into account the increased level of commercial and private activities in outer space in the development of a national space-related regulatory framework. The Subcommittee encouraged Member States to continue to submit texts of their national space laws and regulations and to provide updates and inputs for the schematic overview of national regulatory frameworks for space activities.

For its consideration of the agenda item on capacity-building in space law, the Subcommittee had before it several conference room papers on actions and initiatives adopted by States to build such capacity. The Subcommittee noted the completion of the education curriculum on space law and requested the Office for Outer Space Affairs to have it translated into all UN official languages to facilitate its use by the regional centres and developing countries.

The Subcommittee, in response to resolution 68/75, considered the agenda item on the general exchange of information and views on legal mechanisms relating to space debris mitigation measures. It had before it conference room papers containing a compendium of space debris mitigation standards adopted by States and international organizations, submitted by Canada, the Czech Republic and Germany [A/AC.105/C.2/2014/CRP.15], and a contribution to the compendium by the United States [A/AC.105/C.2/2014/CRP.15/Add.1]. The Subcommittee agreed that all Member States should be invited to contribute to the compendium.

For its consideration of the review of international mechanisms for cooperation in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space, the Subcommittee had before it a Secretariat note and addenda containing information received from four States and ILA [A/AC.105/C.2/105 & Add.1, 2].

Treaties

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 68/75 [YUN 2013, p. 572], the Legal Subcommittee considered the status and application of the five UN treaties on outer space. It had before it a document entitled “United Nations Treaties and Principles on Outer Space, related General Assembly resolutions and other documents” [ST/SPACE/61/Rev.1], and Secretariat notes containing questions provided by the chair of the Working Group on the Status and Application of the Five United Nations Treaties on Outer Space [A/AC.105/C.2/2014/CRP.16], responses to such questions received from Germany [A/AC.105/C.2/2014/CRP.17] and the Russian Federation [A/AC.105/C.2/2014/CRP.18 & Corr.1], and the contribution of Turkey to the Subcommittee’s fifty-third session [A/AC.105/C.2/2014/CRP.26].

The Subcommittee noted that, as at 1 January, the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies [YUN 1966, p. 41] had 103 States parties and had been signed by 25 additional States; the Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space [YUN 1967, p. 34] had 94 States parties and had been signed by 24 additional States; the Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects [YUN 1971, p. 52] had 91 States parties and had been signed by 22 additional States; the Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space [YUN 1974, p. 56] had 60 States parties and had been signed by 4 additional States; and the Agreement Governing the Activities of States on the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies [YUN 1979, p. 111] had 15 States parties and had been signed by 4 additional States.

UN system coordination

Report of Secretary-General. In response to General Assembly resolution 68/75 [YUN 2013, p. 572], the Secretary-General issued an April report [A/AC.105/1063] on the coordination of space-related activities within the UN system: directions and anticipated results for the period 2014–2015—addressing the post-2015 development agenda. The report provided information on the use of space-derived information to ensure environmental sustainability; promote inclusive social and economic development; and support sustainable development policies. It also described UN system efforts to build resilience through the streamlined use of space-derived information. The report identified goals that could be considered by Member States and UN entities to ensure that the potential benefits of space technology were harnessed to the fullest extent possible for the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda. The goals included enhancing awareness of the potential contribution of space-derived data and information for development; developing capacities for the discovery of, access to and processing and use of space-derived data and information; strengthening institutional frameworks to facilitate the use of remote sensing data and information; supporting standardization and updating of geospatial information; and promoting international cooperation for increased use of data and information for planning and decision-making processes.

Inter-Agency Meeting. The Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities, at its thirty-fourth session (New York, 13–14 May) [A/AC.105/1064] discussed the coordination of UN system plans and programs in the practical applications of space technology; the preparation of a special report on initiatives and applications for space-related inter-agency cooperation addressing global health; and means of strengthening further inter-agency coordination and cooperation in space-related activities.

The UN Office for Outer Space Affairs, as the secretariat of UN-Space (the abbreviation for the Inter-Agency Meeting recommended by the General Assembly in resolution 68/75), informed the Meeting about the work of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subsidiary bodies, bringing to its attention matters relating to inter-agency coordination. Representatives of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, the Office for Outer Space Affairs, in its capacity as executive secretariat of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems, and the United Nations Children's Fund, on behalf of the United Nations Operational Satellite Applications Programme of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, reported on their current activities. Meeting participants noted that the Secretary-General's April report

on the coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system for the period 2014–2015 (see above) constituted a valid basis for reviewing efforts addressing the post-2015 development agenda. They agreed that the next special report should address the theme of space for global health and be submitted to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in 2015. Participants also agreed that the Meeting's thirty-fifth (2015) session could be held in conjunction with a meeting of the United Nations Geographic Information Working Group, in view of the synergies between the two inter-agency coordination mechanisms.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 5 December [meeting 64], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee [A/69/452], adopted **resolution 69/85** without vote [agenda item 49].

International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 51/122 of 13 December 1996, 54/68 of 6 December 1999, 59/2 of 20 October 2004, 61/110 and 61/111 of 14 December 2006, 62/101 of 17 December 2007, 62/217 of 22 December 2007, 65/97 of 10 December 2010, 65/271 of 7 April 2011, 66/71 of 9 December 2011, 67/113 of 18 December 2012, 68/50 of 5 December 2013 and 68/74 and 68/75 of 11 December 2013,

Emphasizing the significant progress in the development of space science and technology and their applications that has enabled humans to explore the universe, and the extraordinary achievements made over the past 50 years in space exploration efforts, including deepening the understanding of the planetary system and the Sun and the Earth itself, in the use of space science and technology for the benefit of all humankind and in the development of the international legal regime governing space activities, and recognizing in that regard the unique platform at the global level for international cooperation in space activities represented by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subsidiary bodies and assisted by the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat,

Deeply convinced of the common interest of all humankind in promoting and expanding the exploration and use of outer space, as the province of all humankind, for peaceful purposes and in continuing efforts to extend to all States the benefits derived therefrom, and also of the importance of international cooperation in this field, for which the United Nations should continue to provide a focal point,

Reaffirming the importance of international cooperation in developing the rule of law, including the relevant norms of space law and their important role in international cooperation for the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, and of the widest possible adherence to international treaties that promote the peaceful uses of outer space in order to meet emerging new challenges, especially for developing countries,

Seriously concerned about the possibility of an arms race in outer space, and bearing in mind the importance of arti-

cle IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,

Recognizing that all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, should contribute actively to the prevention of an arms race in outer space with a view to promoting and strengthening international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Deeply concerned about the fragility of the space environment and the challenges to the long-term sustainability of outer space activities, in particular the impact of space debris which is an issue of concern to all nations,

Noting the progress achieved in the development of peaceful space exploration and applications as well as in various national and cooperative space projects, and the importance of further developing the legal framework to strengthen international cooperation in space,

Convinced that space science and technology and their applications, such as satellite communications, Earth observation systems and satellite navigation technologies, provide indispensable tools for viable long-term solutions for sustainable development and can contribute more effectively to efforts to promote the development of all countries and regions of the world, and stressing in that regard the need to harness the benefits of space technology towards implementing and monitoring the United Nations Millennium Declaration and contributing to the post-2015 development agenda process,

Seriously concerned about the devastating impact of disasters, and desirous of enhancing international coordination and cooperation at the global level in disaster management and emergency response through greater access to and use of space-based services and geospatial information for all countries and facilitating capacity-building and institutional strengthening for disaster management, in particular in developing countries,

Firmly convinced that the use of space science and technology and their applications in areas such as telehealth, tele-education, disaster management, environmental protection, natural resources management and climate monitoring contribute to achieving the objectives of the global conferences of the United Nations that address various aspects of economic, social and cultural development, particularly poverty eradication,

Deeply concerned about the devastating effects of infectious diseases, in particular Ebola virus disease, to the detriment of human life, society and development, and urging the international community, in particular scientific and academic institutions, to undertake studies on the role of tele-epidemiology in monitoring, preparedness and response activities,

Recalling, in that regard, the fact that the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, recognized the important role that space science and technology play in promoting sustainable development,

Having considered the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its fifty-seventh session,

1. *Endorses* the report of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work of its fifty-seventh session;

2. *Agrees* that the Committee, at its fifty-eighth session, should consider the substantive items recom-

mended at its fifty-seventh session, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

3. *Notes* that, at its fifty-third session, the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee continued its work, as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/75;

4. *Agrees* that the Legal Subcommittee, at its fifty-fourth session, should consider the substantive items and reconvene the working groups recommended by the Committee, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

5. *Urges* States that have not yet become parties to the international treaties governing the uses of outer Space to give consideration to ratifying or acceding to those treaties in accordance with their national law, as well as incorporating them into their national legislation;

6. *Notes with satisfaction* the conclusion by the Office for Outer Space Affairs of a space law curriculum, which could encourage further studies within States;

7. *Notes* that, at its fifty-first session, the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee continued its work, as mandated by the General Assembly in its resolution 68/75;

8. *Agrees* that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, at its fifty-second session, should consider the substantive items and reconvene the working groups recommended by the Committee, taking into account the concerns of all countries, in particular those of developing countries;

9. *Notes* the importance of information-sharing in discovering, monitoring and physically characterizing potentially hazardous near-Earth objects to ensure that all countries, in particular developing countries with limited capacity in predicting and mitigating a near-Earth object impact, are aware of potential threats, emphasizes the need for capacity-building for effective emergency response and disaster management in the event of a near-Earth object impact, and recalls in that regard the recommendations for an international response to the near-Earth object impact threat, endorsed by the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its fiftieth session and by the Committee at its fifty-sixth session;

10. *Notes with satisfaction* that progress on establishing an international asteroid warning network and a space mission planning advisory group to implement the recommendations for an international response to the near-Earth object impact threat would be reported to the Subcommittee at its fifty-second session;

11. *Notes with appreciation* that some States are already implementing space debris mitigation measures on a voluntary basis, through national mechanisms and consistent with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee and with the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/217, and invites other States to implement, through relevant national mechanisms, the Space Debris Mitigation Guidelines of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space;

12. *Considers* that it is essential that States pay more attention to the problem of collisions of space objects, especially those with nuclear power sources, with space debris, and other aspects of space debris, calls for the continuation

of national research on this question, for the development of improved technology for the monitoring of space debris and for the compilation and dissemination of data on space debris, also considers that, to the extent possible, information thereon should be provided to the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, and agrees that international cooperation is needed to expand appropriate and affordable strategies to minimize the impact of space debris on future space missions;

13. *Urges* all States, in particular those with major space capabilities, to contribute actively to the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space as an essential condition for the promotion of international cooperation in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes;

14. *Requests* the Committee to continue to consider, as a matter of priority, ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventieth session, and agrees that during its consideration of the matter the Committee could continue to consider ways to promote regional and interregional cooperation and the role that space technology could play in the implementation of recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development;

15. *Welcomes* the fact that the Committee, at its fifty-seventh session, agreed to consider, under the item entitled “Ways and means of maintaining outer space for peaceful purposes”, the broader perspective of space security and associated matters that would be instrumental in ensuring the safe and responsible conduct of space activities, and to identify effective tools that could potentially provide the Committee with new guidance, in a pragmatic manner and without prejudice to the mandate of other intergovernmental forums, and notes with satisfaction that, in that regard, and in line with resolution 68/50, the Committee agreed to consider at its fifty-eighth session, in 2015, the recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Transparency and Confidence-Building Measures in Outer Space Activities, with a view to identifying those recommendations that could, to the extent practicable, be adapted to and instrumental in ensuring the safety of space operations and the long-term sustainability of outer space activities in general;

16. *Recognizes* the central role of the Office for Outer Space Affairs in fostering capacity-building in the use of space science and technology and their applications for the benefit of all countries, in particular developing countries, and urges all Member States to contribute to the Trust Fund in Support of the United Nations Programme on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space in order to enhance the capacity of the Office to provide technical and legal advisory services in its priority thematic areas;

17. *Endorses* the United Nations Programme on Space Applications for 2015, as proposed to the Committee by the Expert on Space Applications and endorsed by the Committee;

18. *Notes with satisfaction* the significant achievements made and the advisory support provided to more than 30 Member States within the framework of the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (un-SPIDER), with the valuable contributions of its network of regional support

offices, and encourages Member States, on a voluntary basis, to provide the programme with the additional resources necessary to address the increasing demand for support successfully and in a timely manner;

19. *Also notes with satisfaction* the continuous progress made by the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems with the support of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, in its capacity as executive secretariat of the International Committee, towards achieving compatibility and interoperability among global and regional space-based positioning, navigation and timing systems and in the promotion of the use of global navigation satellite systems and their integration into national infrastructure, particularly in developing countries, and notes with appreciation that the International Committee held its ninth meeting in Prague from 10 to 14 November 2014;

20. *Notes with appreciation* that the regional centres for space science and technology education, affiliated to the United Nations, namely, the African regional centres for space science and technology education in the French and English languages, located in Morocco and Nigeria, respectively, the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific, located in India, the Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Latin America and the Caribbean, with campuses located in Brazil and Mexico, and the Centre for Space Science and Technology Education for Western Asia, located in Jordan, have continued their education programmes in 2014, encourages the regional centres to continue to promote greater participation of women in their education programmes, and agrees that the regional centres should continue to report to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on their activities;

21. *Notes with satisfaction* the progress on the establishment of a new regional centre for space science and technology education in Asia and the Pacific located at Beihang University in Beijing;

22. *Emphasizes* that regional and interregional cooperation in the field of space activities is essential to strengthen the peaceful uses of outer space, assist States in the development of their space capabilities and contribute to the achievement of the goals of the United Nations Millennium Declaration, to that end requests relevant regional organizations and their groups of experts to offer the assistance necessary so that countries can carry out the recommendations of regional conferences, and in that regard notes the importance of the equal participation of women in all fields of science and technology;

23. *Recognizes*, in that regard, the important role played by conferences and other mechanisms in strengthening regional and international cooperation among States, such as the African Leadership Conference on Space Science and Technology for Sustainable Development, the Asia-Pacific Regional Space Agency Forum, the Space Conference of the Americas, a process that should not be interrupted, and the Asia-Pacific Space Cooperation Organization;

24. *Emphasizes* the need to increase the benefits of space technology and its applications and to contribute to an orderly growth of space activities favourable to sustained economic growth and sustainable development in all countries, including strengthening sustainable spatial data infrastructure at the regional and national levels and

building resilience to reduce the consequences of disasters, in particular in developing countries;

25. *Reiterates* the need to promote the benefits of space technology and its applications in the major United Nations conferences and summits for economic, social and cultural development and related fields, and recognizes that the fundamental significance of space science and technology and their applications for global, regional, national and local sustainable development processes should be promoted in the formulation of policies and programmes of action and their implementation, including through efforts towards achieving the objectives of those conferences and summits, including implementing the Millennium Declaration and contributing to the post-2015 development agenda process;

26. *Encourages* Member States, to that end, to promote the inclusion in those conferences, summits and processes of the relevance of space science and technology applications and the use of space-derived geospatial data;

27. *Encourages* the Office for Outer Space Affairs to take active part in those conferences, summits and processes, including the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and the summit on the post-2015 development agenda, both to be held in 2015, as appropriate and within existing resources;

28. *Urges* the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (UN-Space), under the leadership of the Office for Outer Space Affairs, to continue to examine how space science and technology and their applications could contribute to implementing the Millennium Declaration and to the post-2015 development agenda process, and encourages entities of the United Nations system to participate, as appropriate, in UN-Space coordination efforts;

29. *Notes* that, in accordance with the agreement reached by the Committee at its forty-sixth session on the measures relating to the future composition of the bureaux of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, on the basis of the measures relating to the working methods of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, the Asia-Pacific States, the Eastern European States, the Latin American and Caribbean States and the Western European and other States have nominated their candidates for the offices of Chair of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee, First Vice-Chair of the Committee, Chair of the Legal Subcommittee and Chair of the Committee, respectively, for the period 2016–2017;

30. *Urges* the African States to nominate their candidate for the office of Second Vice-Chair/Rapporteur of the Committee for the period 2016–2017 before the next session of the Committee;

31. *Agrees* that, upon the nomination of the candidate of the African States, the Committee and its subsidiary bodies, at their respective sessions in 2016, should elect their officers nominated for the period 2016–2017;

32. *Decides* that Luxembourg shall become a member of the Committee;

33. *Endorses* the decision of the Committee to grant permanent observer status to the African Association of Remote Sensing of the Environment;

34. *Encourages* the regional groups to promote active participation in the work of the Committee and its subsidiary bodies by the States members of the Committee that are also members of the respective regional groups.

Effects of atomic radiation

Report of Scientific Committee. The United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, at its sixty-first session (Vienna, 21–25 July) [A/69/46], considered two scientific reports that had been published since its sixtieth (2013) session, the process for finalizing them and their impact. The first report presented the results of an assessment of the levels and effects of radiation exposure due to the 2011 Fukushima Daiichi nuclear accident in Japan [YUN 2011, p. 587]. It was presented to the media on 2 April 2014, and an advance copy of a Japanese translation of the main text was presented to Fukushima Prefecture on 27 May. The second report, on the effects of radiation exposure on children, was published in October 2013.

The Committee addressed radiation exposures from electricity generation and an updated methodology for estimating human exposures due to radioactive discharges; biological effects from selected internal emitters; cancer epidemiology of exposures at low dose-rates due to environmental radiation; the collection of data on radiation exposures, in particular for an evaluation of medical exposures; and outreach activities.

The Committee discussed two draft scientific annexes, one on radiation exposures from electricity generation and the other on updating the Committee's methodology for estimating human exposures to radioactive discharges into the environment. The Committee noted that the update of the existing methodology and the associated document were advanced. It expected that the document would be ready for approval at its sixty-second (2015) session. Progress on the draft annex on radiation exposures from electricity generation was limited by large gaps in the available data, however, it was but expected to be ready for consideration in 2015.

The Committee also discussed progress on evaluations of the biological effects of exposure to selected internal emitters, addressing two specific radionuclides: tritium and uranium. It noted that an updated version of the document on tritium could be presented for the Committee's approval in 2015 but that additional revision work would be needed for the evaluation on uranium. The Committee noted that there could be merit in conducting similar evaluations for caesium and iodine.

The Committee agreed to focus on completing evaluations that had been delayed by the finalization of the two studies, particularly the study on the Fukushima Daiichi accident. It decided to set out, at its sixty-second session, long-term strategic directions beyond the period covered by its 2014–2019 strategic plan. The Committee confirmed the Governing Prin-

ciples for its work and agreed to hold its sixty-second session in Vienna from 1 to 5 June 2015.

Report of Secretary-General. In response to General Assembly resolution 66/70 [YUN 2011, p. 587], by which the Assembly increased the membership of the Scientific Committee from 21 to 27 States, the Secretary-General submitted a September report [A/69/350] on the impact of the increase in the membership and possible approaches to further increases. The period considered (2012–2014) was too short to allow firm conclusions to be drawn on the impact of the increase on the Committee's effectiveness and work quality in the long term. Moreover, the number of States members of the Committee had almost doubled since its creation, while the geographical distribution had essentially remained stable. Because of its scientific nature, the Committee needed experts of worldwide standing; enlargement of the Committee was therefore not the most pertinent means of enhancing its work. What mattered more was whether the Committee had access to the data and expertise that institutions in UN Member States could provide. Changes to the Committee's management and organization involving more specialized scientists and institutions from many Member States could contribute to the Committee's work.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 5 December [meeting 64], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee [A/69/451], adopted **resolution 69/84** without vote [agenda item 48].

Effects of atomic radiation

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 913(X) of 3 December 1955, by which it established the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation, and its subsequent resolutions on the subject, in which, inter alia, it requested the Scientific Committee to continue its work,

Concerned about the potentially harmful effects on present and future generations resulting from the levels of radiation to which mankind and the environment are exposed,

Conscious of the continuing need to examine and compile information about atomic and ionizing radiation and to analyse its effects on mankind and the environment, and conscious also of the increased volume, complexity and diversity of that information,

Acknowledging the concerns about the radiological consequences of nuclear accidents, which were renewed by the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station following the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan,

Reaffirming the desirability of the Scientific Committee continuing its work, and welcoming the increased commitment of States members of the Committee,

Emphasizing the vital need for sufficient, assured and predictable funding, as well as efficient management, of the work of the secretariat of the Scientific Committee to ar-

range the annual sessions and coordinate the development of documents based on scientific reviews of the sources of ionizing radiation and its effects on human health and the environment,

Recognizing the increasing importance of the scientific work of the Scientific Committee and the need to carry out unforeseen additional work in cases such as the accident at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power station,

Recognizing also the importance of voluntary contributions to the general trust fund established by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme to support the work of the Scientific Committee,

Considering that the high quality of the work and the scientific rigour of the Scientific Committee need to be maintained in the future,

Recognizing the importance of disseminating results from the work of the Scientific Committee and widely publicizing scientific knowledge about atomic radiation, and recalling, in that context, principle 10 of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,

1. *Commends* the United Nations Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation for the valuable contribution that it has been making since its inception to wider knowledge and understanding of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation and for fulfilling its original mandate with scientific authority and independence of judgement;

2. *Reaffirms* the decision to maintain the present functions and independent role of the Scientific Committee;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Scientific Committee, and takes note of the report on its sixty-first session, including the confirmation of the Governing Principles for its work and the adoption of terms of reference for its Bureau;

4. *Appreciates* the publication in 2014 of the complete report on the levels and effects of radiation exposure due to the nuclear accident after the 2011 great east-Japan earthquake and tsunami, and encourages the secretariat of the Scientific Committee to continue to disseminate the findings to the public;

5. *Requests* the Scientific Committee to continue its work, including its important activities to increase knowledge of the levels, effects and risks of ionizing radiation from all sources, and to report thereon to the General Assembly at its seventieth session;

6. *Endorses* the intentions and plans of the Scientific Committee for conducting its programme of work of scientific review and assessment on behalf of the General Assembly, in particular its next Global Survey of Medical Radiation Usage and Exposures, to be conducted in close cooperation with other relevant organizations, and its assessments of levels of ionizing radiation exposure from electrical energy production, and requests the Committee to submit plans for its ongoing and future programme of work to the Assembly at its seventieth session;

7. *Welcomes* developments in streamlining procedures for publishing the reports of the Scientific Committee electronically on its official website and as sales publications, and calls upon the secretariat to monitor the timely publication of those reports and to continue to strive to publish them within the same calendar year as their approval;

8. *Re-emphasizes* the need for the Scientific Committee to hold regular sessions on an annual basis so that its report can reflect the latest developments and findings in the

field of ionizing radiation and thereby provide updated information for dissemination among all States;

9. *Invites* the Scientific Committee to continue its consultations with scientists and experts from interested Member States in the process of preparing its future scientific reports, and requests the secretariat to facilitate such consultations;

10. *Welcomes*, in this context, the readiness of Member States to provide the Scientific Committee with relevant information on the levels and effects of ionizing radiation, and invites the Committee to analyse and give due consideration to such information, particularly in the light of its own findings;

11. *Recalls* the strategy of the Scientific Committee to improve data collection, encourages in this regard Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations concerned to provide further relevant data about levels, effects and risks of radiation exposure from various sources, which would greatly help in the preparation of future reports of the Committee to the General Assembly, and encourages the International Atomic Energy Agency, the World Health Organization and other relevant organizations to further collaborate with the secretariat to establish and coordinate the arrangements for periodic exchange of data on radiation exposures of workers, the general public and, in particular, patients;

12. *Welcomes* the development by the secretariat of an online platform for collecting data on medical exposures, and encourages Member States to take part in the Scientific Committee's Global Survey of Medical Radiation Usage and Exposures and to nominate a national contact person to facilitate coordination of data collection and submission within their country;

13. *Requests* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue, within existing resources, to actively support the effective conduct of the work of the Scientific Committee and the dissemination of its findings to the General Assembly, the scientific community and the public;

14. *Takes note*, in this regard, of the Scientific Committee's outreach strategy for the coming years, in particular the enhancement of the website of the Committee and the publication of informative leaflets and posters in all the official languages of the United Nations, and encourages consideration to be given to publishing the website in all those languages;

15. *Encourages* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue to maintain appropriate funding for the Scientific Committee, pursuant to paragraph 14 of General Assembly resolution 68/73 of 11 December 2013;

16. *Encourages* Member States to make voluntary contributions to the general trust fund established by the Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, and also to make contributions in kind in order to support the work of the Scientific Committee;

17. *Recalls* paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution 66/70 of 9 December 2011, notes the expression of interest by Member States in membership in the Scientific Committee, and requests the Secretary-General to provide the Assembly at its seventy-second session with a list of the Member States that have expressed their particular interest in membership in the Committee between the sixty-sixth and seventy-second sessions, for consideration pursuant to the above-mentioned paragraph.

Information security

In response to General Assembly resolution 68/243 [YUN 2013, p. 577], the Secretary-General, in June [A/69/112 & Add.1], issued a report transmitting the views of 16 Member States on their general appreciation of the issues of information security; national efforts to strengthen information security and promote international cooperation in that field; international concepts aimed at strengthening the security of global information and telecommunications systems; and possible measures the international community could take to strengthen information security at the global level.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 2 December [meeting 62], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the First (Disarmament and International Security) Committee [A/69/435], adopted **resolution 69/28** without vote [agenda item 91].

Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 53/70 of 4 December 1998, 54/49 of 1 December 1999, 55/28 of 20 November 2000, 56/19 of 29 November 2001, 57/53 of 22 November 2002, 58/32 of 8 December 2003, 59/61 of 3 December 2004, 60/45 of 8 December 2005, 61/54 of 6 December 2006, 62/17 of 5 December 2007, 63/37 of 2 December 2008, 64/25 of 2 December 2009, 65/41 of 8 December 2010, 66/24 of 2 December 2011, 67/27 of 3 December 2012 and 68/243 of 27 December 2013,

Recalling also its resolutions on the role of science and technology in the context of international security, in which, inter alia, it recognized that scientific and technological developments could have both civilian and military applications and that progress in science and technology for civilian applications needed to be maintained and encouraged,

Noting that considerable progress has been achieved in developing and applying the latest information technologies and means of telecommunication,

Affirming that it sees in this process the broadest positive opportunities for the further development of civilization, the expansion of opportunities for cooperation for the common good of all States, the enhancement of the creative potential of humankind and additional improvements in the circulation of information in the global community,

Recalling, in this connection, the approaches and principles outlined at the Information Society and Development Conference, held in Midrand, South Africa, from 13 to 15 May 1996,

Bearing in mind the results of the Ministerial Conference on Terrorism, held in Paris on 30 July 1996, and the recommendations that were made,

Bearing in mind also the results of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Geneva from 10 to 12

December 2003 (first phase) and in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005 (second phase).

Noting that the dissemination and use of information technologies and means affect the interests of the entire international community and that optimum effectiveness is enhanced by broad international cooperation,

Expressing concern that these technologies and means can potentially be used for purposes that are inconsistent with the objectives of maintaining international stability and security and may adversely affect the integrity of the infrastructure of States to the detriment of their security in both civil and military fields,

Considering that it is necessary to prevent the use of information resources or technologies for criminal or terrorist purposes,

Noting the importance of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in the use of information and communications technologies,

Noting also the contribution of those Member States that have submitted their assessments on issues of information security to the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraphs 1 to 3 of resolutions 53/70, 54/49, 55/28, 56/19, 57/53, 58/32, 59/61, 60/45, 61/54, 62/17, 63/37, 64/25, 65/41, 66/24, 67/27 and 68/243,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General containing those assessments,

Welcoming the initiative taken by the Secretariat and the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research in convening international meetings of experts in Geneva in August 1999 and April 2008 on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security, as well as the results of those meetings,

Considering that the assessments of Member States contained in the reports of the Secretary-General and the international meetings of experts have contributed to a better understanding of the substance of issues of international information security and related notions,

Bearing in mind that the Secretary-General, in fulfilment of resolution 66/24, established in 2012, on the basis of equitable geographical distribution, a group of governmental experts, which, in accordance with its mandate, considered existing and potential threats in the sphere of information security and possible cooperative measures to address them, including norms, rules or principles of responsible behaviour of States and confidence-building measures in information space, and conducted a study on relevant international concepts aimed at strengthening the security of global information and telecommunications systems,

Welcoming the effective work of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security and the relevant outcome report transmitted by the Secretary-General,

Taking note of the assessments and recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to promote further at multilateral levels the consideration of existing and potential threats in the field of information security, as well as possible strategies to address the threats emerging in this field, consistent with the need to preserve the free flow of information;

2. *Considers* that the purpose of such strategies could be served through further examination of relevant international concepts aimed at strengthening the security of global information and telecommunications systems;

3. *Invites* all Member States, taking into account the assessments and recommendations contained in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security, to continue to inform the Secretary-General of their views and assessments on the following questions:

(a) General appreciation of the issues of information security;

(b) Efforts taken at the national level to strengthen information security and to promote international cooperation in this field;

(c) The content of the concepts mentioned in paragraph 2 above;

(d) Possible measures that could be taken by the international community to strengthen information security at the global level;

4. *Welcomes* the commencement of the work of the Group of Governmental Experts, and authorizes the Group, taking into account the assessments and recommendations contained in the above-mentioned report, to continue to study, with a view to promoting common understandings, existing and potential threats in the sphere of information security and possible cooperative measures to address them, including norms, rules or principles of responsible behaviour of States and confidence-building measures, the issues of the use of information and communications technologies in conflicts and how international law applies to the use of information and communications technologies by States, as well as the concepts referred to in paragraph 2 above, and to submit to the General Assembly at its seventieth session a report on the results of the study;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventieth session the item entitled "Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security".

Public information

Committee on Information

The General Assembly's Committee on Information, at its thirty-sixth session (New York, 28 April–9 May) [A/69/21], continued to review UN public information policies and activities, and to evaluate and follow up on efforts made and progress achieved by the UN system in information and communications.

The Committee had before it three reports of the Secretary-General on activities of the Department of Public Information (DPI) from September 2013 to February 2014, which addressed strategic communications services [A/AC.198/2014/2], news services [A/AC.198/2014/3]; and outreach and knowledge services [A/AC.198/2014/4].

The Committee held its general debate on 28 and 29 April. It adopted two draft resolutions and a draft decision that were submitted to the General Assembly for consideration (see below). The Committee also took note of the proposed strategic framework for the 2016–2017 period [A/69/6 (Prog. 24) & Corr.1].

The Assembly, by **decision 69/522** of 5 December, increased the membership of the Committee on Information from 114 to 115 and appointed Iraq as a member.

DPI activities

In response to General Assembly resolution 68/86 B [YUN 2013, p. 580], the Secretary-General submitted an August report [A/69/310] on questions relating to information, covering activities undertaken by DPI from March to September through its three sub-programs: strategic communications, news, and outreach and knowledge services. The report highlighted recent communication campaigns, the Department's traditional media-related products and services, the growth of the UN social media presence, progress made with regard to the DPI multimedia website, and the activities of the United Nations News Centre. It provided an update on the Department's outreach services and relations with the creative community and NGOs. The report also reviewed the activities of the network of United Nations information centres (UNICs); summarized the Department's partnerships with institutions of higher learning and research through the United Nations Academic Impact initiative; and described efforts to maintain a culture of evaluation within DPI.

Strategic communications services

The United Nations Communications Group task force, convened by DPI, played a key role in coordinating messaging and outreach plans on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the post-2015 development agenda and climate change. DPI launched the "Time for Global Action" campaign as the umbrella for UN system initiatives during the 2014–2015 period. The launch of the *Millennium Development Goals Report 2014* (see p. 000) by the Secretary-General at the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council (New York, 7 July) was complemented by more than a dozen regional and national launches organized by UNICs, as well as by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Nordic Representation Office. DPI issued press materials in the six official languages; coordinated media outreach, events and interviews; and produced infographics and videos on the MDGs for social media.

As part of its Special Information Programme on the Question of Palestine, DPI held its annual International Media Seminar on Peace on the Middle East (Tokyo,

Japan, 9–10 June), organized in cooperation with Japan and hosted by Sophia University. For the twentieth annual commemoration of the International Day of Reflection on the Genocide in Rwanda (7 April), the Department, in cooperation with Rwanda, held a series of events at Headquarters under the theme "Kwibuka: Remember, Unite, Renew", including a panel discussion and a symposium. For the observance of Nelson Mandela International Day (18 July), DPI worked with South Africa and the Office of the President of the General Assembly in planning events at Headquarters, including an informal meeting of the Assembly. On 29 May, DPI collaborated with the Departments of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and Field Support (DFS) to mark the 2014 International Day of United Nations Peacekeepers (29 May) under the theme "United Nations Peacekeeping: A Force for Peace, A Force for Change, A Force for the Future".

The Department continued to raise global awareness of and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development through its magazine, *Africa Renewal*, and the Africa Renewal Online website, offered in both English and French. From March through June, DPI placed 20 articles, which were published 585 times in English and French in 160 media outlets in more than 30 countries.

DPI launched a series of simultaneous online events and briefings at UNICs worldwide to increase interaction among geographically dispersed offices. In promoting action for the environment, UNICs promoted "A wish for the planet", an international writing and drawing competition co-organized with the estate of Antoine de Saint-Exupéry and the International Organization of la Francophonie. Many UNICs organized events in commemoration of World Press Freedom Day on 3 May. The UNIC in Antananarivo, Madagascar, in cooperation with the World Wildlife Fund and the Ministry of Information of Madagascar, held a debate on "The obstacles to the professionalism of current Malagasy journalists". The UNIC in Beirut, Lebanon, organized prime-time talk shows with three local television stations, featuring UN officials and other participants.

News services

United Nations social media grew dramatically across multiple platforms in 2014, and DPI tailored its social media approach to regional and language audiences. A coordinated effort with UNDP on the Weibo website yielded strong interest in the Secretary-General's visit to China in May. The UN posts on the Weibo site were viewed 1.18 billion times and were reposted and cited by hundreds of traditional news media outlets. The United Nations Weibo site reached more than 6 million followers in June.

DPI also increased its collaborative work across social media accounts. The United Nations News

Centre drew on the Twitter account of the Spokesperson of the Secretary-General and on the main UN account to supplement information being distributed to different audiences. During the year, the Twitter and Facebook accounts of the English news portal grew by over 100 per cent, to almost 110,000 followers and 300,000 fans. The number of video views on the UN channel on YouTube in all languages exceeded 10 million, and the number of subscribers to the channel grew to more than 52,000. About 380,000 videos were viewed on the YouTube channel in French, and the Spanish-language YouTube account was expected to have more than half a million views by September. The newly created YouTube account in Arabic helped profile UN activities in Arabic-speaking countries.

The growth of the audience accessing UN information online grew from 154 million page views in the 2010–2012 period to 280 million views in the 2013–2014 period in all languages. The dramatic increase in page views was due, in part, to an upswing in the use of the Russian-language websites beginning in March. Spanish language websites also registered an increase, with some 6 million page views between March and June. Visitors to the Russian-language United Nations News Centre portal climbed to over half a million page views during the same period.

Integrated editorial planning and coordination between the Department's news and media producers working across platforms led to a high number of interviews, news and features by the United Nations News Centre and Radio teams, with increased profiles on the UN website of senior officials speaking on issues related to Iraq, Ukraine, the Syrian Arab Republic and chemical weapons, the situation in the Central African Republic, and South Sudan, among other matters. United Nations Radio initiated creative partnerships to harness the power of joint collaborations. The Chinese Unit approached China National Radio to link up with their live prime-time news programme on issues of common interest, including statements of the Secretary-General and Security Council meetings. A partnership with the call-to-listen platform AudioNow provided displaced and hard-to-reach ethnic audiences around the world with free access to United Nations Radio and other UN audio content. In 2014, listeners in Brazil, South Africa, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United States could dial in to UN news, features and live coverage in eight languages.

United Nations Television worked with partners to produce video products on priority issues, including a series of eight stories highlighting the MDGs. The monthly flagship programme, *21st Century*, was produced in language versions with subtitles, rather than being dubbed, in line with current media standards. Successful partnerships continued with TV5 Monde and the China Business Network for French and Chi-

nese language versions, respectively; partners were being sought for the other official languages. DPI continued to produce *UN in Action*, a series of three- to five-minute features in the six official languages. An abridged series of two-minute video pieces entitled *UN Stories* was also produced for the web in the six official languages. UNifeed, the flagship daily television newswire service, distributed 531 stories to hundreds of television networks around the world through the Associated Press, Eurovision and Reuters from March to mid-June. The stories reached approximately 200 broadcast users per month through the UNifeed website. Half of the news stories originated from United Nations Television in New York and Geneva, with the remaining half contributed by over 30 agencies, funds, programmes and peacekeeping missions.

DPI continued to improve and expand the ability of the Organization's live and on-demand webcast services to reach a global audience in all six official languages on multiple web platforms, including wireless mobile devices. Through its website, the Department facilitated coverage of the meetings of the Human Rights Council and press briefings at the United Nations Office at Geneva. DPI also provided webcast coverage for major UN conferences, including the World Urban Forum, organized by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme in Medellín, Colombia, in April; the sixth Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations in Bali, Indonesia, in August; and the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States in Samoa in September.

Between 1 March and the end of September, the Meetings Coverage Section produced 2,284 press releases (8,382 pages) in English and French. Between March and June, United Nations Photo covered close to 900 events at Headquarters, as well as the official travel of the Secretary-General. As at September, close to 4,000 images had been published on the website, and an additional 17,000 images had been added to the United Nations Photo Library. United Nations Photo had over 8.6 million accumulated views on Flickr, over 73,000 "likes" on Facebook, and more than 45,000 followers on Twitter. The new United Nations Instagram platform already had close to 58,000 followers. The Photo Library handled over 3,300 requests from Member States, the media, publishers and the general public.

Communication. In a 6 June letter addressed to the Secretary-General [A/68/935], Argentina, on behalf of the Group of Friends of Spanish at the United Nations, recognized the efforts made by DPI to strengthen multilingualism and promote linguistic parity among the six official UN languages. Annexed to the letter was the report compiled by DPI at the Group's request concerning statistics on the use of official languages on the UN websites and social networks.

Outreach and knowledge services

In collaboration with the Caribbean Community and the African Union, DPI organized a series of activities to mark the annual observance of the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade. The theme of the 2014 commemoration, “Victory over Slavery: Haiti and Beyond”, paid tribute to the fight against slavery in nations around the world, marking 210 years since the establishment of Haiti as an independent State. Campaign products were available in the six official languages, as well as in Haitian Creole, Kiswahili and Portuguese.

On 28 April, the Holocaust and the United Nations Outreach Programme, in partnership with Israel and the World Jewish Congress, organized a panel discussion to examine ways to illustrate the universal lessons of the Holocaust through art. On 2 June, in partnership with the Department’s model United Nations programme and the Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect, the Programme expanded its outreach to youth by organizing the first model UN simulation on the Holocaust and genocide prevention at the Bronx High School of Science in New York.

The United Nations Academic Impact initiative hosted several outreach programmes, including “Classroom Conversations”, in cooperation with the State University of New York, on 19 June; “Let’s Skype It” on employment opportunities at the United Nations, with the European School of Management and Technology on 16 May; a “CFR@UNAI” talk on fracking, with the United States Council on Foreign Relations on 16 July. DPI published 174 titles and acquired publications in the six official languages in both print and digital formats. An Arabic version of *Basic Facts about the United Nations 2014* was published in September through a financial contribution from the United Arab Emirates.

The Dag Hammarskjöld Library supported the Permanent Missions to the United Nations through training and customized information and research support. While most UN documents published since 1993 were available digitally, the Library, in partnership with the United Nations Library in Geneva, continued to digitize millions of documents that remained in paper form. It was also developing a digital repository to preserve UN knowledge and make it accessible in digital formats.

The Visitor’s Services section arranged 372 briefings in English, Chinese, French, German, Japanese and Russian between March and September, reaching some 27,900 participants. The Public Inquiries Unit responded to 4,200 communications and distributed 200 educational kits.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 5 December [meeting 64], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee [A/69/457], adopted **resolutions 69/96 A** and **B** without vote [agenda item 54].

Questions relating to information

A

INFORMATION IN THE SERVICE OF HUMANITY

The General Assembly,

Taking note of the comprehensive and important report of the Committee on Information,

Taking note also of the report of the Secretary-General,

Urges all countries, organizations of the United Nations system as a whole and all others concerned, reaffirming their commitment to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to the principles of freedom of the press and freedom of information, as well as to those of the independence, pluralism and diversity of the media, deeply concerned by the disparities existing between developed and developing countries and the consequences of every kind arising from those disparities that affect the capability of the public, private or other media and individuals in developing countries to disseminate information and communicate their views and their cultural and ethical values through endogenous cultural production, as well as to ensure the diversity of sources and their free access to information, and recognizing the call in this context for what in the United Nations and at various international forums has been termed “a new world information and communication order, seen as an evolving and continuous process”:

(a) To cooperate and interact with a view to reducing existing disparities in information flows at all levels by increasing assistance for the development of communications infrastructures and capabilities in developing countries, with due regard for their needs and the priorities attached to such areas by those countries, and in order to enable them and the public, private or other media in developing countries to develop their own information and communications policies freely and independently and increase the participation of media and individuals in the communication process, and to ensure a free flow of information at all levels;

(b) To ensure for journalists the free and effective performance of their professional tasks and condemn resolutely all attacks against them;

(c) To provide support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes for broadcasters and journalists from public, private and other media in developing countries;

(d) To enhance regional efforts and cooperation among developing countries, as well as cooperation between developed and developing countries, to strengthen communications capacities and to improve the media infrastructure and communications technology in the developing countries, especially in the areas of training and dissemination of information;

(e) To aim at, in addition to bilateral cooperation, providing all possible support and assistance to the developing

countries and their media, public, private or other, with due regard to their interests and needs in the field of information and to action already adopted within the United Nations system, including:

(i) The development of the human and technical resources that are indispensable for the improvement of information and communications systems in developing countries and support for the continuation and strengthening of practical training programmes, such as those already operating under both public and private auspices throughout the developing world;

(ii) The creation of conditions that will enable developing countries and their media, public, private or other, to have, by using their national and regional resources, the communications technology suited to their national needs, as well as the necessary programme material, especially for radio and television broadcasting;

(iii) Assistance in establishing and promoting telecommunication links at the subregional, regional and interregional levels, especially among developing countries;

(iv) The facilitation, as appropriate, of access by the developing countries to advanced communications technology available on the open market;

(f) To provide full support for the International Programme for the Development of Communication of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, which should support both public and private media.

B

UNITED NATIONS PUBLIC INFORMATION POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES

The General Assembly,

Emphasizing that the Committee on Information is its main subsidiary body mandated to make recommendations to it relating to the work of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat,

Reaffirming its resolution 13 (I) of 13 February 1946, in which the General Assembly established the Department of Public Information, with a view to promoting to the greatest possible extent an informed understanding of the work and purposes of the United Nations among the peoples of the world, and all other relevant resolutions of the Assembly related to the activities of the Department,

Emphasizing that the contents of public information and communications should be placed at the heart of the strategic management of the United Nations and that a culture of communications and transparency should permeate all levels of the Organization as a means of fully informing the peoples of the world of the aims and activities of the United Nations, in accordance with the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, in order to create broad-based global support for the United Nations,

Stressing that the primary mission of the Department of Public Information is to provide, through its outreach activities, accurate, impartial, comprehensive, balanced, timely, relevant and multilingual information to the public on the tasks and responsibilities of the United Nations in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization with the greatest transparency,

Recalling its resolution 68/86 B of 11 December 2013, which provided an opportunity to take due steps to enhance

the efficiency and effectiveness of the Department of Public Information and to maximize the use of its resources,

Expressing its concern that the gap in information and communications technology between the developed and the developing countries has continued to widen and that vast segments of the population in developing countries are not benefiting from the information and communications technologies that are currently available, and in this regard underlining the necessity of rectifying the imbalances in the present development of information and communications technologies in order to make it more just, equitable and effective,

Recognizing that developments in information and communications technologies open vast new opportunities for economic growth and social development and can play an important role in the eradication of poverty in developing countries, and at the same time emphasizing that the development of these technologies poses challenges and risks and could lead to the further widening of disparities between and within countries,

Recalling its resolution 67/292 of 24 July 2013 on multilingualism, and emphasizing the importance of making appropriate use of all the official languages of the United Nations in all the activities of the Department of Public Information, including in coordination with other departments of the Secretariat, with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the use of the five other official languages, as well as the importance of ensuring the full and equitable treatment of all the official languages of the United Nations in all the activities of the Department,

I

Introduction

1. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in respect of the public information policies and activities of the United Nations, to continue to implement fully the recommendations contained in relevant resolutions;

2. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations remains the indispensable foundation of a peaceful and just world and that its voice must be heard in a clear and effective manner, and emphasizes the essential role of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat in this context;

3. *Stresses* the importance of the provision of clear, timely, accurate and comprehensive information by the Secretariat to Member States, upon their request, within the framework of existing mandates and procedures;

4. *Also stresses* that Member States should abstain from using information and communications technologies in contravention of international law, including the Charter of the United Nations;

5. *Reaffirms* the central role of the Committee on Information in United Nations public information policies and activities, including the prioritization of those activities, and decides that recommendations relating to the programme of the Department of Public Information shall originate, to the extent possible, in the Committee and shall be considered by the Committee;

6. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, following the priorities set out by the General Assembly in its resolution 67/236 of 24 December 2012, and recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the 2005 World Summit Outcome, to pay particular attention

to peace and security, development and human rights and to major issues such as the eradication of poverty, including the global food crisis, conflict prevention, sustainable development, the HIV/AIDS epidemic, combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and the needs of the African continent;

7. *Requests* the Department of Public Information and its network of United Nations information centres to pay particular attention to progress in implementing the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda, including on the elaboration of sustainable development goals, and the outcomes of the major related United Nations summits and conferences in carrying out its activities, and calls upon the Department to play an active role in raising public awareness of the after-effects and ongoing adverse impacts of the world financial and economic crisis and its impact on development, including the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, financing for development, and the discussion of options for a facilitation mechanism that promotes the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies, and of the global challenge of climate change, in particular the actions taken in accordance with the objective, principles and provisions of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, especially in the context of the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, particularly in the context of the Conference of the Parties and of the Meetings of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol;

II

General activities of the Department of Public Information

8. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Department of Public Information;

9. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to maintain its commitment to a culture of evaluation, to continue to evaluate its products and activities with the objective of enhancing their effectiveness, and to continue to cooperate and coordinate with Member States and the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat;

10. *Reaffirms* the importance of more effective coordination between the Department of Public Information and the Office of the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure consistency in the messages of the Organization;

11. *Notes* the efforts of the Department of Public Information to continue to publicize the work and decisions of the General Assembly, and requests the Department to continue to enhance its working relationship with the Office of the President of the General Assembly;

12. *Encourages* continued collaboration between the Department of Public Information and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in the promotion of culture and in the fields of education and communication, bridging the existing gap between the developed and the developing countries;

13. *Notes with appreciation* the efforts of the Department of Public Information to work at the local level with other organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to enhance the coordination of their communications activities, urges the Department to encourage

the United Nations Communications Group to promote linguistic diversity in its work, and reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its thirty-seventh session on progress achieved in this regard;

14. *Reaffirms* that the Department of Public Information must prioritize its work programme, while respecting existing mandates and in line with regulation 5.6 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, to focus its message and better concentrate its efforts and to match its programmes with the needs of its target audiences, including the linguistic dimension, on the basis of improved feedback and evaluation mechanisms;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to exert all efforts to ensure that publications and other information services of the Secretariat, including the United Nations website and the United Nations News Service, contain comprehensive, balanced, objective and equitable information in all official languages about the issues before the Organization and that they maintain editorial independence, impartiality, accuracy and full consistency with resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly;

16. *Underlines* the critical need to address violations of the relevant international rules and regulations that govern the area of broadcasting, including television, radio and satellite broadcasting, in the most appropriate manner;

17. *Reiterates its request* to the Department of Public Information and content-providing offices of the Secretariat to ensure that United Nations publications are produced in all six official languages, as well as in an environmentally friendly and cost-neutral manner, and to continue to coordinate closely with all other entities, including all other departments of the Secretariat and funds and programmes of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, in order to avoid duplication in the issuance of United Nations publications;

18. *Encourages*, in this regard, the Department of Public Information and the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat to consult on opportunities for merging their publishing activities and to develop new collaborative arrangements to enhance multilingualism in other outputs in a cost-neutral manner, bearing in mind the importance of ensuring the full and equitable treatment of all the official languages of the United Nations, and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its thirty-seventh session;

19. *Emphasizes* that the Department of Public Information should maintain and improve its activities in the areas of special interest to developing countries and, where appropriate, other countries with special needs, and that the activities of the Department should contribute to bridging the existing gap between the developing and the developed countries in the crucial field of public information and communications;

20. *Reiterates its growing concern* that the issuance of daily press releases has not been expanded to all official languages, as requested in previous resolutions and in full respect of the principle of parity of all six official languages, recalls the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Department of Public Information, and requests the Department, as a matter of priority, to design a strategy

to deliver daily press releases in all six official languages through creative schemes, in a cost-neutral manner and in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions, at the latest by the thirty-seventh session of the Committee on Information, and to report thereon to the Committee at that session;

Multilingualism and public information

21. *Underlines* the responsibility of the Secretariat in mainstreaming multilingualism into all its communication and information activities, within existing resources on an equitable basis, calls upon the Department of Public Information to continue to work with the Coordinator for Multilingualism on best practices throughout the Secretariat to fulfil this responsibility, and requests the Secretary-General to report on such best practices and their implementation in his upcoming report to the Committee on Information;

22. *Emphasizes* the importance of making use of all the official languages of the United Nations, ensuring their full and equitable treatment in all the activities of all divisions and offices of the Department of Public Information with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the use of the five other official languages, in this regard reaffirms its request that the Secretary-General ensure that the Department has the necessary capacity in all the official languages to undertake all of its activities, and requests that this aspect be included in future programme budget proposals for the Department, bearing in mind the principle of parity of all six official languages, while respecting the workload in each official language;

23. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Department of Public Information to enhance multilingualism in all its activities, stresses the importance of ensuring that the texts of all new public United Nations documents in all six official languages, information materials and all older United Nations documents are made available through the United Nations websites and are accessible to Member States without delay, and further stresses the importance of fully implementing its resolution 67/292;

24. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information to continue to use other languages in addition to the official languages, when appropriate, according to the targeted audience, with a view to reaching the widest possible spectrum of audiences and extending the United Nations message to all corners of the world in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization;

25. *Notes* the proposal by the Chair of the Committee on Information to establish a group of friends of the Chair on multilingualism;

Bridging the digital divide

26. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to contribute to raising the awareness of the international community of the importance of the implementation of the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society and of the possibilities that the use of the Internet and other information and communications technologies can bring to societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide, including by commemorating World Telecommunication and Information Society Day on 17 May;

Network of United Nations information centres

27. *Emphasizes* the importance of the network of United Nations information centres in enhancing the public image of the United Nations, in disseminating messages on the United Nations to local populations, especially in developing countries, bearing in mind that information in local languages has the strongest impact on local populations, and in mobilizing support for the work of the United Nations at the local level;

28. *Welcomes* the work done by the network of United Nations information centres, including the United Nations Regional Information Centre, in favour of the publication of United Nations information materials and the translation of important documents into languages other than the official languages of the United Nations, encourages the network of information centres to continue their important multilingual activities in the interactive and proactive aspects of their work and to develop web pages in local languages, and the Department of Public Information to provide necessary resources and technical facilities, with a view to reaching the widest possible spectrum of audiences and extending the United Nations message to all corners of the world, in order to strengthen international support for the activities of the Organization, and encourages the continuation of efforts in this regard;

29. *Stresses* the importance of rationalizing the network of United Nations information centres, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to continue to make proposals in this direction, including through the redeployment of resources where necessary, and to report to the Committee on Information at its successive sessions;

30. *Reaffirms* that the rationalization of United Nations information centres must be carried out on a case-by-case basis in consultation with all concerned Member States in which existing information centres are located, the countries served by those information centres and other interested countries in the region, taking into consideration the distinctive characteristics of each region;

31. *Recognizes* that the network of United Nations information centres, especially in developing countries, should continue to enhance its impact and activities, including through strategic communications support, and calls upon the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of this approach to the Committee on Information at its successive sessions;

32. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, through the United Nations information centres, to strengthen its cooperation with all other United Nations entities at the country level and in the context of the United Nations Development Assistance Framework, in order to enhance coherence in communications and to avoid duplication of work;

33. *Stresses* the importance of taking into account the special needs and requirements of developing countries in the field of information and communications technology for the effective flow of information in those countries;

34. *Also stresses* the importance of efforts to strengthen the outreach activities of the United Nations to those Member States remaining outside the network of United Nations information centres, and encourages the Secretary-General, within the context of rationalization, to extend the services of the network of information centres to those Member States;

35. *Further stresses* that the Department of Public Information should continue to review the allocation of both staff and financial resources to the United Nations information centres in developing countries, taking into account the specific needs of the least developed countries;

36. *Welcomes* the support of some Member States, including developing countries, in offering, inter alia, rent-free premises for the United Nations information centres because of lack of funding, bearing in mind that such support should not be a substitute for the full allocation of financial resources for the information centres in the context of the programme budget of the United Nations;

37. *Notes* the concern of many Member States regarding the measures taken by the Secretariat in relation to the information centres in Mexico City, Pretoria and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, expresses the hope that these measures will not have an adverse impact on the ability of the centres to act as bridges between the United Nations and local audiences, and therefore requests the Secretary-General to report on the impact of these measures and to explore ways to strengthen the United Nations information centres in Cairo, Mexico City, Pretoria and Rio de Janeiro, keeping in mind the need to do so within existing resources, and encourages the Secretary-General to explore the strengthening of other centres, especially in Africa, in cooperation with the Member States concerned and in a cost-neutral manner;

38. *Recalls* its resolution 64/243 of 24 December 2009, in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to establish a United Nations information centre in Luanda as a contribution towards addressing the needs of Portuguese-speaking African countries, reiterates its request to the Secretary-General, in coordination with the Government of Angola, to take the measures necessary for the prompt establishment of the information centre, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its thirty-seventh session on the progress made in this regard;

III

Strategic communications services

39. *Reaffirms* the role of the strategic communications services in devising and disseminating United Nations messages by developing communications strategies, with the overall emphasis on multilingualism from the planning stage, in close collaboration with the substantive departments, United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, in full compliance with their legislative mandates;

Promotional campaigns

40. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Department of Public Information in promoting, through its campaigns, issues of importance to the international community, such as the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the progress made in implementing the internationally agreed development goals, and discussions on the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda, United Nations reform, the eradication of poverty, conflict prevention, peacekeeping, peacebuilding, sustainable development, culture and development, culture and sustainable development, disarmament, decolonization, human rights, including the rights of women and children, persons with disabilities and migrant workers, strategic coordination in humanita-

rian relief, especially in natural disasters and other crises, HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, non-communicable diseases and other diseases, the needs of the African continent, the nature of the critical economic and social situation in Africa and the priorities of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, the special needs of the least developed countries, the establishment of the permanent memorial to the victims of slavery and the transatlantic slave trade, combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, dialogue among civilizations, the culture of peace and tolerance and the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, as well as prevention of genocide, and requests the Department, in cooperation with the countries concerned and with the relevant organizations and bodies of the United Nations system, to continue to take appropriate measures to enhance world public awareness of all these issues;

41. *Requests* the Secretariat, especially the Department of Public Information, to contribute to the observance of International Mother Language Day on 21 February, as proclaimed by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Slavery and the Transatlantic Slave Trade on 25 March, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/122 of 17 December 2007, Nelson Mandela International Day on 18 July, in accordance with Assembly resolution 64/13 of 10 November 2009, and the International Day of Nowruz on 21 March, in accordance with Assembly resolution 64/253 of 23 February 2010, and to play a role in raising awareness and promoting these events in a cost-neutral manner, where appropriate;

42. *Requests* the Department of Public Information and its network of United Nations information centres to raise awareness of all high-level meetings mandated by the General Assembly, to widely disseminate information on the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, held in Apia, from 1 to 4 September 2014, including the media coverage already provided for in Assembly resolution 68/238 of 27 December 2013, on the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Vienna from 3 to 5 November 2014, on the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, to be held in Sendai, Japan, in March 2015 in accordance with Assembly resolution 67/209 of 21 December 2012, and on the 2015 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, to be held in New York in April and May 2015, and to continue to promote the processes in follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro from 20 to 22 June 2012, as well as the high-level meeting of the Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities, held on 23 September 2013, and the high-level meeting of the Assembly on nuclear disarmament, held on 26 September 2013;

43. *Notes* the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Group of 77 and China, and acknowledges the support provided by the Department of Public Information in publicizing within existing resources the summit of Heads of State and Government of the Group of 77 on a new world order for living well, held in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Plurinational State of Bolivia, on 14 and 15 June 2014;

44. *Requests* the Department of Public Information and its network of United Nations information centres to raise awareness of and disseminate information, in a cost-

neutral manner, on the Third International Decade for the Eradication of Colonialism, declared by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/119 of 10 December 2010;

45. *Notes* that 2015 marks the seventieth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations and the end of the Second World War, further notes the work already undertaken by the Secretariat on planning activities in that regard, and requests the Department of Public Information to raise awareness of and disseminate information on this anniversary and to ensure that multilingualism is mainstreamed into those activities, in a cost-neutral manner;

46. *Recalls* its resolution 68/237 of 23 December 2013 on the International Decade for People of African Descent, and requests the Department of Public Information and its network of United Nations information centres to raise awareness of and disseminate information on the International Decade, in accordance with the programme for the implementation of the International Decade adopted by the General Assembly, in a cost-neutral manner;

47. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information to develop partnerships with the private sector in a cost-neutral manner and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its thirty-seventh session, and in this regard notes the partnership with airlines that provide to their customers in-flight programmes featuring United Nations activities;

Role of the Department of Public Information in United Nations peacekeeping operations and peacebuilding

48. *Requests* the Secretariat to continue to ensure the active involvement of the Department of Public Information from the planning stage and in all stages of future peacekeeping operations through interdepartmental consultations and coordination with other departments of the Secretariat, in particular with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support;

49. *Requests* the Department of Public Information, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support to continue their cooperation in raising awareness of the new realities, far-reaching successes and challenges faced by peacekeeping operations, especially multidimensional and complex ones, and the recent surge in United Nations peacekeeping activities, and continues to call upon the three Departments to develop and implement a comprehensive communications strategy on current challenges facing United Nations peacekeeping;

50. *Stresses* the importance of enhancing the public information capacity of the Department of Public Information in the field of peacekeeping operations and its role, in close cooperation with the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the Department of Field Support, in the process of selecting public information staff for United Nations peacekeeping operations or missions, and in this regard invites the Department of Public Information to second public information staff who have the skills necessary to fulfil the tasks of the operations or missions, taking into account the principle of equitable geographical distribution in accordance with Chapter XV, Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter, and to consider views expressed, especially by host countries, when appropriate, in this regard;

51. *Emphasizes* the importance of the peacekeeping gateway on the United Nations website, and requests the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts in supporting the peacekeeping missions to further develop and maintain their websites;

52. *Requests* the Department of Public Information and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to continue to cooperate in implementing an effective outreach programme to explain the zero-tolerance policy of the Organization regarding sexual exploitation and abuse and to inform the public of the outcome of all such cases involving peacekeeping personnel, including cases where allegations are ultimately found to be legally unproven, and also to inform the public of the adoption by the General Assembly of the United Nations Comprehensive Strategy on Assistance and Support to Victims of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Staff and Related Personnel;

53. *Notes* the importance of communication and information activities relating to peacebuilding efforts, in particular those of the Peacebuilding Commission, the Peacebuilding Support Office of the Secretariat and the Peacebuilding Fund, and requests the Department of Public Information to cooperate with these entities in that regard, with a view to widening outreach of their important work;

Role of the Department of Public Information in strengthening dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace as means of enhancing understanding among nations

54. *Recalls* its resolutions on dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace, and requests the Department of Public Information, while ensuring the pertinence and relevance of subjects for promotional campaigns on this issue, to continue to provide the support necessary for the dissemination of information pertaining to dialogue among civilizations and the culture of peace, as well as the initiative on the Alliance of Civilizations, and to take due steps in fostering the culture of dialogue among civilizations, promoting a world against violence and violent extremism in accordance with General Assembly resolution 68/127 of 18 December 2013, and promoting cultural understanding, tolerance, respect for and freedom of religion or belief and effective enjoyment by all of all human rights and civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development;

55. *Invites* the United Nations system, especially the Department of Public Information, to continue to encourage and facilitate dialogue among civilizations and to formulate ways and means to promote dialogue among civilizations in the activities of the United Nations in various fields, taking into account the Programme of Action of the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations, and in this regard reiterates its request to the Secretary-General to present to the General Assembly at its seventieth session the report requested by the Assembly in its resolution 60/4 of 20 October 2005;

56. *Recalls* its resolution 64/14 of 10 November 2009, in which it acknowledged the achievements of the Alliance of Civilizations and the efforts of the High Representative of the Secretary-General for the Alliance of Civilizations, and welcomes the discussion, at the sixth Alliance of Civilizations Forum, held in Nusa Dua, Bali, Indonesia, on 29 and 30 August 2014, on strategic and practical measures that gener-

ate and sustain common values and a shared sense of responsibility among all stakeholders, and the continuing support of the Department of Public Information for the work of the Alliance of Civilizations, including its ongoing projects;

IV News services

57. *Stresses* that the central objective of the news services implemented by the Department of Public Information is the timely delivery of accurate, objective and balanced news and information emanating from the United Nations system in all four mass media, namely, print, radio, television and the Internet, to the media and other audiences worldwide, with the overall emphasis on multilingualism from the planning stage, and reiterates its request to the Department to ensure that all breaking news stories and news alerts are accurate, impartial and free of bias;

58. *Recognizes* the important role of television and video services provided by the Department of Public Information, and notes the recent efforts in making available online broadcast-quality video that can be streamed or downloaded by smaller broadcast outlets that do not have access to satellite feeds;

Traditional means of communication

59. *Welcomes* the sustained efforts of United Nations Radio, which remains one of the most effective and far-reaching traditional media available to the Department of Public Information and an important instrument in United Nations activities, to enhance the timeliness, presentation and thematic focus of its multilingual programmes on United Nations activities and to ensure the widest possible dissemination of its programming to media outlets using the most suitable platforms and formats, pre-recorded or live, requests the Secretary-General to continue to make every effort to achieve parity in the six official languages in United Nations Radio productions, reiterates the important role of the 15-minute daily programmes created pursuant to General Assembly resolution 54/82 B of 6 December 1999, and requests the Department to continue the production and dissemination of the programmes, in accordance with client needs;

60. *Also welcomes* the ongoing efforts being made by the Department of Public Information to disseminate programmes directly to broadcasting stations all over the world in the six official languages, with the addition of Portuguese and Kiswahili, as well as in other languages where possible, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to include in his upcoming report to the Committee on Information detailed information about such partnerships with broadcasting stations as well as statistics about their multiplying impacts on potential audiences;

61. *Requests* the Department of Public Information to continue to build partnerships with local, national and regional broadcasters to extend the United Nations message to all corners of the world in an accurate and impartial way, and requests the News and Media Division of the Department to continue to take full advantage of the technological infrastructure made available in recent years;

62. *Welcomes* the completion of an inventory of 67 years of United Nations audiovisual history, and, recognizing the importance of the audiovisual archives of the United Nations, stresses the urgency of digitization in

order to prevent further deterioration of these unique historical archives, and encourages the Department of Public Information to prioritize the development of collaborative arrangements for the digitization of these archives while preserving their multilingual character in a cost-neutral manner and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its thirty-seventh session;

63. *Notes* the efforts made by the Department of Public Information and other stakeholders to plan, procure, implement, test and deploy a media assets management system solution for file-based production and for the management of the United Nations multimedia digital archives, calls upon the Department to continue to explore alternative and feasible solutions for the digitization, preservation, quality assurance and technical processing of the audiovisual archive materials based on international standards and best practices, including in the context of the construction work of the capital master plan within the overall budget for the plan, and encourages the Department to seek the support of public and private institutions for its work in digitizing, storing and managing these multilingual archives and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its thirty-seventh session;

64. *Notes*, in this regard, the proposed strategy for the digitization of the United Nations audiovisual archive materials for long-term preservation, access and sustainable management, and requests the Department of Public Information to submit for consideration by the relevant bodies both a detailed proposal for the mass digitization of the audiovisual collections, within existing resources, and plans to solicit voluntary contributions to fund the digitization and storage of the audiovisual archives;

United Nations website

65. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations website is an essential tool for the media, non-governmental organizations, educational institutions, Member States and the general public, and in this regard reiterates the continued need for strengthened efforts by the Department of Public Information to maintain and improve it;

66. *Welcomes* the opening of the Accessibility Centre at United Nations Headquarters, recognizes the efforts made by the Secretariat to implement the basic accessibility requirements for persons with disabilities to gain access to and take part in the work of the United Nations in person or online, calls upon the Department of Public Information to continue to work towards compliance with accessibility requirements on all new and updated pages of the website, with the aim of ensuring its accessibility for persons with different kinds of disabilities, and in this regard encourages the Department of Public Information and the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management to further cooperate and identify potential synergies;

67. *Reaffirms* the need to achieve full parity among the six official languages on all United Nations websites, and urges the Secretary-General to strengthen his efforts to develop, maintain and update multilingual United Nations websites and the web page of the Secretary-General in all the official languages of the United Nations, from within existing resources and on an equitable basis;

68. *Notes with concern* that the multilingual development and enrichment of the United Nations website in certain official languages has improved at a much slower rate than expected, and in this regard urges the

Department of Public Information, in coordination with content-providing offices, to advance actions taken to achieve full parity among the six official languages on the United Nations website;

69. *Recalls* paragraph 22 of its resolution 67/292 on multilingualism, and in this regard calls upon all stakeholders, including the Department of Public Information, content-providing offices and departments and the Office of Information and Communications Technology of the Secretariat, to enhance their collaboration so as to achieve full parity among the six official languages on all United Nations websites developed and maintained by the Secretariat, by making every effort to translate materials currently available only in English and by providing offices and departments with technological solutions that comply with the principle of parity, from within existing resources;

70. *Reaffirms its request* to the Secretary-General to ensure, while maintaining an up-to-date and accurate website, the equitable distribution of financial and human resources within the Department of Public Information allocated to the United Nations website among all official languages, with full respect for the needs and the specificities of all six official languages;

71. *Welcomes* the cooperative arrangements undertaken by the Department of Public Information with academic institutions to increase the number of web pages available in official and non-official languages, and requests the Secretary-General, in coordination with content-providing offices, to extend such cooperative arrangements, in a cost-effective manner, to all the official languages of the United Nations, bearing in mind the necessity of adherence to United Nations standards and guidelines;

72. *Also welcomes* the fact that live webcasts of open, formal meetings of the General Assembly and of the Security Council with interpretation services have been provided as from the sixty-eighth session of the Assembly, and requests the Secretariat to make every effort to provide full access to archived videos in all official languages of all past open formal United Nations meetings with interpretation services in strict observance of the principle of full parity of the six official languages of the United Nations;

73. *Acknowledges* the importance of the *Yearbook of the United Nations* as an authoritative reference work, welcomes the work of the Department of Public Information in expanding the content and the functions of the website of the *Yearbook*, and requests the Department to assess the readership of the *Yearbook* in order to evaluate its impact and to report thereon to the Committee on Information at its thirty-seventh session;

74. *Reaffirms* the need to enhance the technological infrastructure of the Department of Public Information on a continuous basis in order to widen the outreach of the Department and to continue to improve the United Nations website in a cost-neutral manner;

75. *Recognizes* that some official languages use non-Latin and bidirectional scripts and that technological infrastructures and supportive applications in the United Nations are based on Latin script, which leads to difficulties in processing non-Latin and bidirectional scripts, and urges the Office of Information and Communications Technology to further collaborate with the Department of Public Information to continue its efforts to ensure that technological infrastructures and supportive applications

in the United Nations fully support Latin, non-Latin and bidirectional scripts in order to enhance the equality of all official languages on the United Nations website;

76. *Underlines* the importance, in the implementation of new communication tools such as social networks, of taking into account the linguistic dimension in order to ensure full parity among the official languages of the Organization;

77. *Recalls* that, in its resolution 67/292, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to include in his upcoming report on multilingualism a comprehensive review of the United Nations websites, presenting the status of content in non-official languages, as well as identifying innovative ideas, potential synergies and other cost-neutral measures to reinforce the broader multilingual development and enrichment of the United Nations websites, as appropriate;

78. *Notes* the uneven development of social media among the official languages of the United Nations, and requests the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its thirty-seventh session on the strategy of the Department of Public Information to ensure, by a more balanced use of all six official languages, that social media contribute to raising awareness of and support for the activities of the Organization;

V

Library services

79. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Department of Public Information to implement the recommendations of its 2011 working group on library improvement;

80. *Commends* the steps taken by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library and the other member libraries of the Steering Committee for the Modernization and Integrated Management of United Nations Libraries to align their activities, services and outputs more closely with the goals, objectives and operational priorities of the Organization, and calls upon the Dag Hammarskjöld Library to work with the other member libraries to devise a new statement of strategy for library services and to replace the former Steering Committee with the Steering Committee for Libraries of the United Nations focused on practical cooperation among the library services;

81. *Reiterates* the need to maintain a multilingual collection of books, periodicals and other materials in both hard copy and electronic formats, accessible to Member States and others, as specified in paragraph 83 of the present resolution, ensuring that the Dag Hammarskjöld Library continues to be a broadly accessible resource for information about the United Nations and its activities, including through a multilingual home page, from within existing resources;

82. *Welcomes* the initiatives taken by the Dag Hammarskjöld Library, in its capacity as the focal point, to expand the scope of the regional training and knowledge-sharing workshops organized for the depository libraries in developing countries to include outreach in their activities;

83. *Acknowledges* the role of the Dag Hammarskjöld Library in enhancing knowledge-sharing and networking activities to ensure access to the vast store of United Nations knowledge for delegates, permanent missions of Member States, the Secretariat, researchers and depository libraries worldwide;

84. *Notes* the efforts of the iSeek team, through the intranet, to raise awareness among staff members of new initiatives and developments in different departments of the Secretariat, and reiterates its request to the Department of Public Information to work out, as a matter of priority, a strategy for Member States to also benefit from these new developments;

VI Outreach services

85. *Stresses* that the central objective of the outreach and knowledge services implemented by the Department of Public Information is to promote awareness of the role and work of the United Nations by fostering dialogue with global constituencies, such as academia, civil society, educators, students and youth, with the overall emphasis on multilingualism from the planning stage, in close collaboration with the substantive departments, specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations;

86. *Notes with serious concern* that many outreach and knowledge services are not yet available in all official languages, and in this regard urges the Department of Public Information, as a matter of priority, to mainstream multilingualism into all outreach and knowledge services, bearing in mind the importance of making use of all the official languages of the United Nations and ensuring their full and equitable treatment in all the activities of the Department, with the aim of eliminating the disparity between the use of English and the use of the five other official languages;

87. *Encourages* the United Nations Academic Impact to take effective steps to facilitate exchanges between the United Nations and institutions of higher education in all regions to support the common principles and goals of the United Nations, while recognizing the role of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its constitution;

88. *Notes* the continued growth of the United Nations Academic Impact, calls upon the Department of Public Information to promote global awareness of the Academic Impact in order to encourage balanced participation among Member States and their continued support for the initiative, within existing resources, and encourages Member States to promote the initiative among their academic institutions with a view to their joining it, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 68/234 of 20 December 2013;

89. *Welcomes* the educational outreach activities of the Department of Public Information, through the Global Teaching and Learning Project, and requests the Department to continue to reach educators and young people worldwide through a range of multilingual multimedia platforms;

90. *Notes* the importance of the continued implementation by the Department of Public Information of the ongoing Reham Al-Farra Memorial Journalists' Fellowship Programme for broadcasters and journalists from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, as mandated by the General Assembly, and requests the Department to consider how best to maximize the benefits derived from the Programme by extending, inter alia, its duration and the number of its participants;

91. *Encourages* the Department of Public Information to make the *UN Chronicle* available in paperless editions only, with a view to expanding the service to all six official

languages within existing resources, and requests the Department to report to the Committee on Information at its thirty-seventh session on progress in this matter;

92. *Welcomes* the movement towards educational outreach and the orientation of the *UN Chronicle*, and to this end encourages the *UN Chronicle* to continue to develop partnerships and collaborative educational activities and events with civil society organizations and institutions of higher learning;

93. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to ensure that, in view of their income-generating nature, guided tours at United Nations Headquarters are consistently available in all six official languages of the United Nations;

94. *Welcomes* the initiative of the Secretary-General to also offer guided tours at United Nations Headquarters in non-official languages;

95. *Notes* the ongoing efforts of the Department of Public Information to strengthen its role as a focal point for two-way interaction with civil society relating to the priorities and concerns of the Organization identified by Member States, and also notes in this regard the increasing involvement of civil society in United Nations activities, including the outreach activities directed at youth representatives and young journalists;

96. *Recalls* its resolution 41/68 D of 3 December 1986, commends the World Federation of United Nations Associations and its more than 100 national United Nations associations for the valuable contributions they have made during the past 68 years through their global activities in the mobilization of popular support for the United Nations, and calls for continued collaboration between the World Federation and the Department of Public Information in support of their complementary objectives;

97. *Commends*, in a spirit of cooperation, the United Nations Correspondents Association for its ongoing activities and for its Dag Hammarskjöld Memorial Scholarship Fund, which sponsors journalists from developing countries to come to United Nations Headquarters and report on the activities during the sessions of the General Assembly, and further encourages the international community to continue its financial support for the Fund;

98. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts and contribution of United Nations Messengers of Peace, Goodwill Ambassadors and other advocates to promote the work of the United Nations and to enhance international public awareness of its priorities and concerns, and calls upon the Department of Public Information to continue to involve them in its global communications and media strategies and outreach activities;

VII Final remarks

99. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Committee on Information at its thirty-seventh session and to the General Assembly at its seventieth session on the activities of the Department of Public Information and on the implementation of all recommendations and requests contained in the present resolution;

100. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make every effort to ensure that the level of services provided by the Department of Public Information is maintained throughout the period of the implementation of the capital master plan;

101. *Notes* the initiative taken by the Department of Public Information, in cooperation with the Department of Safety and Security and the Protocol and Liaison Service of the Secretariat, during the annual general debate of the General Assembly, to issue special identification stickers to press officers of Member States to enable them to escort media covering the visits of high-level officials to restricted areas, and strongly urges the Secretary-General to continue to improve this practice by acceding to the request by Member States to provide the needed number of additional

passes to press officers of Member States to allow their access to all areas that are deemed restricted, in order to effectively and comprehensively report on high-level meetings that include officials of delegations of Member States;

102. *Requests* the Committee on Information to report to the General Assembly at its seventieth session;

103. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventieth session the item entitled “Questions relating to information”.



Yearbook of the United Nations

PRE-PRESS

Yearbook of the United Nations