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Technical assistance and capacity-building

Albania,* Australia,* Belgium,* Brazil, Bulgaria,* Canada,* Chile,* Costa Rica,* Croatia,* Cyprus,* Ecuador,* Fiji,* Georgia,* Hungary,* Ireland,* Italy,* Luxembourg, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands, Paraguay, Peru,* Portugal,* Romania,* Slovenia,* Spain,* Türkiye* and Uruguay*: draft resolution

51/... Promoting international cooperation to support national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 48/141 of 20 December 1993, 60/251 of 15 March 2006 and 65/281 of 17 June 2011 and Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 of 18 June 2007, 16/21 of 25 March 2011, 30/25 of 2 October 2015, 36/29 of 29 September 2017 and 42/30 of 27 September 2019,

Reaffirming its commitment to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,

Emphasizing the responsibilities of all States, in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations, to respect, protect and promote human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind, and recalling in this regard that one of the purposes enshrined in the Charter is to achieve international cooperation in promoting and encouraging respect for human rights, and recognizing that enhanced international cooperation in the field of human rights is essential for the full achievement of the purposes of the United Nations, including the effective promotion and protection of all human rights,

Affirming that technical cooperation, provided in consultation with and with the consent of the State concerned, including cooperation for the purpose of strengthening the follow-up to and effective implementation of their international human rights obligations and commitments, should promote an inclusive exercise that significantly engages and involves all national stakeholders, including government agencies, national human rights institutions and civil society, at all stages and at all levels,

Recognizing the need to continue cooperation, based on the diverse experiences of and good practices from South-South cooperation, triangular cooperation and North-South cooperation, and to further explore complementarities and synergies between them with the aim of enhancing international cooperation in the field of human rights, in particular the strengthening of national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up,

* State not a member of the Human Rights Council.



Underlining the need to ensure that technical assistance and capacity-building is properly funded and prioritized within the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to support States to build sustainable capacity for the preparation of their reports to the treaty bodies and in the context of the universal periodic review, especially for developing countries, in particular small island developing States, least developed countries and landlocked developing States,

Bearing in mind that States should integrate their obligations and commitments under international human rights law into their national legislation and public policies in order to ensure that State action at the national level is effectively directed towards the promotion and protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, so as to contribute to the prevention of human rights violations and abuses,

Recognizing the important, valuable and mutually reinforcing role and contribution of all human rights mechanisms of international and regional human rights systems for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Considering that the implementation of human rights obligations and commitments would benefit from expanded, institutionalized follow-up at the regional, national and local level, such as by establishing or strengthening national mechanisms for reporting and follow-up, and that such mechanisms facilitate an integrated and participatory approach to reporting to the international human rights mechanisms,

Underlining that such mechanisms can facilitate the mainstreaming of human rights obligations and recommendations into national and local human rights action plans, policies and working programmes, as appropriate, thereby contributing to preventing the recurrence of human rights violations and abuses,

Recalling that the promotion and protection of human rights and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are interrelated and mutually reinforcing,

Affirming that a holistic approach to all human rights recommendations, embedded in national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, can contribute to a better alignment of human rights and sustainable development efforts at the national level, with the goal of leaving no one behind,

Recalling that the importance of establishing or strengthening national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up has been increasingly addressed in the context of the universal periodic review and interactive dialogues with human rights treaty bodies and that the usefulness of such mechanisms has been highlighted in several reports of the High Commissioner to the General Assembly and to the Human Rights Council,

Considering the commencement of the fourth cycle of the universal periodic review as an opportunity to strengthen the engagement of all States in the follow-up and implementation of human rights recommendations, including through the provision of technical assistance and capacity-building, provided upon request and with the consent of the States concerned,

Recognizing the constructive role and contribution of all branches of State, as well as of national human rights institutions, civil society, academia and other relevant stakeholders in the strengthening of national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, and encouraging their continued participation in and contribution to these mechanisms,

Recognizing also that States, with support from the United Nations system, have increasingly adopted comprehensive and permanent approaches to reporting to international human rights mechanisms and to implementing recommendations by, for instance, establishing or strengthening national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up,

Recalling the request to the Office of the High Commissioner to organize five regional consultations to exchange experiences and good practices relating to the establishment and development of national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, and their impact on the effective implementation of human rights obligations and commitments, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders,

1. *Encourages* States to establish or strengthen national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up for further compliance with human rights obligations and commitments and to share good practices and experiences in their use for the elaboration of public policies and plans, at all levels, with a human rights approach;
2. *Welcomes* the technical assistance and capacity-building provided by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Development Programme, through United Nations resident coordinators and United Nations national and regional representations, in consultation with and with the consent of the States concerned, in particular with a view to supporting the establishment or the strengthening of national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up;
3. *Also welcomes* the holding of five online regional consultations to exchange experiences and good practices relating to the establishment and development of national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, and their impact on the effective implementation of human rights obligations and commitments, held from 24 November to 3 December 2021, as well as the additional information provided by Member States throughout the consultation process, and takes note of the report of the Office of the High Commissioner on the regional consultations¹ and the conclusions and recommendations contained therein;
4. *Requests* the Office of the High Commissioner to organize a one-day intersessional seminar in 2023 and a one-day intersessional seminar in 2024, both to be held in Geneva, to further consider the experiences and good practices shared during the five online regional consultations relating to the establishment and development of national mechanisms for implementation, reporting and follow-up, with States and other relevant stakeholders, including the United Nations Secretariat and relevant bodies, representatives of subregional and regional organizations, international human rights mechanisms, other international organizations, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations, to make the seminars fully accessible to persons with disabilities, and to present to the Council at its fifty-seventh session a summary report on the seminars, available in an Easy Read version and in an accessible format;
5. *Also requests* the Office of the High Commissioner to establish and maintain a virtual knowledge hub for national mechanisms, in collaboration with States and relevant stakeholders, in order to share good practices and to facilitate the exchange of experiences;
6. *Decides* to continue its consideration of the matter.

¹ A/HRC/50/64.