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[without reference to a Main Committee (A/65/L.26/Rev.1 and Add.1)]

65/263. Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 33/18 of 10 November 1978, 50/3 of 16 October 1995, 52/2 of 17 October 1997, 54/25 of 15 November 1999, 56/45 of 7 December 2001, 57/43 of 21 November 2002, 59/22 of 8 November 2004, 61/7 of 20 October 2006 and 63/236 of 22 December 2008, as well as its decision 53/453 of 18 December 1998,

Recalling also its resolutions 61/266 of 16 May 2007 and 63/306 of 9 September 2009 on multilingualism,

Considering that the International Organization of la Francophonie, which is made up of seventy-two States Members of the United Nations, representing more than one third of the members of the General Assembly, is promoting multilateral cooperation in areas of common interest,

Bearing in mind the Articles of the Charter of the United Nations which encourage the promotion of the purposes and principles of the United Nations through regional cooperation,

Bearing in mind also that, according to the Charter of la Francophonie adopted on 23 November 2005 at the Ministerial Conference of la Francophonie, held in Antananarivo, the objectives of the International Organization of la Francophonie are to assist in the establishment and development of democracy, the prevention, management and settlement of conflicts, support for the rule of law and for human rights, the intensification of dialogue between cultures and civilizations, the establishment of closer ties among peoples through mutual knowledge, the strengthening of their solidarity through multilateral cooperation activities with a view to promoting the growth of their economies, and the promotion of education and training,

Welcoming the steps taken by the International Organization of la Francophonie to strengthen its ties with the organizations of the United Nations system and with international and regional organizations with a view to attaining its objectives,



Affirming the importance of a balanced and effective multilateral system that is representative of today's world, one that is based upon a strong and renewed United Nations,

Noting with satisfaction the commitment of the International Organization of la Francophonie to multilateral cooperation for peace, democratic governance and the rule of law, economic governance and solidarity, the environment, sustainable development, and climate change,

Noting with satisfaction also the commitments made at the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, held in New York from 20 to 22 September 2010, and reaffirmed by the Heads of State and Government of countries using French as a common language at the thirteenth Summit of la Francophonie, held in Montreux, Switzerland, from 22 to 24 October 2010, and their determination to work together to bring about, through targeted action, added value in these areas,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 63/236,¹

Noting with satisfaction the substantial progress achieved in cooperation between the United Nations, the specialized agencies and other United Nations bodies and programmes and the International Organization of la Francophonie,

Convinced that strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie serves the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Noting the desire of the two organizations to consolidate, develop and strengthen the ties that exist between them in the political, economic, social and cultural fields,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,¹ and welcomes the strengthened and fruitful cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie;

2. *Notes with satisfaction* that, in accordance with the declaration adopted by Heads of State and Government of countries using French as a common language at the thirteenth Summit of la Francophonie, the International Organization of la Francophonie participates actively in the work of the United Nations whose purposes, as set forth in its Charter, include to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character and to be a centre for harmonizing the actions of nations in the attainment of common ends;

3. *Notes with great satisfaction* the recent strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie in the area of human rights, and commends the initiatives taken by the International Organization of la Francophonie in the areas of crisis and conflict prevention, the promotion of peace, support for democracy and the rule of law, in accordance with the commitments set forth in the Bamako Declaration on an African Common Position on the Illicit Proliferation, Circulation and Trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons² and reaffirmed at the Ministerial Conference of la Francophonie on

¹ See A/65/382-S/2010/490, sect. II.

² A/CONF.192/PC/23, annex.

Conflict Prevention and Human Security, held on 13 and 14 May 2006 in Saint Boniface, Canada;

4. *Welcomes* the genuine contribution of the International Organization of la Francophonie, in cooperation with the United Nations, in Haiti, the Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Burundi, Madagascar, the Niger, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, the Central African Republic and Chad;

5. *Also welcomes* the cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie, with the participation of other regional and subregional organizations, as well as non-governmental organizations, in the fields of early warning and crisis and conflict prevention, and encourages the pursuit of this initiative with a view to formulating practical recommendations to facilitate the establishment of relevant operational mechanisms, where necessary;

6. *Further welcomes* the new impetus given to the participation of States members of the International Organization of la Francophonie in peacekeeping operations, while recalling that it is up to the United Nations to preserve the multilingualism of these operations, and draws attention to the strengthened cooperation between the International Organization of la Francophonie and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat with a view to increasing the number of French-speaking personnel in United Nations peacekeeping operations;

7. *Encourages* the continuation of efforts by the States members of the International Organization of la Francophonie and by the Organization itself, taking into account the authority of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, to increase the supply of French-speaking civilian and military contingents on missions to francophone countries and to build their capacities, including access by French-speaking personnel to leadership positions in peacekeeping operations in francophone countries;

8. *Welcomes* the participation of the International Organization of la Francophonie in the Peacebuilding Commission's work on Burundi, the Central African Republic and Guinea-Bissau, and strongly encourages the International Organization of la Francophonie and the Peacebuilding Commission to continue to cooperate actively;

9. *Notes with satisfaction* the continued collaboration between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie in the area of electoral monitoring and assistance, and encourages the strengthening of cooperation between the two Organizations in that area;

10. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General for including the International Organization of la Francophonie in the periodic meetings he holds with heads of regional organizations, and invites him to continue to do so, taking into account the role played by the International Organization of la Francophonie in conflict prevention and support for democracy and the rule of law;

11. *Welcomes* the fact that the thirteenth Summit of la Francophonie led to a concrete commitment by States members of the International Organization of la Francophonie to take action by pursuing efforts aimed at:

(a) Mobilizing with a view to achieving the Millennium Development Goals, in particular with regard to education;

(b) Taking into account the needs of the most vulnerable States, in particular in the areas of sustainable development, food security, the environment and biodiversity;

- (c) Reforming financial regulations and the international monetary system;
 - (d) Combating cross-cutting threats which compromise international peace and sustainability;
12. *Invites* the specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, as well as the regional commissions, including the Economic Commission for Africa, to collaborate to this end with the Secretary-General of la Francophonie by identifying new synergies in favour of development, in particular in the areas of poverty elimination, energy, sustainable development, education, training and the development of new information technologies, in particular with a view to meeting the Millennium Development Goals;
13. *Expresses its gratitude* to the International Organization of la Francophonie for the steps it has taken in recent years to promote cultural and linguistic diversity and dialogue between cultures and civilizations;
14. *Welcomes* the establishment of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), and encourages the International Organization of la Francophonie to work in synergy with UN-Women in the spirit of the Francophone Declaration on Violence against Women adopted on 1 March 2010;
15. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Secretary-General of la Francophonie for their sustained efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the two Organizations, thereby serving their mutual interests in the political, economic, social and cultural fields;
16. *Welcomes* the involvement of the countries that use French as a common language, particularly through the International Organization of la Francophonie, in the preparation for, conduct of and follow-up to international conferences organized under the auspices of the United Nations;
17. *Also welcomes* the high-level meetings held periodically between the Secretariat of the United Nations and the Secretariat of the International Organization of la Francophonie, and requests the Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in cooperation with the Secretary-General of la Francophonie, to encourage the holding of periodic meetings between their representatives in order to promote the exchange of information, coordination of activities and identification of new areas of cooperation;
18. *Invites* the Secretary-General of the United Nations to take the steps necessary, in consultation with the Secretary-General of la Francophonie, to continue to promote cooperation between the two Organizations;
19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;
20. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-seventh session the sub-item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and the International Organization of la Francophonie”.

*74th plenary meeting
14 January 2011*