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Sustainable development: follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Report of the Second Committee*

Rapporteur: Mr. Abdulmalik **Alshabibi** (Yemen)

I. Introduction

1. The Second Committee held a substantive debate on agenda item 52 (see A/60/488, para. 2). Action on sub-item (b) was taken at the 27th and 33rd meetings, on 10 November and 2 December 2005. An account of the Committee's consideration of the sub-item is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.2/60/SR.27 and 33).

II. Consideration of draft resolutions A/C.2/60/L.21 and A/C.2/60/L.48

2. At the 27th meeting, on 10 November, the representative of Jamaica, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" (A/C.2/60/L.21), which read:

"The General Assembly,

"Reaffirming the Declaration of Barbados and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, adopted

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in nine parts, under the symbol A/60/488 and Add.1-8.

by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and recalling its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference,

“Reaffirming also the Mauritius Declaration and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (‘Mauritius Strategy for Implementation’), adopted by the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States on 14 January 2005, and recalling also its resolution 59/311 of 14 July 2005, in which it endorsed the outcomes of the International Meeting,

“Recalling the development section of the 2005 World Summit Outcome which, inter alia, recognizes the special needs and vulnerabilities of small island developing States and reaffirms the commitment to take urgent and concrete action to address those needs and vulnerabilities through the full and effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

“Welcoming the decision of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its thirteenth session to devote one day of its review sessions to the review of the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, focusing on that year’s thematic cluster, as well as on any new developments in the sustainable development efforts of small island developing States, using existing modalities, and to request the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Commission at its review session on progress and obstacles to sustainable development in small island developing States, including recommendations to enhance the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

“Recognizing that it is crucial to mobilize resources from all sources for the effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

“Expressing its appreciation to the United Nations Secretariat, through the Inter-Agency Consultative Group, for its continued work in coordination of the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

“Having considered the report of the Secretary-General,

“1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General;

“2. Welcomes the renewed commitment of the international community to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

“3. Urges Governments and all relevant international and regional organizations, United Nations funds, programmes, specialized agencies and regional commissions, international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and major groups, to take timely actions to ensure the effective implementation of and follow-up to the Mauritius Declaration and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (‘Mauritius Strategy for Implementation’), including the operationalization of concrete projects and programmes;

“4. *Calls for* the full and effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and targets adopted at the International Meeting, and to this end, for the fulfilment of the provisions for the means of implementation, as contained in the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, and encourages small island developing States and their development partners to consult widely in order to develop concrete projects and programmes for the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

“5. *Encourages also* the implementation of partnership initiatives, within the framework of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, in support of the sustainable development of small island developing States;

“6. *Requests* the Secretary-General through the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to prepare a report on the outcomes of the regional and interregional meetings of small island developing States, as convened pursuant to resolution 59/311, as well as other contributions, and to report thereon to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its fourteenth session;

“7. *Reiterates* its request for the Secretary-General to strengthen the Small Island Developing States Unit in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs as called for in resolutions 57/262 of 20 December 2002, 58/213 A of 23 December 2003 and 59/229 of 24 December 2004, in particular in paragraph 7 of resolution 59/229 of 24 December 2004, and in resolution 59/311 of 14 July 2005, and urges the Secretary-General to ensure that the Unit is sufficiently and sustainably staffed without delay to undertake its broad range of mandated functions with a view to ensuring the full and effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

“8. *Requests* the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to mainstream the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation in their work programmes and establish a small island developing States focal point within their respective secretariats;

“9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

“10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session, under the item entitled ‘Sustainable development’, the sub-item entitled ‘Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States’.”

3. At the 33rd meeting, on 2 December, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States” (A/C.2/60/L.48) submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Stefano Toscano (Switzerland), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/60/L.21.

4. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/60/L.48 (see A/C.2/60/SR.33).

5. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.2/60/L.48 (see para. 7).

6. In the light of the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/60/L.48, draft resolution A/C.2/60/L.21 was withdrawn by its sponsors.

III. Recommendation of the Second Committee

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

Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Declaration of Barbados¹ and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,² adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and recalling its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference,

Reaffirming also the Mauritius Declaration³ and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (“Mauritius Strategy for Implementation”),⁴ adopted by the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States on 14 January 2005, and recalling its resolution 59/311 of 14 July 2005, in which it endorsed the outcomes of the International Meeting,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,⁵

Welcoming the decision of the Commission on Sustainable Development at its thirteenth session to devote one day of its review sessions to the review of the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, focusing on that year’s thematic cluster, as well as on any new developments in the sustainable development efforts of small island developing States, using existing modalities, and to request the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Commission at its review session on progress in and obstacles to sustainable development in small island developing States, including recommendations to enhance the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

Recognizing that it is crucial to mobilize resources from all sources for the effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,

¹ *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

² *Ibid.*, annex II.

³ *Report of the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Port Louis, Mauritius, 10-14 January 2005* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.05.II.A.4 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

⁴ *Ibid.*, annex II.

⁵ See resolution 60/1.

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;⁶
2. *Welcomes* the renewed commitment of the international community to the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;²
3. *Urges* Governments and all relevant international and regional organizations, United Nations funds, programmes, specialized agencies and regional commissions, international financial institutions and the Global Environment Facility, as well as other intergovernmental organizations and major groups, to take timely actions for the effective implementation of and follow-up to the Mauritius Declaration³ and the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation,⁴ including the further development and operationalization of concrete projects and programmes;
4. *Calls for* the full and effective implementation of the commitments, programmes and targets adopted at the International Meeting to Review the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States and, to this end, for the fulfilment of the provisions for the means of implementation, as contained in the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, and encourages small island developing States and their development partners to continue to consult widely in order to develop further concrete projects and programmes for the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;
5. *Encourages* the implementation of partnership initiatives, within the framework of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, in support of the sustainable development of small island developing States;
6. *Notes with interest* the convening by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, pursuant to resolution 59/311, of the regional meetings of small island developing States, held in Saint Kitts and Nevis, Samoa and Seychelles, as well as the interregional meeting of small island developing States, held in Rome in November 2005, and requests the Secretary-General to transmit the reports of the regional and interregional meetings to the Commission on Sustainable Development at its fourteenth session;
7. *Notes* recent efforts to strengthen the Small Island Developing States Unit in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and urges the Secretary-General to ensure that the Unit is sufficiently and sustainably staffed to enable it to undertake its broad range of mandated functions with a view to ensuring the full and effective implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation, within existing resources, including by redeploying resources;
8. *Requests* the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to mainstream, as appropriate, the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation in their work programmes and to establish a small island developing States focal point within their respective secretariats;
9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its sixty-first session on the follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation;

⁶ A/60/401.

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-first session, under the item entitled “Sustainable development”, the sub-item entitled “Follow-up to and implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States”.
