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## Seventy-sixth session

Agenda item 74 (a)

### **Promotion and protection of human rights: implementation of human rights instruments**

#### **Report of the Third Committee\***

*Rapporteur:* Ms. Maria-Iuliana Niculae (Romania)

## **I. Introduction**

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 17 September 2021, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its seventy-sixth session, under the item entitled “Promotion and protection of human rights”, the sub-item entitled “Implementation of human rights instruments” and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Committee considered proposals and took action on the sub-item at its 12th meeting, on 15 November. An account of the Committee’s discussion is contained in the relevant summary record.<sup>1</sup> Attention is also drawn to the general debate held by the Committee at its 1st to 6th meetings, on 30 September and on 1, 4 and 7 October.<sup>2</sup>

3. The Committee, pursuant to the organization of work adopted at its 1st meeting, held on 30 September, and taking into account the prevailing conditions relating to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on the working arrangements for its seventy-sixth session and the available technological and procedural solutions in the interim period, convened 20 virtual informal meetings to hear introductory statements and hold interactive dialogues on the sub-item jointly with sub-item 74 (b), entitled “Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms”, sub-item 74 (c), entitled “Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives”, and sub-item 74 (d), entitled “Comprehensive implementation of

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\* The report of the Committee on this item is being issued in five parts, under the symbols [A/76/462](#), [A/76/462/Add.1](#), [A/75/462/Add.2](#), [A/76/462/Add.3](#) and [A/76/462/Add.4](#).

<sup>1</sup> [A/C.3/76/SR.12](#).

<sup>2</sup> See [A/C.3/76/SR.1](#), [A/C.3/76/SR.2](#), [A/C.3/76/SR.3](#), [A/C.3/76/SR.4](#), [A/C.3/76/SR.5](#) and [A/C.3/76/SR.6](#). Pursuant to the organization of work adopted at the 1st meeting, on 30 September, official statements received by the Secretariat for posting on eStatements can be accessed at the following link: <https://journal.un.org/>.



and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action”. The proceedings of the virtual informal meetings are reflected in the annex to document [A/76/462](#).

4. Also pursuant to the organization of work adopted at its 1st meeting, and in lieu of the holding of in-person general discussions of agenda items allocated to the Third Committee, official statements received by the Secretariat under the item can be accessed through the Third Committee Place of the e-deleGATE portal.

5. For the documents before the Committee under this sub-item, see document [A/76/462](#).

## **II. Consideration of draft resolution [A/C.3/76/L.53/Rev.1](#)**

6. At its 12th meeting, on 15 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled “Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto: participation” ([A/C.3/76/L.53/Rev.1](#)), which was submitted by Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, the Central African Republic, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Cyprus, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, Germany, Haiti, Honduras, Iceland, Italy, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, New Zealand, North Macedonia, Norway, Paraguay, Portugal, Slovenia, Sweden and the United States of America. Subsequently, Andorra, Argentina, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Chile, the Congo, Croatia, Czechia, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Estonia, France, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, India, Ireland, Israel, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, the Niger, Nigeria, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zambia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

7. At the same meeting, the representative of New Zealand, also on behalf of Mexico, made a statement.

8. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution [A/C.3/76/L.53/Rev.1](#) (see para. 11).

9. Before the adoption, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement.

10. After the adoption, the representatives of Egypt, Iraq, the United States of America, Argentina, Malaysia and the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as the observer for the Holy See, made statements.

### III. Recommendations of the Third Committee

11. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

#### **Implementation of the Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto: participation**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolution [74/144](#) of 18 December 2019 and its previous relevant resolutions, and relevant resolutions of the Human Rights Council and of the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions,

*Recalling also* the universality, indivisibility, interdependence and interrelatedness of all human rights and fundamental freedoms and the need for persons with disabilities to be guaranteed the full enjoyment of their rights and freedoms without discrimination,

*Reaffirming* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>1</sup> the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities<sup>2</sup> and the Optional Protocol thereto,<sup>3</sup> the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>4</sup> the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>5</sup> the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination<sup>6</sup> and all other relevant international human rights instruments,

*Recalling* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,<sup>7</sup> the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030<sup>8</sup> and the New Urban Agenda,<sup>9</sup>

*Reaffirming* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>10</sup> which is inclusive of persons with disabilities and in which Member States pledged to leave no one behind, recognizing that the contributions of persons with disabilities are important to its full and effective implementation, and acknowledging that Member States, while implementing the 2030 Agenda, should, inter alia, respect, protect, promote and fulfil human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without discrimination of any kind,

*Recognizing* that international cooperation is key for disability-inclusive development, which is needed to ensure that sufficient means of implementation exist to provide countries with the opportunity to realize the rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities, in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Welcoming* the fact that, since the opening for signature of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto on 30 March 2007, 163 States and 1 regional integration organization have signed and 183 States and 1 regional integration organization have ratified or acceded to the Convention and 94 States have signed and 100 States have ratified the Optional Protocol,

<sup>1</sup> Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., vol. 2518, No. 44910.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid., vol. 660, No. 9464.

<sup>7</sup> [A/CONF.157/24 \(Part I\)](#), chap. III.

<sup>8</sup> Resolution [69/283](#), annex II.

<sup>9</sup> Resolution [71/256](#), annex.

<sup>10</sup> Resolution [70/1](#).

*Noting with appreciation* the work and activities that have been and continue to be undertaken in support of the Convention and towards the fulfilment and mainstreaming of the rights of all persons with disabilities, particularly through, inter alia, the Conference of States Parties to the Convention, the Under-Secretary-General and Senior Adviser on Policy, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, other human rights treaty bodies, the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the rights of persons with disabilities, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Disability and Accessibility, the Inter-Agency Support Group on the Convention and the Inter-Agency Standing Committee Task Team on Inclusion of Persons with Disabilities in Humanitarian Action,

*Noting* the need for Member States, the United Nations system and other stakeholders to further strengthen the normative framework on disability, including the rights of persons with disabilities, in line with the pledge of leaving no one behind contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and to consider disability as a global issue, cutting across the pillars of the United Nations,

*Welcoming* progress towards mainstreaming disability, including the rights of persons with disabilities, in the work of the United Nations, and the implementation by the United Nations system of the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy, and welcoming also the leadership of the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly to bring about transformative and systematic change on disability inclusion across the United Nations system,

*Welcoming also* the contributions of the Steering Committee on Accessibility to improving the accessibility of United Nations premises, conferences and meetings, and information and communications, and notes other disability-related initiatives such as the Global Disability Summit,

*Welcoming further* the observance of international disability-related days, in particular the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, World Autism Awareness Day and World Down Syndrome Day, while emphasizing that the protection and promotion of the rights of all persons with all types of disabilities remains an important aspect of the work of the United Nations,

*Recalling* that the 2018 *Disability and Development Report: Realizing the Sustainable Development Goals by, for and with Persons with Disabilities*<sup>11</sup> presents an overview of the status of accessibility for persons with disabilities, including the participation of persons with disabilities, in the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the persistent gaps in this regard, identifies good practices and includes recommendations on scaling up actions to ensure the full, equal, effective and meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in the programmes, policies and efforts of States for the effective implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the disability-inclusive achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,

*Recalling also* that persons with disabilities include those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual, psychosocial or sensory impairments which, in interaction with various barriers, may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others, including in relation to their access to the physical environment, to transportation, to information and communications, including information and communications technologies and systems, and to other facilities and services open or provided to the public, in both urban and rural areas,

*Recognizing* that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic is one of the greatest global challenges in the history of the United Nations, and noting with deep

<sup>11</sup> United Nations publication, Sales No. 19.IV.4.

concern its disproportionate impact on health and the loss of life, mental health and well-being, including on persons with disabilities, as well as the negative impact on global humanitarian needs, the enjoyment of their human rights and across all spheres of society, including on livelihoods, food security and nutrition, employment and education, the exacerbation of poverty and hunger, disruption to economies, trade, societies and environments, and the exacerbation of economic and social inequalities within and among countries, which is reversing hard-won development gains and hampering progress towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and all its Goals and targets, especially for persons with disabilities,

*Recognizing also* that persons with disabilities face a greater risk of COVID-19 infection and have higher mortality rates, and face aggravated barriers in accessing timely and quality health-care services, which has an impact on their human rights, including their right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, and that facing various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others,

*Recognizing further* the importance of international cooperation and effective multilateralism in helping to ensure that all States have in place effective and accessible national protective measures, including for persons with disabilities, access to and flow of vital medical supplies, medicines and vaccines, in particular COVID-19 vaccines, in order to minimize negative effects in all affected States and to avoid relapses of the pandemic,

*Expressing concern* that women and girls with disabilities in diverse situations and conditions are subject to multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, which limit their enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis with others, and recognizing that the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls is crucial to making progress across all the Sustainable Development Goals and targets which contribute, inter alia, to the empowerment of women and girls with disabilities and facilitate the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,

*Recognizing* the importance of accessibility for persons with disabilities in all aspects of life, including in the civil, political, social, economic and cultural spheres, to health and education and to information and communications, and the need to identify and eliminate prejudice, discrimination, obstacles and barriers that limit the access of persons with disabilities to the physical environment, to transportation, to information and communications, including information and communications technologies and systems, and to other facilities and services open or available to the public, in both urban and rural areas, on an equal basis with others,

*Reaffirming* that the full and effective participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities in society is one of the general principles of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,

*Recognizing* that persons with disabilities, including children with disabilities through their representative organizations, as well as civil society organizations committed to disability mainstreaming, should be consulted closely and actively involved in decision-making processes and in the development and implementation of legislation and policies and programmes, especially those concerning them directly,

*Emphasizing* that accessibility is a precondition for persons with disabilities to live independently, participate fully and effectively in all aspects of life, including in political and public life and decision-making processes, and fully enjoy all their human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis with others, and recognizing the importance of accessibility measures, including through the use of

universal design and assistive technologies, as a means of investing in society as a whole and as an integral part of the 2030 Agenda,

*Recognizing* the intersection between older age and disability and the specific challenges linked to accessibility for older persons with disabilities, especially those faced by older women with disabilities,

*Recognizing also* the need to promote and protect the human rights of all persons with disabilities, including those who require more intensive support to attain and maintain maximum independence, full physical, mental, social and vocational abilities and full inclusion and participation in all aspects of life,

*Recognizing further* that persons with disabilities are often disproportionately affected in situations of risk, including situations of armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and the occurrence of natural disasters and in their aftermath, and that they may require specific protection and safety measures, recognizing further the need to support further participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities in the development of measures and decision-making processes relating thereto, in order to ensure disability-inclusive risk reduction and humanitarian action, and recognizing the special coping mechanisms developed by persons with disabilities to withstand the effects of conflict and natural disasters,

*Recognizing* the contribution of family members towards the full and equal enjoyment by persons with disabilities of their human rights, including to participate in decision-making processes, inter alia, through participation in organizations which empower persons with disabilities to have a voice and full control of their own lives, and recognizing the need for States to raise awareness throughout society, including at the family level, regarding persons with disabilities and to foster respect for their rights and dignity, including participation,

*Recognizing also* the need for States to accelerate the development, implementation and mainstreaming of strategies that respect, protect and fulfil the rights of all persons with disabilities, including women and girls, to the enjoyment of civil, political, economic, cultural and social rights, without discrimination, by adopting legislation, policies and programmes that are inclusive of and accessible to all persons with disabilities, including those who are in vulnerable situations, and affirming that realizing their human rights requires their full and effective participation and inclusion in all aspects of public, political, economic, cultural, social and family life, on an equal basis with all others,

*Recognizing further* the need to ensure voting accessibility to facilitate the full and equal political participation of persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others, including the right of and opportunity for persons with disabilities to vote and be elected, and recognizing that barriers may be amplified for those who are vulnerable or in vulnerable situations,

*Recognizing* that civil, political, social, economic and accessibility barriers remain, including discrimination, poverty, gender inequality, unemployment and underemployment, and educational inequality, which may contribute to persistent digital divides, preventing persons with disabilities from fully participating in society on an equal basis with others,

*Recognizing also* that information and communications technologies, including assistive technology and devices, have shown their potential to strengthen the exercise of human rights, and that they can create conditions enabling persons with disabilities to fully enjoy their human rights and can contribute to their social inclusion and empowerment and allow them to live independently in the community on an equal basis with others and to fully, effectively and meaningfully participate in society and in the workplace,

*Emphasizing* the right to privacy and the respect for data-protection regulations and standards in all uses of information and communications technologies and systems,

*Welcoming* the positive role of civil society in the promotion and implementation of the rights of persons with disabilities, and stressing the importance of closely consulting and actively involving persons with disabilities, including women and children, through their representative organizations, in the development and implementation of legislation and policies that affect their lives and in other decision-making processes concerning issues relating to persons with disabilities, thereby minimizing the risk of creating barriers to accessibility for all persons with disabilities,

*Stressing* the need for capacity-development efforts aimed at empowering persons with disabilities and their representative organizations to ensure equal access to quality education, full and productive employment and decent work on an equal basis and without discrimination to persons with disabilities, including by promoting access to inclusive education systems, skills development, volunteering opportunities and vocational and entrepreneurial training in order to enable persons with disabilities to attain and maintain maximum independence,

*Acknowledging* the importance of taking measures to raise awareness of the rights of persons with disabilities in order to eliminate discrimination, stereotypes, prejudices and other barriers which constitute a major impediment to their full, equal and effective participation in society and the economy, as well as in political and public life,

*Recognizing* that the active involvement and participation of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in policymaking for national implementation should be promoted, and that the number of women with disabilities in political leadership roles remains extremely low,

*Concerned* that the continuing lack of available, high-quality, timely and reliable statistics, data and information on the situation of persons with disabilities at the national, regional and global levels contributes to their exclusion in official statistics, policies and programmes, and in this regard recognizing the need to intensify efforts to build the capacity of Member States, and to strengthen, at the national level, data collection, analysis and use of data disaggregated by disability, sex and age for specific indicators, using appropriate measurement tools, including, as appropriate, the United Nations Children's Fund Module on Child Functioning and the Washington Group short set of questions on disability and other data-collection methodologies, to support the development of evidence-based policies and programmes that are accessible to and inclusive of persons with disabilities, including women and girls, on an equal basis with others,

1. *Calls upon* those States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Optional Protocol thereto as a matter of priority;

2. *Encourages* States that have ratified the Convention and submitted one or more reservations to it to review regularly the effect and continued relevance of such reservations and to consider the possibility of withdrawing them;

3. *Requests* United Nations agencies and organizations, and invites intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to continue to strengthen efforts undertaken to disseminate accessible and easy-to-understand information on the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto, including to children and young people to promote their understanding, and to assist States parties in implementing their obligations under those instruments;

4. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the participation of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in decision-making processes and the status of the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto,<sup>12</sup> and the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Human Rights Council on the rights of persons with disabilities;<sup>13</sup>

5. *Also takes note* of the policy brief of the Secretary-General on disability-inclusive COVID-19 response and recovery, published in May 2020;

6. *Calls upon* Member States and other stakeholders to include persons with disabilities in all stages of policymaking and decision-making related to COVID-19 response and recovery, as well to eliminate barriers and discrimination against persons with disabilities, in particular women and girls and those in vulnerable situations, in access to support and health-care services on an equal basis with others, and to prevent, monitor and address the disproportionate effects of the pandemic on persons with disabilities, including the lack of accessible communications, support and services, as well as the unique challenges and barriers that they will face following the end of the pandemic;

7. *Calls upon* those States that have not yet done so to consider signing and ratifying the Marrakesh Treaty to Facilitate Access to Published Works for Persons Who Are Blind, Visually Impaired, or Otherwise Print Disabled;

8. *Emphasizes* the importance of mainstreaming disability issues as an integral part of relevant sustainable development strategies, and encourages States to apply a human rights-based and gender-responsive approach and to intensify their efforts to advance the rights of persons with disabilities in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, consistent with their international obligations;

9. *Encourages* States to review and repeal any law or policy that restricts the full and effective participation in political and public life of persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others or discriminates against persons with disabilities, including with regard to accessing a service or facility open to the public, and to establish accessible and effective channels of redress for discrimination on the basis of disability;

10. *Urges* States to take steps to eliminate multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination against all women and girls with disabilities through repealing discriminatory laws, policies and practices, to take all effective measures to remove any other barriers faced by women and girls with disabilities in accessing, inter alia, the physical, social, economic and cultural environment, transportation, health and education, information and communications, including information and communications technologies and systems, and other facilities and services open or provided to the public and to ensure the full and equal enjoyment of all rights stipulated in the Convention, including to effectively and fully participate in public life and in the conduct of public affairs;

11. *Calls upon* all States to ensure the full enjoyment by children with disabilities of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, on an equal basis with other children, in recognition that discrimination against any child on the basis of a disability is a violation of the inherent dignity and worth of the child, to enhance inclusion and address barriers faced by children with disabilities, including addressing discriminatory, attitudinal and environmental barriers to their participation and inclusion in society and in the community, to develop gender- and age-sensitive

<sup>12</sup> A/76/147.

<sup>13</sup> A/76/146.



policies and capacities to ensure the rights and address the particular needs of children with disabilities, including children in vulnerable situations, including migrant children, children without parental care, children in street situations and child victims of trafficking, and those affected by climate change, and to prevent and respond to all forms of violence, including cases of sexual and gender-based violence;

12. *Also calls upon* all States to take steps to ensure that persons with disabilities can effectively and fully participate in public life on an equal basis with others, including the right of and opportunity for persons with disabilities to vote and be elected and to participate in the conduct of public affairs, and provide reasonable accommodation and eliminate barriers that prevent or limit effective and full participation in public life, including physical and communication barriers, such as inaccessible polling stations or the lack of election information or materials in accessible formats;

13. *Encourages* States to adopt inclusive strategies that address the barriers to the participation of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations at all levels of decision-making processes, and to adopt a framework for equality, non-discrimination and the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities;

14. *Urges* States to facilitate an enabling environment for persons with disabilities in public life, including through awareness and outreach campaigns, partnerships with media, accessible information and accessible public offices, without discrimination and on an equal basis with others;

15. *Calls upon* States to ensure the full and effective participation of and consultation with persons with disabilities, including through their representative organizations, in the development and implementation of policies and programmes for the implementation of the Convention, as well as in other relevant issues at the national and local levels, including through the inclusion of persons with disabilities in boards, organs and institutions and integrating consultative processes in such policies and programmes as appropriate;

16. *Encourages* States to invest in and develop educational tools and programmes to support all persons with disabilities, in particular women and girls with disabilities, such as strengthening their capacities to apply for public office, and to ensure that the prerequisites to political participation are addressed, namely, poverty reduction, employment, education and information and communications technologies, and health-care services;

17. *Calls for* national COVID-19 vaccination plans to include persons with disabilities, on an equal basis with others, as important to respecting the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health, without discrimination on the basis of disability;

18. *Calls upon* States to promote other appropriate forms of assistance and support to persons with disabilities to ensure their access to information, to provide information intended for the general public to persons with disabilities using accessible formats and technologies useful for persons with different kinds of disabilities in a timely manner and without additional cost, and to expand the availability and improve the affordability of information and communications technologies, as well as to facilitate cooperation in research and access to scientific and technical knowledge to promote the inclusion of persons with disabilities;

19. *Urges* Member States, in collaboration with other stakeholders, to close the digital divides and promote the digital inclusion of persons with disabilities,

addressing the challenges associated with accessibility, affordability, digital literacy and digital skills, and awareness;

20. *Calls upon* States to ensure that persons with disabilities have the opportunity to choose their place of residence and where and with whom they live on an equal basis with others and are not obliged to live in a particular living arrangement and that persons with disabilities have access to a range of in-home, residential and other community support services, including personal assistance necessary to support living and inclusion in the community, and to prevent isolation or segregation from the community;

21. *Also calls upon* States to promote and facilitate access to and sharing of accessible and assistive technologies, especially new and emerging ones, including information and communications systems, mobility aids, assistive devices and other assistive technologies, by persons with disabilities, and to promote research and development in this regard, so that these technologies and systems become accessible at minimal cost and at an early stage;

22. *Urges* States to consider laws, policies and procedures relating to public procurement to ensure that persons with disabilities can access any service or facility open to the public on an equal basis with others;

23. *Calls upon* States to ensure that polling stations, information on how to run for office and public buildings are accessible for persons with disabilities, take appropriate measures to ensure that alternative methods of voting are available to accommodate the various needs of voters with disabilities, including during lockdowns, quarantines and other measures in response to public health measures, and ensure that election officials are trained on accessible elections and that polling station officials are trained on accessibility;

24. *Encourages* States to disseminate information to and work with the private sector, including employers and other relevant stakeholders, to implement accessibility measures for any facilities or services that are open or provided to the public that take into account all aspects of accessibility for persons with disabilities;

25. *Urges* States to take all appropriate measures to eliminate violence and discrimination against persons with disabilities, including women and girls, in situations of risk, including situations of armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and the occurrence of natural disasters, and ensure that their specific needs are addressed, such as access to basic services, including health-care services, rehabilitation assistance, psychosocial support and educational programmes, as well as transportation and information and communications technologies and systems on an equal basis with others;

26. *Calls upon* States to strengthen efforts to empower all persons with disabilities and enhance their participation and promote their leadership in society through taking measures to address and remove all barriers that prevent or restrict their access and full inclusion and participation in the community on an equal basis with others, including in the government and public sector, the private sector, civil society and all branches and bodies of the national monitoring system of the Convention, and to work to ensure that persons with disabilities are closely consulted and actively involved, through their representative organizations, in the design, implementation and monitoring of all legislation, policies and programmes which have an impact on their lives;

27. *Encourages* States to provide support to existing organizations and promote the creation of organizations, including civil society organizations and networks of persons with disabilities, as appropriate, and to promote and support

persons with disabilities in taking leadership roles in public decision-making bodies at all levels, recognizing the importance for States of having an open, inclusive and transparent engagement with civil society in the implementation of measures on persons with disabilities;

28. *Calls upon* States to collect and analyse data disaggregated by income, sex, race, age, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographical location and other characteristics relevant to national contexts to assist, inter alia, with the identification and eradication of barriers and all forms of discrimination, including multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, that prevent persons with disabilities from enjoying all the rights stipulated in the Convention, to guide inclusive policy planning and to be used on an ongoing basis to assess and advance participation, and also calls upon States to improve data-collection systems for adequate monitoring and evaluation frameworks on the implementation of the Convention and the Sustainable Development Goals for all persons with disabilities;

29. *Also calls upon* States to take specific measures to support the participation of persons with disabilities and their representative organizations in decision-making at all levels, in the public and private sectors, including for appointed and elected positions;

30. *Urges* States and other relevant stakeholders, including national human rights institutions in compliance with the Paris Principles,<sup>14</sup> where they exist, to continue to support the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by, inter alia, supporting the disaggregation of data by disability, sex and age for specific indicators, using appropriate measurement tools, including, as appropriate, the United Nations Children's Fund Module on Child Functioning and the Washington Group short set of questions on disability and other data-collection methodologies, to assist States in measuring the achievement of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 associated targets and programming policies in the context of the Goals;

31. *Encourages* States, United Nations entities and relevant international organizations, inter alia:

(a) To ensure that international cooperation is gender-responsive and disability inclusive, including through the implementation of disability markers to monitor the implementation of programmes and the collection of data and statistics on persons with disabilities in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals, targets and indicators, as well as other international frameworks;

(b) To support, promote and strengthen international cooperation and assistance, and enhance partnerships and coordination, including South-South cooperation, among themselves and with the active participation of persons with disabilities, through their representative organizations, as well as other relevant civil society organizations and stakeholders, in strengthening the means of implementation of the Convention and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including through the mobilization of financial resources, technical cooperation and facilitation of access to and sharing of accessible and assistive technologies on mutually agreed terms;

32. *Encourages* the United Nations system, international financial and development institutions, and other international and regional organizations to:

(a) Increase assistance to support Member States, upon their request, in substantially enhancing the participation of persons with disabilities, including

<sup>14</sup> Resolution 48/134, annex.

through their organizations, in decision-making, including through building capacity, training and supporting persons with disabilities in participating in public life, and sharing experiences and best practices;

(b) Provide sustained, long-term support to national partners, including organizations of persons with disabilities, and civil society organizations, in their efforts to become more disability-inclusive and promote the participation of persons with disabilities;

33. *Recalls* its decision on accessible seating for representatives with disabilities in resolution 73/341 of 12 September 2019 on the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, and in this regard welcomes the note by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management of the Secretariat implementing the decision;

34. *Invites* the Chair of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities to address and engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly annually, under the item entitled “Promotion and protection of human rights”, as a way to enhance communication between the Assembly and the Committee;

35. *Takes note* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the system-wide implementation of the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy,<sup>15</sup> and calls upon the United Nations system, including its agencies, funds and programmes, within their respective mandates, to continue to work collaboratively to accelerate the full and effective mainstreaming of disability inclusion into the United Nations system, including by implementing and reporting on the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy across its programmes and operations;

36. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session a progress report on steps taken by the United Nations system towards mainstreaming disability inclusion, including implementation of the United Nations Disability Inclusion Strategy, within existing resources;

37. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations and other relevant stakeholders to take part in implementing the recommendations endorsed by the Steering Committee on Accessibility in June 2019;

38. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-eighth session a report on the rights of persons with disabilities with a focus on ensuring the protection and safety of persons with disabilities in situations of risk and humanitarian emergencies, as outlined in article 11 of the Convention, including good practices and challenges in the implementation of the Convention in that regard, in consultation with persons with disabilities and their representative organizations, relevant United Nations entities, including the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Disability and Accessibility, the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the United Nations Children’s Fund, taking into account the views of relevant stakeholders and using existing available materials, and to include a segment on the status of the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;

39. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to maintain the levels of resources required by the relevant offices in the United Nations system for the fulfilment of their tasks with respect to their work on the rights of and inclusive development for persons with disabilities.

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<sup>15</sup> A/75/314 and A/76/265.