



# General Assembly

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## Seventy-third session Second Committee

Agenda item 20 (d)

### **Sustainable development: protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind**

**Egypt:\* draft resolution**

### **Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind**

*The General Assembly,*

*Recalling* its resolutions [43/53](#) of 6 December 1988, [54/222](#) of 22 December 1999, [62/86](#) of 10 December 2007, [63/32](#) of 26 November 2008, [64/73](#) of 7 December 2009, [65/159](#) of 20 December 2010, [66/200](#) of 22 December 2011, [67/210](#) of 21 December 2012, [68/212](#) of 20 December 2013, [69/220](#) of 19 December 2014, [70/205](#) of 22 December 2015, [71/228](#) of 21 December 2016 and [72/219](#) of 20 December 2017 and other resolutions and decisions relating to the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of humankind,

*Recalling also*, in full, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change<sup>1</sup> and the Paris Agreement adopted under the Convention,<sup>2</sup> acknowledging that they are the primary international, intergovernmental forums for negotiating the global response to climate change, expressing determination to address decisively the threat posed by climate change and environmental degradation, recognizing that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible international cooperation aimed at accelerating the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions and addressing adaptation to the adverse impacts of climate change, and noting with concern the significant gap between the aggregate effect of parties' mitigation pledges in terms of global annual emissions of greenhouse gases by 2020 and aggregate emission pathways,

*Recalling further* the Paris Agreement, which, pursuant to article 2, paragraph 2, thereof, will be implemented to reflect equity and the principle of common but

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\* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

<sup>2</sup> See [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21, annex.



differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, in the light of different national circumstances,

*Acknowledging* that action on adaptation to climate change is an urgent priority for developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and bearing in mind that the provision of scaled-up financial resources should aim to achieve a balance between adaptation and mitigation,

*Welcoming* the convening of the twenty-fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the third part of the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, in Katowice, Poland, from 2 to 14 December 2018,

*Recalling* the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>3</sup> the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development<sup>4</sup> and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (Johannesburg Plan of Implementation),<sup>5</sup> the 2005 World Summit Outcome,<sup>6</sup> the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, entitled “The future we want”,<sup>7</sup> the outcomes of the thirteenth to twenty-third sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and of the third to thirteenth sessions of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol, the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, adopted at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 9 to 13 May 2011,<sup>8</sup> the Political Declaration of the Comprehensive High-level Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, held in Antalya, Turkey, from 27 to 29 May 2016,<sup>9</sup> the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, adopted at the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries, held in Vienna from 3 to 5 November 2014,<sup>10</sup> the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,<sup>11</sup> the Mauritius Declaration<sup>12</sup> and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,<sup>13</sup> the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,<sup>14</sup> the Sendai Declaration and

<sup>3</sup> Resolution 55/2.

<sup>4</sup> *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August–4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1 and corrigendum), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, resolution 2, annex.

<sup>6</sup> Resolution 60/1.

<sup>7</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>8</sup> *Report of the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Istanbul, Turkey, 9–13 May 2011 (A/CONF.219/7)*, chap. II.

<sup>9</sup> Resolution 70/294, annex.

<sup>10</sup> Resolution 69/137, annex II.

<sup>11</sup> *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 II.

<sup>12</sup> *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.

<sup>13</sup> *Ibid.*, annex II.

<sup>14</sup> Resolution 69/15, annex.

the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030<sup>15</sup> and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,<sup>16</sup>

*Reaffirming* its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions — economic, social and environmental — in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

*Reaffirming also* its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions, and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

*Expressing concern* over the findings in the special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels,<sup>17</sup> which showed that an additional 0.5 degrees Celsius of warming compared with present levels is associated with further detectable changes in climate and weather extremes, including warming of extreme temperatures in many regions, increases in the frequency, intensity and/or amount of heavy precipitation in several regions and an increase in the intensity or frequency of droughts in some regions, with some vulnerable regions, including small islands and least developed countries, projected to experience high, multiple interrelated climate risks even at global warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius,

*Expressing concern also* over the finding in the special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change that showed that estimates of the global emissions outcome of current nationally stated mitigation ambitions as submitted under the Paris Agreement would lead to global greenhouse gas emissions in 2030 of 52 to 58 GtCO<sub>2</sub>eq yr, that the pathways reflecting these ambitions would not limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, even if supplemented by very challenging increases in the scale and ambition of emissions reductions after 2030, and that avoiding overshoot and reliance on future large-scale deployment of carbon dioxide removal can only be achieved if global carbon dioxide emissions start to decline well before 2030, which would require rapid and far-reaching transitions in energy, land, urban and infrastructure (including transport and buildings) and industrial systems,

*Taking note* of the Green Climate Fund and its initial resource mobilization process, making it the largest dedicated climate fund, and its approval of 3.7 billion United States dollars in funding to support the implementation of 76 climate change adaptation and mitigation projects and programmes in 79 developing countries,

<sup>15</sup> Resolution 69/283, annexes I and II.

<sup>16</sup> *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4–15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

<sup>17</sup> “Special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 °C above pre-industrial levels and related global greenhouse gas emission pathways, in the context of strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change, sustainable development, and efforts to eradicate poverty, summary for policymakers”.

stressing its goal of ensuring efficient access to its resources through simplified approval procedures and enhancing readiness support, which will help to deliver outcomes in developing countries so as to limit or reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help them adapt to the impacts of climate change, reiterating the objectives and guiding principles of the Fund, including a gender-sensitive approach in its process and operations, and recognizing the need for the Fund to establish a clear replenishment process that will allow it to guarantee its financial sustainability over time and channel the financial commitments from developed countries under the Paris Agreement and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,

*Reaffirming* the New Urban Agenda, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), held in Quito from 17 to 20 October 2016,<sup>18</sup>

*Recalling* the United Nations strategic plan for forests, 2017–2030,<sup>19</sup> and acknowledging that all types of forests contribute substantially to climate change mitigation and adaptation, while noting the existing framework on forests under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,

*Noting* the need for enhanced coordination and cooperation at all levels among the parties to and secretariats of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa,<sup>20</sup> and the Convention on Biological Diversity,<sup>21</sup> as appropriate, while respecting their individual mandates,

*Noting also* the contribution of the United Nations Environment Assembly to addressing the challenge of, inter alia, climate change, within its mandate and in collaboration with other relevant organizations and stakeholders,

*Recalling* its resolution [71/312](#) of 6 July 2017, in which it endorsed the declaration entitled “Our ocean, our future: call for action” adopted by the high-level United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, held from 5 to 9 June 2017, coinciding with World Oceans Day on 8 June, reaffirming in this regard the important role of the declaration in demonstrating the collective will to take action to conserve and sustainably use our oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, and recognizing the important contributions of the partnership dialogues and voluntary commitments made in the context of that Conference to the effective and timely implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14,

*Recognizing* that, in undertaking its work, the United Nations should promote the protection of the global climate for the well-being of present and future generations of humankind,

*Welcoming* the entry into force on 1 January 2019 of the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer<sup>22</sup>, also welcoming its ratification by 55 countries, while encouraging further ratifications as soon as possible, and further welcoming the Thirtieth Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol, held from 5 to 9 November 2018 in Quito,

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<sup>18</sup> Resolution 71/256, annex

<sup>19</sup> See resolution [71/285](#).

<sup>20</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1954, No. 33480.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

<sup>22</sup> [UNEP/OzL.Pro.28/12](#), annex I.

*Noting* the contribution of the International Civil Aviation Organization to global efforts to combat climate change, and noting also the contribution of the International Maritime Organization in this regard,

1. *Reaffirms* that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, expresses profound alarm that the emissions of greenhouse gases continue to rise globally, remains deeply concerned that all countries, particularly developing countries, are vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and are already experiencing an increase in such impacts, including persistent drought and extreme weather events, land degradation, sea level rise, coastal erosion, ocean acidification and the retreat of mountain glaciers, further threatening food security, water supply and livelihoods and efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions and achieve sustainable development, recognizes the substantial risks posed by climate change to health, and emphasizes in this regard that mitigation of and adaptation to climate change represent an immediate and urgent global priority, in accordance with the principles, provisions and commitments deriving from the international agreements on climate change;

2. *Welcomes* the twenty-third session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, presided over by the Government of Fiji, in Bonn, Germany from 6 to 17 November 2017, and recalls the twenty-second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, hosted by the Government of Morocco in Marrakech from 7 to 18 November 2016;

3. *Recalls* the early entry into force, on 4 November 2016, of the Paris Agreement adopted under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,<sup>2</sup> and encourages all its parties to fully implement the Agreement;

4. *Also recalls* that the Paris Agreement, in enhancing the implementation of the Convention, including its objective, aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, including by holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and increasing the ability to adapt to the adverse impacts of climate change, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change and foster climate resilience and low greenhouse gas emissions development in a manner that does not threaten food production, and making finance flows consistent with a pathway towards low greenhouse gas emissions and climate-resilient development, as outlined in article 2, paragraph 1, of the Agreement;

5. *Welcomes* the nationally determined contributions submitted to date, and recalls that the regular updating of such contributions should reflect the highest possible level of ambition, in the light of different national circumstances, and should provide the information necessary for clarity, transparency and understanding, in accordance with the relevant decisions;

6. *Urges* the completion of the programme of work of the Paris Agreement, ensuring that the outcome is both fully operationalized and reflects the delicate balance of the Agreement, including issues related to adaptation, mitigation and the means of implementation, stresses the importance of reflecting the commitment of all Parties to fully implement the Agreement within their respective responsibilities and capabilities, with developed countries taking the lead role on both action and support, in line with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, in accordance with relevant decisions by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and the outcomes of the facilitative dialogue of 2018, known as the Talanoa dialogue, and taking into account the special report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate

Change on the impacts of global warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels;

7. *Emphasizes* the need for collective efforts to promote sustainable development in its three dimensions in an innovative, coordinated, environmentally sound, open and shared manner;

8. *Recognizes* that improved access to international climate finance is essential for supporting adaptation, mitigation and sustainable development for developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change;

9. *Reiterates* the call made in the declaration “Our ocean, our future: call for action”<sup>23</sup> for action to be taken on an urgent basis to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development;

10. *Acknowledges* the work undertaken under the auspices of the Marrakech Partnership for Global Climate Action,<sup>24</sup> and encourages non-party stakeholders to scale up their efforts to address and respond to climate change;

11. *Looks forward* to the Secretary-General’s climate summit called for by the Secretary-General, to be held in New York in 2019;

12. *Also looks forward* to the convening by the President of the General Assembly of the high-level meeting during the seventy-third session of the General Assembly on the issue of the protection of the global climate for present and future generations of humankind in the context of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;<sup>25</sup>

13. *Reiterates* the resolve of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, as set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of its decision 1/CP.19,<sup>26</sup> to accelerate the full implementation of the decisions constituting the agreed outcome pursuant to its decision 1/CP.13<sup>27</sup> and to enhance ambition in the pre-2020 period in order to ensure the highest possible mitigation efforts under the Convention by all parties;

14. *Welcomes* the further acceptance or ratification of the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol<sup>28</sup> by 117 countries, up from 95 countries one year ago, expresses great concern that the Doha Amendment has not yet entered into force, and urges further acceptance or ratification as soon as possible for its prompt implementation;

15. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change on the twenty-third session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention;<sup>29</sup>

16. *Recognizes* the importance of averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change, and in that regard takes note of decisions 2/CP.19, 2/CP.20,<sup>30</sup> 1/CP.21<sup>31</sup> and 3/CP.22<sup>32</sup> adopted by the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on the Warsaw International Mechanism

<sup>23</sup> See resolution 71/312, annex.

<sup>24</sup> See FCCC/CP/2016/10/Add.1.

<sup>25</sup> Resolution 70/1.

<sup>26</sup> See FCCC/CP/2013/10/Add.1.

<sup>27</sup> See FCCC/CP/2007/6/Add.1.

<sup>28</sup> See FCCC/KP/CMP/2012/13/Add.1.

<sup>29</sup> A/73/255, sect. I.

<sup>30</sup> See FCCC/CP/2014/10/Add.2.

<sup>31</sup> See FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1.

<sup>32</sup> See FCCC/CP/2016/10/Add.1.

for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts, as well as article 8 of the Paris Agreement;

17. *Notes with appreciation* the hosting by the Government of Poland of the twenty-fourth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, the fourteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the third part of the first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, in Katowice, Poland, from 2 to 14 December 2018;

18. *Welcomes* the offer by the Government of Brazil to host the twenty-fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, from 11 to 22 November 2019;

19. *Urges* Member States, taking into account that women and girls are often disproportionately affected by climate change owing to gender inequalities and the dependence of many women on natural resources for their livelihoods, to promote the integration of a gender perspective into environmental and climate change policies and to strengthen mechanisms and provide adequate resources towards achieving the full and equal participation of women in decision-making at all levels on environmental issues, and stresses the need to address the challenges posed by climate change that affect women and girls in particular, including through the implementation of the first gender action plan adopted by the twenty-third session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, with a view to advancing towards the goal of mainstreaming a gender perspective into climate action;

20. *Recalls* the action plan for integrating sustainable development practices into Secretariat-wide operations and facilities management submitted by the Secretary-General and endorsed by resolution 72/219,<sup>33</sup> and requests the Secretary-General to report on its implementation and improvement achievements to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session;

21. *Urges* the full operationalization of the local communities and indigenous peoples platform for the acknowledgement of their valuable voice and support of the spreading of their knowledge in the fight on climate change;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make provisions for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention and its subsidiary bodies in his proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018–2019;

23. *Invites* the secretariat of the Convention to report, through the Secretary-General, to the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session on the work of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, and decides to include, under the item entitled “Sustainable development”, the sub-item entitled “Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind” in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session.

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<sup>33</sup> A/72/82.