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MEMORANDUM

FOR : The Directors
Biodiversity Management Bureau
Environmental Management Bureau
Ecosystems Research and Development Bureau
Forest Management Bureau
Land Management Bureau
Mines and Geosciences Bureau

The Officer-In-Charge
Planning and Programming Division

FROM : The OIC Director
Policy and Planning Service

SUBJECT : **REQUEST FOR COMMENTS/INPUTS ON THE DRAFT
RESOLUTION RE: PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 75/233 ON THE
QUADRENNIAL COMPREHENSIVE POLICY REVIEW OF
OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE
UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM**

DATE : 02 AUG 2023

This has reference to the memorandum from the Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs dated 25 July 2023, referring the communications from the United Nations Economic and Social Council on the draft Resolution re: Progress in the Implementation of General Assembly Resolution 75/233 on the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review of Operational Activities for Development of the United Nations System.

In this regard, we would like to request your comments/inputs on the abovestated draft resolution. Please submit your inputs on or before **11 August 2023** to psddivision@gmail.com.

For your information and consideration.


CHERYL LOISE T. LEAL



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MEMORANDUM

TO : The OIC Director
Policy and Planning Service

FROM : The Undersecretary
Policy, Planning and International Affairs

SUBJECT : **PROGRESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION 75/233 ON THE QUADRENNIAL COMPREHENSIVE POLICY REVIEW OF OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM**

DATE : JUL 25 2023

May we refer the herein communications from the United Nations Economic and Social Council relative to the abovementioned subject.

In this regard, may we request your Office to review and submit comments/ position on the attached draft resolution, **before 31 July 2023**.

For your information and appropriate action.


ATTY. JONAS R. LEONES

DENR
POLICY STUDIES DIVISION
RECEIVED BY Fmmg
DATE/TIME 7/20/23

wd: Message from the facilitator (Switzerland) of the draft resolution, "Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 75/233 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system"

Undersecretary for Field Operations and Environment <officeofuseccuna@denr.gov.ph>
From: "Undersecretary for Policy, Planning and International Affairs" <ouppia@denr.gov.ph>

Sat, Jul 15, 2023 at 7:47 AM

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <ecosocplace@un.org>

Date: Sat, Jul 15, 2023, 7:10 AM

Subject: Message from the facilitator (Switzerland) of the draft resolution, "Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 75/233 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system"

To:

Dear colleagues,

We thank you for the good work during today's informal. Your continued willingness to compromise and streamlining efforts have allowed us to make good progress. Tomorrow, we intend to Ad Ref paragraphs where consensus has been reached or where it is very close. Before that, we would like you to quickly engage on OP10bis which has not been discussed yet.

Paragraphs to be Ad Refed

OP6, OP7bis, OP8

OP4alt, OP4bis.alt, OP9, OP10, OP12, OP14ter and OP15bis.

Then, we intend to close either OP8quat.alt or OP8quat.alt.alt, in conjunction with OP11 and OP12ter.

Finally, we would also like to look at OP3, OP3bis, OP4ter, OP4quat, OP9bis, OP9ter, OP12bis, OP15pre and OP15, bearing in mind the need to find a common ground on a balanced text.

Through our collective efforts, we can go the extra mile and conclude the negotiation before Friday.

Thank you.

Best regards,

The facilitator

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2023 session

Agenda item 7

Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation**Cuba:*** draft resolution****Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 75/233 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system***The Economic and Social Council,**Reaffirming* General Assembly resolution 75/233 of 21 December 2020 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, including its general guidelines, – **Agreed ad ref***Reaffirming also* General Assembly resolution 72/279 of 31 May 2018 on the repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system and Assembly resolutions 73/248 of 20 December 2018, 74/238 of 19 December 2019, 76/220 of 17 December 2021 and 77/184 of 14 December 2022 on operational activities for development of the United Nations system, as well as Assembly resolution 76/4 of 28 October 2021 on the review of the functioning of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system, including its funding arrangement, – **Agreed ad ref***Recalling* its resolutions 2019/15 of 8 July 2019, 2020/23 of 22 July 2020 and 2022/25 of 22 July 2022, in which the Council reviewed the progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 71/243 of 21 December 2016 and 75/233, respectively, on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, – **Agreed ad ref**OP1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 75/233 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system;¹ – **Agreed ad ref**

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77



OP2. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General on the repositioning of the United Nations development system, and acknowledges the progress achieved thus far in advancing all reform mandates contained in General Assembly resolutions 71/243 and 72/279; – **Agreed ad ref**

OP3. *Reaffirms* that the focus of the resident coordinator system should remain sustainable development [**and the operationalization of the pledge to leave no one behind – UK; CANZ support; MEX, NOR flexible depending on OP3bis (source: A/RES/75/233, OP28)**], with the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions as its overarching objective [**including through investing in the development of all women and girls and promoting their economic, social and political empowerment – MEX (source: A/RES/75/233, PP10); CANZ support; G77, RUS delete**], consistent with the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development² and in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework and national leadership and ownership [, **and perform their work in a manner consistent with the United Nations Charter - US (source: A/RES/75/233, OP6); G77 delete; RUS reserve**] (Source: amended OP7 RES 72/279); EU flexible; G77, HS retain original

OP3bis. *Recalls* the United Nations contribution to the promotion of all human rights for sustainable development, calls upon all entities of the United Nations development system and the resident coordinator system, in accordance with their respective mandates, to assist Governments upon their request and in consultation with them, in their efforts to respect and fulfil their human rights obligations and commitments under international law, as a critical tool to operationalize the pledge to leave no one behind; - US; CANZ, MEX support; EU, US flexible to retain verbatim A/RES/75/233, OP28; HS prefer verbatim A/RES/75/233, OP28; EU, NOR consider in conjunction with OP3; G77 delete (Source: A/RES/75/233, OP28)

OP4pre. *Encourages* efforts to continuously improve the transparency and independence of the system-wide evaluation office, its accountability to Member States and its capacity to conduct independent evaluations and urges increasing use and emphasis of system-wide evaluations in reporting on the work of the resident coordinator system and development results at all levels – US proposal to replace edits in OP4, OP9, OP10 and OP12/consolidate OPs on system-wide evaluations; NOR support consolidated OP; G77 to revert; proposed to be deleted

OP4alt. *Welcomes* the progress made in strengthening the United Nations development system's oversight, system-wide evaluations and results-based management and reporting to the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, as well as the efforts made on providing more detailed and timely information and encourages the continued strengthening of such evidence-based reporting, in compliance with General Assembly resolution 75/233; - CANZ, UK, US; G77 to revert; - c

OP4bis. [**Notes the establishment of the UNSDG System-wide evaluation office, - UK**] *Emphasizes* the need to ensure the independence, credibility and effectiveness of the evaluation office, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General to provide relevant information to the Economic and Social Council regarding the operations of the system-wide evaluation office and use of the independent evaluation,

and China.

** In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

¹ A/78/72-E/2023/59 and A/78/72/Add.1-E/2023/59/Add.1; see also the annexes thereto (available at www.un.org/ecosoc/en/2023-Operational-Activities-for-Development-Segment).

² General Assembly resolution 70/1.

especially its findings and recommendations, in supporting the delivery of development results at all levels; (Source: A/RES/75/233, OP 82 and A/RES/76/4, OP 15) – CANZ, UK, US; G77 to revert; proposed to be deleted

OP4bisalt. *Notes* the establishment of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group System-wide evaluation office, reemphasizes the need to ensure the independence, credibility and effectiveness of this evaluation office, and in this regard looks forward to receiving reports at the Economic and Social Council on its functioning and work, especially its findings, recommendations and follow-up; - small group proposal; - c

OP4ter. *Calls upon* all entities of the United Nations development system, including resident coordinators and United Nations country teams, to step up efforts to realize the full implementation of the System-wide Action Plan on Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, including the United Nations country team performance indicators (the UNCT SWAP “scorecard”); (source: A/RES/75/233, OP12) – CANZ; EU, MEX, UK support; G77, HS, RUS delete;

OP4quat. *Calls upon* the entities of the United Nations development system as well as United Nations country teams, within their respective mandates, to step up efforts to realize 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; (source: A/RES/75/233, OP14) – CANZ; EU, MEX, UK support; G77, RUS delete;

OP5. *Also welcomes* the update on the funding compact and its indicators, takes note of the progress made in the fulfilment of the funding compact commitments while expressing concern that such progress remains uneven, continues to note the voluntary nature of the funding compact and to urge the full implementation by Member States and entities of the United Nations Development System of commitments made in the funding compact, and further looks forward to the upcoming inclusive dialogue to be launched by the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group on the best way forward regarding the funding compact, - **Agreed ad ref**

OP6. *Emphasizes* that core funding provides United Nations entities the flexibility to allocate funds to priority areas in their strategic plans, including underfunded areas, and in this regard stresses the urgent need to address the continued imbalance between core and non-core resources by meeting the funding compact commitment of 30 per cent core resources by 2023; - **UK, US reserve**

OP7. *Urges* Member States and other contributors providing non-core contributions, to the extent practicable, to make them more flexible and aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework, as well as the strategic plans of United Nations funds, programmes and specialized agencies, to reduce transaction costs, and to give priority to pooled, thematic and joint funding mechanisms, in particular the Joint Sustainable Development Goals Fund, applied at all levels; - **Agreed ad ref**

OP7bis. *Also urges* the entities of the United Nations Development system, through their governing bodies, to continue taking concrete steps to address on a continuous basis the decline of the share of core contributions and the growing imbalance of core and non-core resources, in line with paragraphs 56(a) – (c) of General Assembly resolution 75/233; – **UK, US reserve**

OP8. *Re-emphasizes* that adequate, predictable and sustainable funding of the resident coordinator system is essential to delivering a coherent, effective, efficient and accountable response in accordance with national needs and priorities, and recommits to providing sufficient funding for the resident coordinator system, in line

with General Assembly resolution 76/4, expresses concern regarding the continual shortfall of funding to the resident coordinator system, looks forward to the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly with recommendations for its consideration, taking note of the **[proposals or recommendations in the – G77]** report entitled “Review of the functioning of the resident coordinator system: rising to the challenge and keeping the promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,³ notes the critical importance of dialogue with Member States about the resident coordinator system, and in this regard, looks forward to the launching of a transparent and inclusive consultation process as mentioned in his report to the 2023 operational activities for development segment of the Economic and Social Council⁴, before a formal proposal is submitted to the General Assembly;

OP8bis. Reiterates the need to ensure that Resident Coordinators are fit for purpose and have sufficient leadership, prerogative, impartiality, management tools, experience and skills sets to effectively fulfil their mandate [and ensure the resident coordinators are in post as quickly as possible – UK (flexible on placement); CANZ support]; - CANZ proposal, flexible on placement (Source: A/RES/75/233, OP88); UK support; G77 delete

OP8ter. Notes the continuing importance of Resident Coordinator’s direct reporting to the Secretary-General, as well as the day-to-day oversight and management of Resident Coordinators and the Resident Coordinator system by Regional Directors of the United Nations Development Coordination Office, and by the United Nations Development Coordination Office, which should include, inter alia, the facilitation of feedback on Resident Coordinators in accordance with the Management and Accountability Framework; – CANZ (flexible on placement) (new language); UK support; G77, RUS delete

OP8quat. Underlines that the performance and behaviour of Resident Coordinators, Resident Coordinator Office core staff and United Nations country teams mutually impact a range of United Nations development system actors, operations and resources, and that poor performance and behaviours must be addressed without delay; – CANZ flexible on placement (new language); UK support; G77, RUS delete

OP8quat.alt. Notes the continuing importance of Resident Coordinator’s direct reporting to the Secretary-General, and underlines that the performance of Resident Coordinators, Resident Coordinator Office core staff and United Nations country teams mutually impact a range of United Nations development system actors, operations and resources, and underscores the important role of the Management and Accountability Framework in this regard – CANZ compromise streamlining to replace OP8ter-OP8quat and OP11 CANZ amendments

OP8quat.alt.alt. Underlines that the performance of Resident Coordinators and the Resident Coordinator core staff and United Nations country team impact the breadth of United Nations development system entities and operations, stressing the importance of having sufficient leadership, prerogative, impartiality, management tools, experience and skills sets to effectively fulfil their mandate, including adequate training and support for interim Resident Coordinators, noting the need to tailor United Nations country teams as the country context changes, including the deployment of surge capacity, and the need to address performance of Resident Coordinators, in accordance with the Management and

³ A/75/905.

⁴ A/78/72-E/2023/59.

Accountability Framework; - UK streamlining proposal to replace OP8bis-OP8quint and OP12ter and reverting to original language in OP11; RUS reserve

OP8quint. *Re-emphasises* that Resident Coordinators need to receive, in an ongoing manner, the necessary training, mentoring, supervision and support to acquire and maintain the skills and knowledge needed to effectively exercise the leadership role envisaged for them; including adequate training and support for Resident Coordinators who also serve as Humanitarian Coordinators or Deputy Special Representatives of the Secretary-General, as well as adequate training and support for interim Resident Coordinators; - CANZ flexible on placement (Source: A/RES/75/233, OP 92, 99); UK support; G77 delete

OP9. *Takes note* of the report of the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group on the work on the Development Coordination Office,⁵ including on the operational, administrative and financing aspects of the activities of the Office, as well as the report on the system-wide contribution to the advancement of the Sustainable Development Goals, looks forward to receiving on an annual basis an evidence-based, comprehensive, analytical and more detailed report to the Economic and Social Council at its operational activities for development segment, and to include detailed financial, budgetary and expenditure data [and systematic evaluation – US; CANZ, UK maintain amendment; G77 flexible to retain amendment; proposition to delete] of the results of the work of resident coordinators on the ground in all future reporting on the implementation of the reinvigorated resident coordinator system; (Source: based on E/RES/2022/25)

OP9bis. *Reemphasizes* that United Nations entities and United Nations country teams should have an action plan setting out how they are taking appropriate steps to ensure that their organisations and operational activities [as well as their implementing partners – EU; NOR support] are free from discrimination and exploitation including sexual exploitation and abuse, violence, and sexual harassment and that this work should be supported by dedicated preventing exploitation abuse coordinators and victim’s right officers or focal points at the country level; notes that the United Nations Secretary-General has in fact instructed the Special Coordinator to explore the integration of protection from sexual exploitation and abuse as a requirement in all United Nations activities and programmes and encourages entities to work together effectively at country, regional and global levels and further increase their efforts to improve coordination, investigative capacity, reporting, transparency, and support to victims-survivors; - UK, flexible on placement (Source: A/RES/75/233, OP113; agreed in most recent Executive Boards); CANZ, EU, MEX, NOR support; HS suggests verbatim OP113; NOR suggests streamlining; G77 delete

OP9ter. *Noting* that the report of the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group on the Development Coordination Office identifies that the widespread effects of the climate emergency constitute tremendous challenges for sustainable development, welcomes the reported support offered by Resident Coordinator Offices to tackle climate, nature and environment in an integrated manner; - EU; CANZ, MEX, NOR, UK support; G77, RUS delete

OP10. *Welcomes* the contributions of the resident coordinator system to the results of the repositioned United Nations development system and takes note with appreciation of the resident coordinator system results framework that emerged from the consultative process conducted by the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group, and urges the Development Coordination Office to continue to use the framework [and system-wide evaluations – US (prepared to drop); G77

⁵ E/2023/62.

delete] to report on the work of the resident coordinator system at all levels and to adjust it, as necessary, in line with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review mandates; **(Source: New language) – MEX, NOR support**

OP10bis Welcomes the update on development impact at country level as a result of strengthened coordination and looks forward to increasing emphasis on development results in the Development Coordination Office's future reporting; - EU (open to streamlining); G77 suggest streamlining into another existing paragraph

OP11. *Notes* the findings of the report of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group on progress made in gender balance among resident coordinators, and requests **[to continue ensuring gender balance and – MEX]** that **[further / additional – MEX]** measures **[be taken / are implemented – MEX]** {to enhance [geographical representation / **adequate, diverse and relevant expertise and skill sets - HS (Source: A/RES/75/233, OP90); CANZ flexible]** [and sufficient leadership, prerogative, impartiality, management tools, ongoing training and mentoring, **to effectively fulfil their mandate – CANZ]** with a view to improving representation of developing countries / **to ensure as wide a geographical distribution as possible – US}**, [and to continue to ensure gender balance – **MEX delete]; (Source: New language); MEX support; RUS retain original; G77 reserve**

OP12. *Stresses* the need to continue to improve the transparency, accountability **[, oversight – EU]** [and – **EU delete]** responsiveness **[and results focus – EU]** of the United Nations development system to **[ensure it is fit for purpose as it delivers on – UK; G77 delete]** the priorities and needs of programme countries **[especially in changing contexts – UK; RUS reserve; G77 delete]**, including {building its capacity [and /, - UK] following up – **NOR delete}** on capacity development at the country level {, **which involves strengthening institutional capacities, including planning, management, monitoring and [independent – US flexible depending on OP4pre.; CANZ support]** evaluation – EU; CANZ support}; **(Source: New language); HS, MEX, NOR, UK support; G77, RUS retain original (EU, UK, US prepared to drop edits)**

OP12bis. Recognizes that national efforts should be supported by an enabling economic environment, including coherent and mutually supporting world trade, monetary and financial systems, and enhanced global economic governance, while considering national conditions and ensuring respect for national ownership; - EU (source: A/RES/75/233, OP5); RUS delete; CANZ, G77, MEX, UK, US reserve

OP12ter. Notes the importance of ensuring United Nations country teams fully utilize the expertise across the United Nations system as surge capacity as required to support delivery of the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework and meet priorities and needs of programme countries – UK (source: based on SGR A/78/72 p.51) to replace edits in OP12, flexible on formulation; CANZ support; G77 reserve

OP13. *Reiterates its request* to the entities of the United Nations development system that have not already done so to consolidate their annual reporting on the implementation of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review within their annual reporting on the implementation of their strategic plans and to continue to improve the quality of their annual reports to the Economic and Social Council, including to reflect their respective contributions to the work of the United Nations development system; **- Agreed ad ref**

OP14. *Urges* entities of the United Nations development system with operational activities for development that have not done so to fully align their strategic plans and their strategic planning and budgeting cycles with the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, taking into account their respective mandates; - **Agreed ad ref**

OP14bis. Takes notes of the progress in realizing efficiency gains, and encourages all entities of the United Nations development system, to strengthen work in implementation of harmonized business practices and realizing efficiency gains, including through the establishment of common premises, where possible; G77 reserve

OP14ter. Takes note of the checklist on the implementation of the United Nations development system reform, circulated by the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group as a tool to facilitate the oversight role of the governing bodies of the United Nations development system entities in line with General Assembly resolution 76/4 (paragraph 14), [and [encourages/requests] those UNDS governing bodies that have not yet done so to {[consider/decide on] the checklist/consider the checklist;} for use and to provide regular updates in this regard by the United Nations development system entities on the implementation of United Nations development system reforms];

OP14quat. Requests the United Nations development system to continue supporting programme countries to leverage robust partnerships in accordance with national development policies, plans, priorities and needs with development partners and relevant stakeholders, including international financial institutions, civil society and the private sector, that can positively support national development efforts and contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals; G77 reserve

OP15pre. Notes the forthcoming quadrennial comprehensive policy review in 2024, and in this regard requests the Secretary-General, [by August 2024 – CANZ], to provide status reporting on the implementation of [all / thematic and operational – CANZ] mandates [, including on topics deemed relevant by Member States, -UK] contained in General Assembly resolution 75/233, through inter alia, briefing notes, informal briefings and case studies, with emphasis on development results, in an effort to inform on progress, possible gaps and challenges, [building on relevant, existing reporting – CANZ] and to also provide recommendations to be considered by Member States, with a view to optimizing Member States' engagement, with and guidance to the United Nations development system; - G77 (to replace OP3bis, OP4ter, OP4quat, OP9bis, OP9ter); NOR, RUS support

OP15. *Welcomes* the discussions at the 2023 operational activities for development segment, and requests the Secretary-General [, in consultation with the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Executive Boards, - US] [to continue – US delete] to provide briefing notes and informal briefings [, throughout the year on topics deemed relevant by Member States, - US] on progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 75/233 [and resolution 72/279 – US (flexible)] in preparation for the General Assembly resolution on the operational activities for development of the United Nations system to be negotiated at the seventy-eighth session of the General Assembly, [especially – EU; CANZ, NOR support] [ahead of / and – US] the 2024 operational activities for development segment [, with a view to optimizing Member States engagement with and guidance for the United Nations development system – US] (Source: based on E/RES/2022/25); CANZ, MEX, NOR support; G77 ensure this remains located as final para of text

OP15bis. *Notes* the Secretary-General's call to ensure the regional architecture is fit for purpose and stresses the importance of leveraging regional assets in order to scale up, inter alia, country-level impact and ensuring that expertise is accessible across the United Nations system, including expertise of non-resident entities;

OP15ter. *Notes* the forthcoming quadrennial comprehensive policy review in 2024 and urges the Secretary-General to examine in his report whether the respective mandates of each United Nations development system entity are fit for purpose to support the delivery of the 2030 Agenda – UK; CANZ support (flexible on formulation); EU support (with clarification); G77, NOR, RUS delete
