



General Assembly

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Globalization and interdependence

Guyana* : draft resolution

The role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/169 of 15 December 1998,

Recognizing the challenges and opportunities of globalization and interdependence,

Expressing concern over the exclusion of a large number of developing countries from the globalization process, including in the finance, trade and technology sectors, and the increasing vulnerability of those developing countries that are integrating into the world economy and the accentuation of economic asymmetries within and among countries,

Recognizing that globalization and interdependence have opened new opportunities, through trade and capital flows, for the growth of the world economy,

Emphasizing that the inherent imbalances in the structures of the international regimes governing development, finance, trade and transfer of technology have further aggravated the negative impacts of globalization on developing countries,

Expressing grave concern over the widening technological gap between the developing and developed countries, particularly in the area of information and communication technology which is shaping the contours of globalization,

Noting with serious concern that the benefits of existing multilateral trading systems continue to elude the developing countries,

Underlining the need for wide-ranging reform of the international financial architecture,

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

Stressing that the domestic policies of the developing countries could yield better results with international support and with the creation of an enabling international economic environment,

Underlining the importance of promoting the integration of developing countries into the world economy in order to enable them to take the fullest possible advantage of the trading opportunities arising from globalization and liberalization,

Underscoring the urgent need to mitigate the negative consequences of globalization and interdependence on all developing countries, in particular the African countries, the least developed countries, small and vulnerable economies, and the small island developing States,

Convinced of the need to manage globalization so as to ensure equity, transparency, inclusion and the realization of the goal of development of developing countries,

Reiterating that the United Nations is in a unique position, as a universal forum, to achieve international cooperation in addressing the challenges of promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,

Convinced that the United Nations has a key role in fostering greater coherence, complementarity and coordination in addressing economic and development issues at the global level,

Noting the report of the Secretary-General on the role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence,¹

*Noting also Human Development Report, 1999,*² which focuses on globalization with a human face,

Noting with appreciation that the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, at its tenth session, to be held in February 2000 in Bangkok, will focus on developmental strategies in an increasingly interdependent world: applying the lessons of the past to make globalization an effective instrument for the development of all countries and all people,

1. *Reaffirms* that the United Nations has a central role in promoting international cooperation for development and in providing policy guidance on global development issues, including in the context of globalization and interdependence;

2. *Emphasizes* the urgency of coordinated action by the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization for developing a global approach to mitigating the negative consequences of globalization and interdependence, taking into account the specific vulnerabilities, concerns and needs of developing countries;

3. *Calls* for effective governance of globalization through democratization of international economic policy decision-making; integrated consideration of trade, finance, technology transfer and developmental issues by the relevant international institutions; and reform of the international financial architecture and, in this context, calls for close cooperation and coordination between the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization;

4. *Calls upon* the developed countries, in particular the major developed economies, to enhance coherence among their financial, trade and development

¹ A/54/358.

² New York, Oxford University Press, 1999.

cooperation policies, with a view to creating an enabling international economic environment supportive of the development of developing countries;

5. *Urges* the international community to promote international development cooperation based on economic growth, stability and equity with the full participation of developing countries in the globalizing world economy;

6. *Also urges* the international community to adopt a policy framework that should aim at the creation of equitable and development-oriented international structures in finance, trade and transfer of technology, and address the endemic problems of external debt and transfer of resources, financial vulnerability, declining terms of trade and restricted access to developed country markets;

7. *Welcomes* the efforts of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and the International Trade Centre to help developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, small and vulnerable economies and the small island developing States, in addressing their specific concerns within the globalizing economy, in particular through technology-related assistance in the fields of trade, policy, improvement of trade efficiency and policies and trade in services, in particular in electronic commerce;

8. *Calls upon* the international community, in particular the World Trade Organization, to immediately operationalize the special and differential treatment provisions of the multilateral trade agreements so as to enable the developing countries, including the African countries, the least developed countries, small and vulnerable economies and the small island developing States, to derive the potential benefits from trade liberalization in the context of globalization and interdependence;

9. *Calls* for the reform of the global financial architecture which should include greater participation by the developing countries in the decision-making processes of the international financial institutions, more emphasis on financing for development, and greater financial stability;

10. *Strongly stresses* that the United Nations, the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization should intensify their collaboration with a view to promoting policy coherence, complementarity and coordination on economic, financial, trade and development issues at the global level with a view to optimizing the benefits and minimizing the negative consequences of globalization, liberalization and interdependence and, in this regard, invites the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to prepare an analytical report on this issue, in collaboration with the relevant agencies and organizations, and submit it to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

11. *Emphasizes* the technology-led dimension of globalization and the importance of providing access, including on preferential and concessional terms, to information and communication technology to enable the developing countries effectively to benefit from globalization by full and effective integration in the emerging global information network;

12. *Strongly emphasizes* the need for the regional and national capacity-building programmes of the United Nations system, the regional commissions, United Nations funds and programmes, and the specialized agencies to have a strong component oriented towards assisting the developing countries in the area of information and communication technology;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly, at its fifty-fifth session, in consultation with the entities of the United Nations system, on action

taken in the area of information and communication technology in accordance with paragraph 12 above;

14. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to establish an ad hoc group of governmental experts on information and communication technology, taking into account equitable geographical representation and in consultation with Member States, with a view to preparing action-oriented proposals on the role of the United Nations in enhancing the integration of developing countries in the emerging global information network; facilitating developing countries' access to information and communication technologies on preferential and concessional terms; and promoting the participation of developing countries, including through infrastructure facilities, in knowledge-intensive sectors of the global economy;

15. *Further requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive and analytical report to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

16. *Decides* to include in the agenda of its fifty-fifth session an item entitled "Globalization and interdependence".
