



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
24 October 2013

Original: English

Sixty-eighth session

Second Committee

Agenda item 21 (b)

**Globalization and interdependence: science and technology
for development**

Fiji:* draft resolution

Science and technology for development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions [58/200](#) of 23 December 2003, [59/220](#) of 22 December 2004, [60/205](#) of 22 December 2005, [61/207](#) of 20 December 2006, [62/201](#) of 19 December 2007, [64/212](#) of 21 December 2009 and [66/211](#) of 22 December 2011,

Taking note of Economic and Social Council resolutions 2006/46 of 28 July 2006, 2009/8 of 24 July 2009, 2010/3 of 19 July 2010, 2011/17 of 26 July 2011 and 2012/6 of 24 July 2012,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,¹

Recalling also the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society,²

Taking note of the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its fourteenth session,³

Recalling its resolutions [64/208](#) of 21 December 2009 and [65/280](#) of 17 June 2011,

Recalling also the agreed conclusions of the Commission on the Status of Women on access and participation of women and girls in education, training and science and technology, adopted at its fifty-fifth session,⁴

Recognizing the vital role that science and technology, including environmentally sound technologies, can play in development and in facilitating

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

¹ Resolution 60/1.

² See A/60/687 and A/C.2/59/3, annex, chap. I.

³ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2011, Supplement No. 11* (E/2011/31).

⁴ *Ibid.*, *Supplement No. 7* (E/2011/27), chap. I, sect. A.



efforts to confront global challenges, including to eradicate poverty, achieve food security, fight diseases, improve education, protect the environment, accelerate the pace of economic diversification and transformation, and improve productivity and competitiveness,

Recognizing also that science and technology cooperation and collaboration with developing countries is fundamental to enhance their ability to produce, access, comprehend, select, adapt and use science and technology knowledge,

Concerned that many developing countries lack affordable access to information and communications technologies and that for the majority of the poor the promise of science and technology remains unfulfilled, and emphasizing the need to effectively harness technology to bridge the digital divide,

Recognizing that international support can help developing countries to benefit from technological advances and enhance their productive capacity, and build and support innovation capacity in developing countries to enable the development, adoption and dissemination of technology,

Reaffirming the need to enhance the science and technology programmes of the relevant entities of the United Nations system,

Noting with appreciation the collaboration between the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in establishing a network of centres of excellence in science and technology for developing countries and in designing and carrying out science, technology and innovation policy reviews,

Noting the efforts by the World Intellectual Property Organization to establish technology and innovation support centres in over 65 countries providing access to technological information through patent databases, and access to scientific literature through the Access to Research for Development and Innovation project,

Taking note with interest of the establishment of the inter-agency cooperation network on biotechnology, UN-Biotech,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General,⁵

Encouraging the development of initiatives to promote private sector engagement in technology transfer and technological and scientific cooperation,

1. *Reaffirms its commitment:*

(a) To strengthen and enhance existing mechanisms and to support initiatives for research and development, including through voluntary partnerships between the public and private sectors, to address the special needs of developing countries in the areas of health, agriculture, conservation, sustainable use of natural resources and environmental management, energy, forestry and the impact of climate change;

(b) To promote and facilitate, as appropriate, access to, and development, transfer and diffusion of, technologies, including environmentally sound technologies and the corresponding know-how, to developing countries, and in this regard calls for the establishment of a technology facilitation mechanism for the

⁵ A/66/208 and A/68/227.

development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies;

(c) To assist developing countries in their efforts to promote and develop national strategies for human resources and science and technology, which are primary drivers of national capacity-building for development;

(d) To provide enhanced financial and technical support to the least developed countries for research and development, science and technology, including for strengthening national and regional institutions, as appropriate and in line with least developed countries' national development priorities;

(e) To promote and support greater efforts to develop renewable sources of energy, including appropriate technology;

(f) To implement policies at the national and international levels to attract both public and private investment, domestic and foreign, that enhances knowledge, transfers technology on mutually agreed terms and raises productivity;

(g) To support the efforts of developing countries, individually and collectively, to harness new agricultural technologies in order to increase agricultural productivity through environmentally sustainable means;

(h) To encourage mechanisms that engage the private sector in supporting, through voluntary partnerships, the transfer of technology and related know-how to developing countries, such as the Climate Technology Centre and Network of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the climate innovation centres of the World Bank infoDev programme and the Re:Search and GREEN programmes of the World Intellectual Property Organization;

(i) To support better coordination among United Nations agencies and international organizations providing technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of science and technology for development;

2. *Recognizes* the role of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other United Nations agencies in helping Governments, upon request, to ensure that their science, technology and innovation policies and programmes support national development agendas;

3. *Recognizes also* that science and technology, including information and communications technologies, are vital for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and for the full participation of developing countries in the global economy;

4. *Notes* that full and equal access to and participation in science and technology for women of all ages is imperative for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women, and underlines that addressing barriers to equal access for women and girls to science and technology requires a systematic, comprehensive, integrated, sustainable, multidisciplinary and multisectoral approach;

5. *Requests* the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to provide a forum within which to continue to assist the Economic and Social Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society² and to address within its mandate, in accordance with Council resolution 2006/46, the special needs of developing

countries in areas such as agriculture, rural development, information and communications technologies and environmental management;

6. *Encourages* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, in collaboration with relevant partners, to continue to undertake science, technology and innovation policy reviews, with a view to assisting developing countries and countries with economies in transition in identifying the measures that are needed to integrate science, technology and innovation policies into their national development strategies;

7. *Encourages* the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other relevant organizations to assist developing countries in their efforts to integrate science, technology and innovation policies into national development strategies;

8. *Encourages* Governments to strengthen and foster investment in research and development for environmentally sound technologies and to promote the involvement of the business and financial sectors in the development of those technologies, and invites the international community to support those efforts;

9. *Encourages* efforts to increase the availability of data to support the measurement of national innovation systems (such as the existing global innovation indices) and empirical research on innovation and development to assist policymakers in designing and implementing innovation strategies;

10. *Encourages* existing arrangements and the further promotion of regional, subregional and interregional joint research and development projects, where feasible, by mobilizing existing scientific and research and development resources and by networking sophisticated scientific facilities and research equipment;

11. *Emphasizes* that science, technology and innovation are critical in meeting development goals in the South and that many developing countries are facing serious challenges in building the national science and technology base that would address the needs of their economic and social development and that science, technology and innovation have been shown to be engines for the three dimensions of sustainable development, and in this respect encourages scientific organizations and research institutions dealing with science, technology and innovation to further expand their fellowship and training programmes, including through North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation, and to develop dynamic strategic alliances with Governments, private and public enterprises, universities, laboratories and civil society in order to help to meet those goals;

12. *Calls upon* Member States, the United Nations development system and other stakeholders to initiate, implement and support measures to improve the level of participation of scientists from developing countries in international collaborative science and science and technology projects and to promote investments in public knowledge goods in order to promote access to intellectual property and achieve sustainable development;

13. *Also calls upon* Member States, the United Nations development system and other stakeholders to increase their support for the different science and technology partnerships with developing countries, including higher education, business opportunities for the private sector, science and technology infrastructure and science and technology advice for developing countries;

14. *Encourages* the international community to continue to facilitate, in view of the differences in levels of development between countries, an adequate diffusion of scientific and technical knowledge and transfer of, access to and acquisition of technology for developing countries, under fair, transparent and mutually agreed terms, in a manner conducive to social and economic welfare for the benefit of society;

15. *Reiterates its call* for continued collaboration between United Nations entities and other international organizations, civil society and the private sector in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, with a view to putting the potential of information and communications technologies at the service of development through policy research on the digital divide and on new challenges of the information society, as well as technical assistance activities, involving multi-stakeholder partnerships;

16. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventieth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution and recommendations for future follow-up, including lessons learned in integrating science, technology and innovation policies into national development strategies.
