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**Sixty-ninth session**  
Agenda item 64

## **Promotion and protection of the rights of children**

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

*Rapporteur:* Mr. Ervin Nina (Albania)

#### **I. Introduction**

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2014, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-ninth session the item entitled:

“Promotion and protection of the rights of children:

“(a) Promotion and protection of the rights of children;

“(b) Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children”

and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Third Committee considered the item at its 13th to 18th, 26th, 36th, 44th, 48th, 49th, 51st and 52nd meetings, on 15, 16, 17, 23 and 30 October and on 13, 19, 21 and 24 November 2014. At its 14th to 18th meetings, the Committee held a general discussion on sub-items (a) and (b). An account of the Committee’s discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/69/SR.13-18, 26, 36, 44, 48, 49, 51 and 52).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (A/69/212);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly on children (A/69/258);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (A/69/260);



(d) Annual report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children (A/69/264);

(e) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the summary report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the panel discussion on preventing and eliminating child, early and forced marriage (A/69/165);

(f) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on preventing and eliminating child, early and forced marriage (A/69/166);

(g) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (A/69/262);

(h) Identical letters dated 18 September 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (A/69/394-S/2014/684).

4. At its 13th meeting, on 15 October, the Committee heard introductory statements by the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, who responded to questions raised and comments made by the representatives of the European Union, the Syrian Arab Republic, Maldives, Switzerland, Mexico, Algeria, Iraq, the Sudan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Norway, Tunisia, Portugal, Lithuania, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Costa Rica, Germany, the United States of America, Cameroon and Israel, and the observer of the State of Palestine (see A/C.3/69/SR.13).

5. At the same meeting, introductory statements were made by the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography and the Chair of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, who responded to questions raised and comments made by the representatives of Brazil, Mexico, the European Union, the United States of America, Portugal and Costa Rica (see A/C.3/69/SR.13).

6. At the 14th meeting, on 16 October, an introductory statement was made by the representative of the New York Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (see A/C.3/69/SR.14).

## **II. Consideration of proposals**

### **A. Draft resolutions A/C.3/69/L.23 and Rev.1**

7. At the 26th meeting, on 23 October, the representative of Canada, on behalf of Argentina, Burkina Faso, Canada, Italy, the Netherlands, Peru, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Zambia, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Child, early and forced marriage" (A/C.3/69/L.23). Subsequently, Croatia, Germany, Greece, Israel, Lebanon, Norway, Panama and Serbia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

8. At its 49th meeting, on 21 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/69/L.23/Rev.1) submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/69/L.23 and Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, Chile, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Finland, France, Georgia, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Iceland, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, the United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

9. At the same meeting, the representative of Zambia orally revised operative paragraph 5 of the draft resolution by replacing the words “the human rights of all women and girls” with the words “the human rights of all women”, and announced that Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Belgium, Benin, Bulgaria, Burundi, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Estonia, Ethiopia, Guinea, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Liberia, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Maldives, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, the Philippines, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Rwanda, San Marino, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, Thailand, Togo, Turkmenistan and the United Republic of Tanzania had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, as orally revised. Subsequently, Ecuador, Eritrea, Mali, Nicaragua, Suriname and Tunisia also joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

10. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/69/L.23/Rev.1, as orally revised (see para. 29, draft resolution I).

11. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Kuwait and the Islamic Republic of Iran; after the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf also of Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland) and the Sudan and by the observer for the Holy See (see A/C.3/69/SR.49).

## **B. Draft resolutions A/C.3/69/L.24 and Rev.1**

12. At the 36th meeting, on 30 October, the representative of Uruguay, on behalf of Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, the Netherlands, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), introduced a draft

resolution entitled “Rights of the child” (A/C.3/69/L.24). Subsequently, San Marino and Serbia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

13. At its 48th meeting, on 19 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/69/L.24/Rev.1) submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/69/L.24 and Albania, Burkina Faso, Iceland, Mongolia, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, the Republic of Moldova, Somalia, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey and Ukraine, which read:

*“The General Assembly,*

*“Reaffirming* all its previous resolutions on the rights of the child in their entirety, the most recent of which is resolution 68/147 of 18 December 2013, and in particular recognizing the importance of resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, in which it adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and welcoming the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of its adoption in 2014,

*“Emphasizing* that the Convention on the Rights of the Child constitutes the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, and bearing in mind the importance of the Optional Protocols to the Convention, and calling for their universal ratification and effective implementation, as well as that of other human rights instruments,

*“Recalling* the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women,

*“Reaffirming* that the general principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including the best interests of the child, non-discrimination, participation and survival and development, provide the framework for all actions concerning children,

*“Recalling* the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples of 2007, as well as the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, held on 22 and 23 September 2014,

*“Reaffirming* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, the United Nations Millennium Declaration and the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled ‘A world fit for children’, and recalling the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum, the Declaration on Social Progress and Development, the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition, the

Declaration on the Right to Development, the Declaration of the commemorative high-level plenary meeting devoted to the follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children, held in New York from 11 to 13 December 2007, the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, held in New York from 20 to 22 September 2010, the outcome document, entitled ‘The future we want’, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012, and the outcome document of the third Global Conference on Child Labour, held in Brasilia from 8 to 10 October 2013, and recalling the World Congresses against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents, held in Stockholm from 27 to 31 August 1996, in Yokohama, Japan, from 17 to 20 December 2001 and in Rio de Janeiro from 25 to 28 November 2008,

*“Taking note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on progress made towards achieving the commitments set out in the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly and on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the issues addressed in Assembly resolution 68/147, as well as the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, whose recommendations should be carefully studied, taking fully into account the views of Member States,

*“Reaffirming* that States have the primary responsibility to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the rights of the child,

*“Acknowledging* the important role played by national governmental structures for children, including, where they exist, ministries and institutions in charge of child, family and youth issues and independent ombudspersons for children or other national institutions for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child,

*“Recognizing* that the family has the primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children, in the best interests of the child, and that children, for the full and harmonious development of their personality, should grow up in a family environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding,

*“Noting with appreciation* the work to promote and protect the rights of the child carried out by all relevant organs, bodies, entities and organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, by relevant mandate holders and special procedures of the United Nations and by relevant regional organizations, where appropriate, and intergovernmental organizations, and recognizing the valuable role of civil society, including non-governmental organizations,

*“Profoundly concerned* that the situation of children in many parts of the world remains negatively affected by the world financial and economic crisis, and reaffirming that eradicating poverty continues to be the greatest global

challenge facing the world today, recognizing its impact beyond the socioeconomic context,

*“Profoundly concerned also* that the situation of children in many parts of the world remains critical, in an increasingly globalized environment, as a result of the persistence of poverty, social inequality, inadequate social and economic conditions, pandemics, in particular HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, non-communicable diseases, lack of access to safe drinking water and sanitation, environmental damage, climate change, natural disasters, armed conflict, foreign occupation, displacement, violence, terrorism, abuse, trafficking in children and their organs, all forms of exploitation, commercial sexual exploitation of children, child prostitution, child pornography and child sex tourism, neglect, illiteracy, hunger, intolerance, discrimination, racism, xenophobia, gender inequality, disability and inadequate legal protection, and convinced that urgent and effective national and international action is called for,

*“Expressing deep concern* that, despite the recognition of the right of the child to express his or her views freely on all matters affecting him or her, with his or her views given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child, children are still seldom seriously consulted and involved in such matters owing to a variety of constraints and impediments and that the full implementation of this right in many parts of the world has yet to be fully realized,

*“Deeply concerned* that children disproportionately suffer the consequences of discrimination, exclusion, inequality and poverty,

*“Deeply concerned also* that more than 6,300,000 children under the age of 5 die each year, mostly from preventable and treatable causes, owing to inadequate or lack of access to integrated and quality maternal, newborn and child health care and services, early childbearing, as well as to health determinants, such as safe drinking water and sanitation, safe and adequate food and nutrition, and that mortality remains highest among children belonging to the poorest and most marginalized communities,

*“Recognizing* that a strong focus is needed on poverty, deprivation and inequality to prevent and protect children from violence and to promote the resilience of children, their families and communities,

*“Recognizing also* the large and growing number of migrant children, including those unaccompanied or separated from their parents or primary caregivers, and especially those who find themselves in a vulnerable situation by attempting to cross international borders without the required travel documents,

*“Taking into special consideration* the situation of child refugees and child asylum seekers, in particular those unaccompanied or separated from their parents,

**“I****“Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto**

“1. *Welcomes* the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the human rights treaty with the largest number of ratifications, and acknowledges that the Convention and the Optional Protocols thereto contain a comprehensive set of international legal standards for the protection and well-being of children;

“2. *Recognizes* that, while progress has been made, many challenges remain, and that, in this regard, the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, on 20 November 2014, is an occasion for States to reflect on implementation gaps and to undertake additional measures to ensure that the rights of children are fully realized;

“3. *Notes with appreciation* the entry into force on 14 April 2014 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure, and encourages States to consider its accession, ratification and implementation;

“4. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 1 to 10 of its resolution 68/147, and urges States that have not yet done so to consider acceding to or ratifying the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto as a matter of priority and to implement them effectively and fully;

“5. *Urges* States parties to withdraw reservations that are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention or the Optional Protocols thereto and to consider reviewing regularly other reservations with a view to withdrawing them in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

“6. *Welcomes* the work of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, taking into account the adoption of its general comments, and its actions to follow up on its concluding observations on the implementation of the Convention and recommendations, and calls upon all States to strengthen their cooperation with the Committee, to comply in a timely manner with their reporting obligations under the Convention and the Optional Protocols thereto, in accordance with the guidelines elaborated by the Committee, and to take into account its recommendations, observations and general comments on the implementation of the Convention;

**“II****“Promotion and protection of the rights of the child and non-discrimination against children****“Non-discrimination**

“7. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 11 to 14 of its resolution 68/147, and calls upon States to ensure the enjoyment by all children of all their civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights without discrimination of any kind;

“8. *Notes with concern* the large number of children belonging to national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, migrant children, refugee

or asylum-seeking children, internally displaced children, and children of indigenous origin who are victims of discrimination, including racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, stresses the need to incorporate special measures, in accordance with the principle of the best interests of the child and respect for his or her views and the child's gender-specific needs, including children with special needs, in education programmes and programmes to combat these practices, and calls upon States to provide special support and to ensure equal access to services for those children;

“9. *Recognizes* that discrimination against any child on the basis of disability is a violation of the inherent dignity and worth of the child, and expresses grave concern that children with disabilities face violations of their human rights, as well as discriminatory, attitudinal and environmental barriers to their participation and inclusion in society and in the community;

**“Registration, family relations, adoption and alternative care**

“10. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 15 to 19 of its resolution 68/147, and urges all States parties to intensify their efforts to comply with their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child to protect children in matters relating to registration, family relations and adoption or other forms of alternative care, and, in cases of international parental or familial child abduction, encourages States to engage in bilateral and, when appropriate, multilateral cooperation to resolve those cases, and in this regard to consider accession to or ratification of the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction and to facilitate, inter alia, the return of the child to the country in which he or she resided immediately before the removal or retention, while taking into consideration the principle of the best interest of the child;

**“Economic and social well-being of children**

“11. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 20 to 29 of its resolution 68/147, paragraphs 42 to 52 of its resolution 61/146 of 19 December 2006, on children and poverty, and paragraphs 37 to 42 of its resolution 60/231 of 23 December 2005, on children living with and affected by HIV and AIDS, and calls upon all States and the international community to create an environment in which the well-being of the child is ensured, including by strengthening international cooperation in this field and by implementing their previous commitments relating to poverty eradication, including the Millennium Development Goals, the right to education, including equal access to quality education, and measures to promote human rights education, including the safe and beneficial use of the Internet as a tool for the advancement of the child's social and educational well-being, the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including efforts to address the interlinked root causes of preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age and to address the situation of children living with or affected by HIV and AIDS and to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV, and, through the provision of adequate nutritious foods and clean drinking water and sanitation, the right to food for all and the right to an adequate standard of living, including housing and clothing;



“12. *Calls upon* all States and the international community to cooperate, support and participate in the global efforts towards poverty eradication and to mobilize all necessary resources and support in that regard, according to national plans and strategies, including through an integrated and multifaceted approach based on the rights and well-being of children;

“13. *Underlines* the importance of giving due consideration to the promotion and protection of the rights and well-being of children in the context of the post-2015 development agenda, including by ending extreme poverty, reducing inequalities and eliminating all forms of violence against children, including harmful practices;

#### **“Child labour**

“14. *Calls upon* all States to translate into concrete action their commitment to the progressive and effective eradication of child labour that is likely to be hazardous, to interfere with the child’s education or to be harmful to the child’s health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development, to eliminate immediately the worst forms of child labour and to promote education as a key strategy in this regard;

“15. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying both the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) and the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) of the International Labour Organization;

“16. *Recognizes* that poverty and social exclusion, labour mobility, discrimination and lack of adequate social protection and educational opportunity as well as lack of birth registrations all influence child labour;

#### **“Prevention and elimination of violence against children**

“17. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 34 to 39 of its resolution 68/147 and paragraphs 47 to 62 of its resolution 62/141 of 18 December 2007, on the elimination of violence against children, condemns all forms of violence against children, and urges all States to implement the measures set out in paragraph 34 of its resolution 68/147 and:

“(a) To take effective and appropriate legislative and other measures to prohibit, prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against children in all settings, including harmful practices in all situations, and to strengthen international, national and local cooperation and mutual assistance in this regard;

“(b) To exercise due diligence, investigate, prosecute and punish the perpetrators of violence against all children and end impunity, and provide protection as well as universal access to comprehensive social, physical and mental health and legal services and counselling for all victims and survivors, to ensure their full recovery and reintegration into society and, bearing in mind the importance for all children to live free from violence, to address the structural and underlying causes of violence against all children through enhanced prevention measures, research and strengthened coordination and monitoring and evaluation;

“(c) To address the gender dimension of all forms of violence against children and incorporate a gender perspective in all policies adopted and actions taken to protect children against all forms of violence, acknowledging that girls and boys face varying risks from different forms of violence at different ages and in different situations;

“18. *Reaffirms* that violence against children is never justifiable and that it is the duty of States to protect children, including those in conflict with the law, from all forms of violence and human rights violations, and to exercise due diligence to prohibit, prevent, and investigate acts of violence against children, eliminate impunity and provide assistance to the victims, including preventing revictimization;

“19. *Strongly condemns* the abduction of children, and calls upon all States to take all the appropriate measures to secure their unconditional release, rehabilitation and reintegration and their reunification with their families;

“20. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children to advance the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations study on violence against children and to continue to promote the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence against children, including through her regional and thematic consultations and field missions, and to continue the effective and independent performance of her mandate set out in resolution 62/141, as well as thematic reports addressing emerging concerns, such as the risks associated with information and communications technologies for the protection of children from violence;

“21. *Also notes with appreciation* the adoption of the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and encourages States to take effective measures for their dissemination and implementation, as appropriate, and invites relevant United Nations actors to support Member States, where appropriate, to this end through concerted efforts;

**“Promoting and protecting the rights of children, including children in particularly difficult situations**

“22. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 40 to 48 of its resolution 68/147, and calls upon all States to promote and protect all human rights of all children, to implement evidence-based programmes and measures that provide them with special protection and assistance, including access to health care and inclusive and quality education and social services, to consider implementing voluntary repatriation, reintegration where appropriate and feasible, family tracing and family reunification, in particular for children who are unaccompanied, and to ensure that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration;

“23. *Calls upon* all States to ensure, for children belonging to minorities and vulnerable groups, including migrant children and indigenous children, the enjoyment of all human rights, as well as access to health care, social services and education, on an equal basis with others and to ensure that all such

children, in particular unaccompanied migrant children and those who are victims of violence and exploitation, receive appropriate protection and assistance;

#### **“Migrant children**

“24. *Reaffirms* the need to promote and protect effectively the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrant children, regardless of their migration status, and to address international migration through international, regional or bilateral cooperation and dialogue and through a comprehensive and balanced approach, recognizing the roles and responsibilities of countries of origin, transit and destination in promoting and protecting the human rights of all migrant children, and avoiding approaches that might aggravate their vulnerability;

“25. *Expresses the commitment* to protect the human rights of migrant children, given their vulnerability, particularly unaccompanied migrant children, and to provide for their health, education and psychosocial development, ensuring that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration in policies of integration, return and family reunification;

#### **“Children and the administration of justice**

“26. *Encourages* continued regional and cross-regional efforts, the sharing of best practices and the provision of technical assistance in the field of juvenile justice, and notes in this regard the initiative to convene a world congress on juvenile justice in Geneva from 26 to 30 January 2015;

“27. *Takes note with appreciation* of Human Rights Council resolution 25/6 of 27 March 2014 on the rights of the child: access to justice for children, and recalls in this regard the thematic report entitled ‘Promoting restorative justice for children’, issued by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children in 2013;

“28. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 49 to 57 of its resolution 68/147, and calls upon all States to respect and protect the rights of children alleged to have infringed or recognized as having infringed penal law, as well as children of persons alleged to have infringed or recognized as having infringed penal law;

“29. *Encourages* States to develop and implement a comprehensive juvenile justice policy to protect and address the needs of children in contact with the law, with a view to promoting, inter alia, crime prevention programmes, the use of alternative measures, such as diversion, restorative justice and community-based programmes that focus on the rehabilitation and reintegration of the child and ensuring compliance with the principle that deprivation of liberty of children should be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time, as well as to avoid, wherever possible, the use of pretrial detention for children;

#### **“Prevention and eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography**

“30. *Reaffirms* paragraph 58 of its resolution 68/147, and calls upon all States to prevent, criminalize, prosecute and punish all forms of sale and

trafficking of children, including for the purposes of removal of organs of the child for profit, child slavery, sexual exploitation of children, child prostitution and child pornography, with the aim of eradicating those practices and the use of the Internet and other information and communications technologies for these purposes, to combat the existence of a market that encourages such criminal practices and take measures to eliminate the demand that fosters them, as well as to address the rights and needs of victims effectively and take effective measures against the criminalization of children who are victims of exploitation;

**“Children affected by armed conflict**

“31. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 59 to 70 of its resolution 68/147, and condemns in the strongest terms all violations and abuses committed against children in armed conflict, and in this regard urges all States and other parties to armed conflict that are engaged, in contravention of applicable international law, including humanitarian law, in the recruitment and use of children, in patterns of killing and maiming of children and/or rape and other sexual violence against children, acknowledging that sexual violence in these situations disproportionately affects girls, and in recurrent attacks on schools and/or hospitals and related personnel, as well as in all other violations and abuses against children, to take time-bound and effective measures to end them;

“32. *Recalls*, in accordance with international humanitarian law, that indiscriminate attacks against civilians, including children, are prohibited and that civilians shall not be the object of attack, including by way of reprisal or disproportionate attacks, condemns such practices resulting in the killing and maiming of children, and demands that all parties immediately put an end to such attacks;

“33. *Urges* States, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, other relevant international and regional organizations and civil society to give serious attention to, and to protect and assist child victims of, all violations and abuses committed against children in situations of armed conflict, in accordance with international humanitarian law, including the First to Fourth Geneva Conventions;

“34. *Calls upon* States to protect children affected by armed conflict, in particular from violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law, and to ensure that they receive timely, effective humanitarian assistance, noting the efforts taken to end impunity by ensuring accountability and punishing perpetrators, and calls upon the international community to hold those responsible for violations accountable, inter alia, through the International Criminal Court;

“35. *Remains deeply concerned*, however, over the lack of progress on the ground in some situations where parties to armed conflict continue to violate with impunity the relevant provisions of applicable international law relating to the rights and protection of children in armed conflict;

“36. *Expresses deep concern* about attacks, as well as threats of attacks, in contravention of applicable international law against schools and/or

hospitals, and protected person in relation to them, welcomes the publication of the guidance note on Security Council resolution 1998 (2011) of 12 July 2011 on attacks on schools and hospitals by the Office of the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and notes the adoption of Security Council resolution 2143 (2014) of 7 March 2014;

“37. *Welcomes* in this regard the ‘Children, not soldiers’ campaign initiated by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the United Nations Children's Fund, in collaboration with other United Nations partners, aimed at ending and preventing the recruitment and use of children by the concerned armed forces by 2016, and requests the Special Representative to report on progress in her next report to the General Assembly;

### “III

#### “Progress achieved and challenges in protecting children from discrimination and overcoming inequalities in the light of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child

“38. *Reaffirms* that the Convention on the Rights of the Child constitutes the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, and that States parties to the Convention shall undertake all appropriate legislative, administrative and other measures for the implementation of the rights recognized therein, while bearing in mind the importance of the Optional Protocols to the Convention;

“39. *Recognizes* that the full realization of children's rights requires the adoption and implementation of comprehensive laws, policies and programmes for all children, taking into account the right of the child to be heard and to express his or her views freely in all matters affecting him or her, the views of the child being given due weight in accordance with his or her age and maturity;

“40. *Also recognizes* that financial and material poverty, or conditions directly and uniquely imputable to such poverty, should never be the only justification for the removal of a child from the care of his or her parents or primary caregivers, for receiving a child into alternative care, or for preventing his or her reintegration, but should be seen as a signal for the need to provide appropriate support to the family;

“41. *Expresses its concern* that children with disabilities, particularly girls, are often at greater risk, both within and outside the home, of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, including sexual abuse, neglect or negligent treatment and maltreatment or exploitation;

“42. *Calls upon* States parties to respect and ensure the rights set forth in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto and to take all appropriate measures to ensure that all children are protected against all forms of discrimination, violence, including sexual violence, abuse and exploitation and traditional, customary harmful practices, which can be

harmful to the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development;

“43. *Calls upon* all Member States to take all appropriate measures to safeguard the realization of the rights of the child in a manner conducive to his or her fullest possible social inclusion and individual development;

“44. *Encourages* States to consider the guiding principles on extreme poverty and human rights in the formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes to implement the post-2015 development agenda;

“45. *Recognizes* that in order to further the positive impacts achieved through the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Millennium Development Goals, the post-2015 development agenda will need to consider the poor and vulnerable as well as the most marginalized and excluded populations, including children, which are those who are most at risk and in need of protection;

“46. *Also recognizes* that children may face additional barriers in accessing justice, and reaffirms the duty of States to respect and ensure an effective remedy and access to justice for each child within their jurisdiction without discrimination of any kind;

“47. *Calls upon* all States to include the relevant provisions to protect children from discrimination and overcome inequalities and, in particular:

“(a) To take all necessary and effective measures to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination motivated by intolerance or prejudice of any kind;

“(b) To incorporate special measures in formal and non-formal education and other programmes to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance affecting children;

“(c) To address the root causes of inequality and remove barriers that prevent children, particularly those who suffer the worst deprivations in society, from accessing education, health care, adequate nutritious food, sanitation, clean water, protection, and other services necessary for their survival, growth and development;

“(d) To take all necessary and effective measures to prevent and eliminate all forms of discrimination against girls and all forms of violence, including female infanticide and prenatal sex selection, rape, sexual abuse, forced sterilization and harmful traditional or customary practices, including female genital mutilation and child, early and forced marriage, by enacting and enforcing legislation and, where appropriate, by formulating comprehensive, multidisciplinary and coordinated national plans, programmes or strategies to protect girls, as well as by promoting awareness-raising and social mobilization initiatives for the protection of their rights;

“(e) To eliminate all forms of gender-based discrimination and to take measures to address stereotyped gender roles and other prejudices based on the idea of the inferiority or the superiority of either of the sexes, and to mainstream in this context a gender perspective in all development and human

rights policies and programmes related to children and those specific to the girl child;

“(f) To take measures to collect and disaggregate relevant information, including statistical and research data, as appropriate, in order to identify the barriers faced by children, especially those who are marginalized or in vulnerable situations, in exercising their rights;

“(g) To develop and strengthen the collection, analysis and dissemination of data for national statistics on children as far as possible and to use data disaggregated by relevant factors that may lead to disparities and other statistical indicators at the subnational, national, subregional, regional and international levels in order to develop and assess social and other policies and programmes so that economic and social resources are used efficiently and effectively for the full realization of the rights of the child;

“(h) To take steps to design and implement preventive and comprehensive anti-bullying measures, including in educational settings, that address bullying and peer-directed aggression against children, which could include the training of educators and family members and also raising awareness of this matter among children;

“(i) To take all necessary measures to ensure universal access to birth registration of all children immediately after birth, including those living in remote areas by, inter alia, removing barriers that impede their registration, moving towards the provision of free birth registration, ensuring the existence of a simple, effective, expeditious and accessible birth registration system, including late birth registration, ensuring the right of every child to a name and the right to acquire a nationality, respecting the selection by parents of a name of their own choosing, respecting the child’s preservation of his or her identity and, as far as possible, protecting the child’s knowing and being cared for by his or her parents;

“(j) In accordance with article 7 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, to continuously raise awareness of the importance of birth registration at the national, regional and local levels, to ensure free or low-fee late birth registration, to ensure that all legal and procedural impediments to the registration of children who reside in a State party are addressed and to ensure that children who have not been registered enjoy their human rights and have access without discrimination to health care, quality education, protection from violence, safe drinking water and sanitation, and other basic services;

“(k) To design and implement programmes to provide pregnant adolescents and adolescent mothers with education, including access to quality education, social services and support, to enable them to continue and complete their education and protect them from discrimination, as well as to ensure a healthy and safe pregnancy;

“(l) To develop and implement educational programmes and teaching materials, including comprehensive evidence-based education for human sexuality, based on full and accurate information, for all adolescents and youth, in a manner consistent with their evolving capacities, with the appropriate direction and guidance from parents and legal guardians, with the involvement of children, adolescents, youth and communities, and in

coordination with women's youth, and specialized non-governmental organizations, in order to modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women of all ages, to eliminate prejudices, and to promote and build decision-making, communication and risk reduction skills for the development of respectful relationships based on gender equality and human rights, as well as teacher education and training programmes for both formal and non-formal education;

“(m) To take all measures necessary to ensure that children enjoy the right to the highest attainable standard of health, in keeping with existing obligations, including by ensuring that all children and adolescents have access to quality, free or affordable, gender-sensitive, appropriate health care services, including age-appropriate health care programmes in the area of sexual and reproductive health, taking into account the needs and evolving capacities of the child;

“(n) To adopt legislative and other appropriate measures, including cross-sectoral approaches, to ensure the full realization by all children of the right to education, including their access to quality education, on the basis of equal opportunity, in a manner conducive to their fullest possible social inclusion and individual development, including through the provision of compulsory primary education that is available free to all and to take all appropriate measures to make all other levels and all forms of education available and accessible to all children without discrimination;

“(o) To take all appropriate measures to ensure protection and safety for all children, including the prevention of sexual abuse and exploitation, during and after situations of risk, situations of armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies, and natural disasters, by adopting and implementing prevention and response programmes, including those related to the recruitment of children by armed forces and armed groups in contravention of applicable international law, to ensure the physical and psychological recovery, family reunification, and social reintegration of these children and ensure that such recovery, reintegration and rehabilitation take place in an environment, which fosters the well-being, health, self-respect and dignity of the child;

“48. *Calls upon* all Member States, and invites the United Nations system, to strengthen international cooperation to ensure the realization of the rights of the child, including the most marginalized and excluded children, inter alia, by supporting national initiatives that give more emphasis to the development of the most marginalized and excluded children, as appropriate, and by reinforcing international cooperation measures in fields of research or on the transfer of technology such as assistive technologies;

“49. *Calls upon* the relevant entities, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, and invites the international financial and donor institutions and bilateral donors to support, when requested, national initiatives, including development programmes for the most marginalized and excluded children, financially and technically, as well as to enhance effective international cooperation and partnership to strengthen knowledge-sharing and capacity-building, with particular attention to policy development, programme development, research and professional training;



**“IV****“Follow-up**

“50. *Recognizes* the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, its increased level of activity and the progress achieved since the establishment of the mandate of the Special Representative, and bearing in mind its resolution 63/241 of 24 December 2008 and paragraphs 35 to 37 of resolution 51/77 of 12 December 1996, recommends that the Secretary-General extend the mandate of the Special Representative for a further period of three years;

“51. *Decides*:

“(a) To request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventieth session a report on the rights of the child containing information on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the issues addressed in the present resolution, with a focus on the right to education;

“(b) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict to continue to submit reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council on the activities undertaken in the fulfilment of her mandate, including information on her field visits and on the progress achieved and the challenges remaining on the children and armed conflict agenda;

“(c) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children to continue to submit annual reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council on the activities undertaken in the fulfilment of her mandate, consistent with paragraphs 58 and 59 of its resolution 62/141, including information on her field visits and on the progress achieved and the challenges remaining on the violence against children agenda, and, in accordance with paragraph 39 of its resolution 68/147, to ensure that the effective performance and the sustainability of the core activities of the mandate of the Special Representative are maintained;

“(d) To invite the Secretary-General to commission an in-depth global study on children deprived of liberty, funded through voluntary contributions and conducted in close cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies and offices, including but not limited to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Children’s Fund, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, as well as the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice, and in consultation with relevant stakeholders, including Member States, civil society, academia and children, and to include good practices and recommendations for action to effectively realize all relevant rights of the child, in particular those supporting the implementation of the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and invites the Secretary-General to submit the conclusions of the study to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;

“(e) To request the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography to continue to submit reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council on the activities undertaken in the fulfilment of her mandate, including information on her field visits and on the progress achieved and the challenges remaining on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography agenda;

“(f) To invite the Chair of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to present an oral report on the work of the Committee and engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its seventieth session as a way to enhance communication between the Assembly and the Committee;

“(g) To continue its consideration of the question at its seventieth session under the item entitled ‘Promotion and protection of the rights of children’, focusing section III of the resolution entitled ‘Rights of the child’ on the theme ‘Right to education’.”

14. At the same meeting, the representative of Uruguay read out numerous revisions to the draft resolution (see A/C.3/69/SR.48) and announced that Australia, Canada, Cambodia, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Maldives, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea and Togo had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, as orally revised. Subsequently, Israel, Japan, Monaco and Palau also joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

15. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Djibouti, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States, orally proposed an amendment to the draft resolution, as orally revised, by which operative paragraph 48 (l) would be replaced with the following:

“(l) To develop and implement educational programmes and teaching materials, including age-appropriate sex education, based on full and accurate information, for all adolescents and youth, in a manner consistent with their evolving capacities, with the appropriate direction and guidance from parents and legal guardians, with the involvement of children, adolescents, youth and communities, and in coordination with women’s youth, and specialized non-governmental organizations to promote and build decision-making, communication and risk reduction skills for the development of respectful relationships based on gender equality and human rights, as well as teacher education and training programmes for both formal and non-formal education”.

16. Also at its 48th meeting, the Committee rejected the amendment by a recorded vote of 81 to 66, with 17 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

*In favour:*

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bhutan, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, China, Comoros, Congo, Côte d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kenya, Kiribati, Kuwait, Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Syrian Arab

Republic, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

*Against:*

Albania, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Barbados, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

*Abstaining:*

Belize, Benin, Brunei Darussalam, Fiji, Guyana, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Liberia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Thailand, Viet Nam.

17. Before the vote, statements were made by the representatives of Barbados, Costa Rica, Uruguay (on behalf of the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States as well as the European Union), Austria, Palau, Ireland, Norway, Liechtenstein and Iceland; after the vote, statements were made by the representatives of Uruguay and Togo (see A/C.3/69/SR.48).

18. At its 49th meeting, on 21 November, the Committee proceeded to consider draft resolution A/C.3/69/L.24/Rev.1, as orally revised, as a whole.

19. The representative of Togo made a statement and withdrew his country's sponsorship of the draft resolution.

20. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/69/L.24/Rev.1, as orally revised (see para. 29, draft resolution II).

21. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Qatar, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Djibouti (on behalf of the Group of African States), the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Libya, Nigeria, Palau, the United States of America, Pakistan, Brazil, the Sudan, Iraq, Mauritania, Yemen, Norway and Barbados and by the observer for the Holy See (see A/C.3/69/SR.49).

### **C. Draft resolutions A/C.3/69/L.25 and Rev.1**

22. At the 44th meeting, on 13 November, the representative of Mexico, on behalf of Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Iceland, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru and Uruguay, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Combating bullying and other types of violence against children" (A/C.3/69/L.25) and announced that Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala,

Honduras, Panama, Paraguay, Turkey and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution. Subsequently, Argentina also joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

23. At its 52nd meeting, on 24 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution (A/C.3/69/L.25/Rev.1) entitled “Protecting children from bullying”, submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/69/L.25 and Brazil, New Zealand and Switzerland, which read:

*“The General Assembly,*

*“Emphasizing that the Convention on the Rights of the Child constitutes the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child and that States parties to the Convention shall undertake all appropriate legislative, administrative and other measures for the implementation of the rights recognized therein,*

*“Recalling all its previous resolutions on the rights of the child and the resolutions adopted by the Human Rights Council that are relevant to the protection of children against bullying,*

*“Recalling also the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Declaration of Principles on Tolerance,*

*“Recalling further the United Nations report on violence against children of 2006, the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children entitled ‘Tackling violence in schools: a global perspective — bridging the gap between standards and practice’, the 2014 high-level panel discussion entitled ‘Releasing children’s potential and minimizing risks: information and communication technologies, the Internet and violence against children’ and the 2014 report of the United Nations Children’s Fund on violence against children, entitled ‘Hidden in plain sight: a statistical analysis of violence against children’, which included references regarding bullying,*

*“Recognizing that bullying, including cyberbullying, can be expressed through violence and aggression and that bullying in any form can have a negative impact on the rights of children and their well-being, and aware of the need to prevent and eliminate bullying among children,*

*“Concerned about the occurrence of bullying in different parts of the world and the fact that children who are victimized by their peers may be at heightened risk for a wide range of emotional problems, which can lead, inter alia, to an increased risk of depression and suicide, as well as the potential long-term effect on the individual’s ability to realize his or her own potential,*

*“Acknowledging that in some countries, relevant United Nations agencies and mechanisms have been providing, upon request, technical cooperation and support to enhance national capacities to address and prevent bullying,*

*“Recognizing that environments surrounding children can affect their behaviour, and recognizing also the important role that family members, legal guardians, caregivers, teachers, civil society and media should play in the prevention of bullying,*

*“Recognizing also* that the family has the primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children, in the best interests of the child, and that children, for the full and harmonious development of their personality, should grow up in a family environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding,

*“Recognizing further* the importance of generating appropriate statistical information on bullying,

*“Noting* the risks associated with the misuse of new information and communication technologies and applications, including increased vulnerability to bullying, while stressing that these can create new ways to enhance education and, inter alia, learn and teach about the rights of the child, and can be useful tools to promote children’s protection,

*“Recognizing* that members of vulnerable groups can be at greater risk of being bullied and that children may face different forms of bullying depending on their gender,

*“1. Recognizes* that bullying, including cyberbullying, can have a potential long-term impact on the enjoyment of the human rights of children and negative effects on children affected by or involved in bullying;

*“2. Also recognizes* that bullying can be associated with, inter alia, discrimination and stereotypes, and that action must be taken to prevent bullying on any basis;

*“3. Urges Member States:*

*“(a) To take all appropriate measures to prevent and protect children, including in school, from any form of violence, including forms of bullying, by promptly responding to such acts and to provide appropriate support to children affected by and involved in bullying;*

*“(b) To promote and invest in education as a powerful tool in promoting tolerance, a sense of dignity, mutual understanding and respect;*

*“(c) To generate statistical information and data disaggregated by sex, age and other relevant variables and to provide information on disability at the national level on the problem of bullying, as a basis on which to elaborate effective public policies;*

*“(d) To raise public awareness, involving family members, legal guardians, caregivers, youth, schools, communities, community leaders and the media as well as civil society organizations, with the participation of children, regarding the protection of children from bullying;*

*“(e) To share national experiences and best practices for preventing and tackling bullying, including cyberbullying;*

*“4. Requests* the Secretary-General, using information provided by Member States and relevant stakeholders, in collaboration with relevant United Nations entities, to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session on protecting children from bullying, with an emphasis on causes and effects, good practices and guidance to prevent and respond to bullying.”

24. At the same meeting, the representative of Mexico read out numerous revisions to the draft resolution (see A/C.3/69/SR.52) and announced that Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Cuba, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Lucia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America had joined in sponsoring the draft resolution, as orally revised. Subsequently, the Bahamas, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Israel, Kazakhstan, Montenegro, Norway, San Marino, Serbia, Turkmenistan and Ukraine also joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

25. Also at the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement of the programme budget implications of the draft resolution.

26. Also at its 52nd meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/69/L.25/Rev.1, as orally revised (see para. 29, draft resolution III).

27. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Italy (on behalf of the European Union), Djibouti (on behalf of the Group of African States), Panama (on behalf also of Argentina, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Czech Republic, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay), South Africa, Chile (on behalf also of Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Finland, France, Iceland, Israel, Japan, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and Uruguay), Australia, the United States of America and Saudi Arabia (see A/C.3/69/SR.52).

#### **D. Draft decision proposed by the Chair**

28. At its 52nd meeting, on 24 November, on the proposal of the Chair, the Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly take note of documents considered in connection with the question of the promotion and protection of the rights of children (see para. 30).

### III. Recommendations of the Third Committee

29. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

#### **Draft resolution I** **Child, early and forced marriage**

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* its resolution 68/148 of 18 December 2013 on child, early and forced marriage,

*Recalling* its resolutions 66/140 of 19 December 2011 and 68/146 of 18 December 2013 on the girl child and 67/144 of 20 December 2012 on the intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms of violence against women, as well as Human Rights Council resolution 24/23 of 27 September 2013, entitled “Strengthening efforts to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage: challenges, achievements, best practices and implementation gaps”,<sup>1</sup> and all other previous resolutions relating to child, early and forced marriage,

*Guided* by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,<sup>2</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights<sup>3</sup> and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>3</sup> as well as other relevant human rights instruments, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>4</sup> and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>5</sup> together with the relevant Optional Protocols thereto,<sup>6</sup>

*Reaffirming* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,<sup>7</sup> as well as the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,<sup>8</sup> the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action<sup>9</sup> and the outcome documents of their review conferences,

*Recalling* the agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-seventh<sup>10</sup> and fifty-eighth<sup>11</sup> sessions,

<sup>1</sup> See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 53A* (A/68/53/Add.1), chap. III.

<sup>2</sup> Resolution 217 A (III).

<sup>3</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>4</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531, and resolution 66/138, annex; and United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2131, No. 20378.

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

<sup>8</sup> *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

<sup>9</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>10</sup> See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2013, Supplement No. 7* (E/2013/27), chap. I, sect. A.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, 2014, *Supplement No. 7* (E/2014/27), chap. I, sect. A.

*Taking note with appreciation* of the report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights of 2 April 2014 on preventing and eliminating child, early and forced marriage<sup>12</sup> and its summary report of 18 July 2014 on the panel discussion on preventing and eliminating child, early and forced marriage,<sup>13</sup> and noting the summary report on the panel discussion held by the General Assembly on 5 September 2014,

*Recognizing* that child, early and forced marriage is a harmful practice that violates, abuses and impairs human rights and is linked to and perpetuates other harmful practices and human rights violations and that such violations have a disproportionately negative impact on women and girls, and underscoring the human rights obligations and commitments of States to promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of women and girls and to prevent and eliminate the practice of child, early and forced marriage,

*Deeply concerned* about the continued prevalence of child, early and forced marriage worldwide, including the fact that approximately 15 million girls are married every year before they reach 18 years of age and that more than 700 million women and girls alive today were married before their eighteenth birthday,

*Noting with concern* that the continued prevalence of child, early and forced marriage has had a negative impact on the achievement and the overarching aims of Millennium Development Goals 1 through 6, including in the areas of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, poverty reduction, education, maternal and child mortality and health, including sexual and reproductive health, and recognizing that child, early and forced marriage continues to impair sustainable development, inclusive economic growth and social cohesion,

*Noting with concern also* that poverty and insecurity are among the root causes of child, early and forced marriage and that child, early and forced marriage remains common in rural areas and among the poorest communities, and recognizing that the immediate alleviation and eventual eradication of extreme poverty must remain a high priority for the international community,

*Recognizing* that child, early and forced marriage is itself a barrier to development and helps to perpetuate the cycle of poverty and that the risk of child, early and forced marriage is also exacerbated in conflict and humanitarian crisis situations,

*Recognizing also* that child, early and forced marriage is inherently linked to deep-rooted gender inequalities, norms and stereotypes and to harmful practices, perceptions and customs that are obstacles to the full enjoyment of human rights and that the persistence of child, early and forced marriage places children, in particular the girl child, at risk of being exposed to and encountering various forms of discrimination and violence throughout their lives,

*Recognizing further* that child, early and forced marriage undermines women's and girls' autonomy and decision-making in all aspects of their lives and continues to be an impediment to improvements in the education and the economic and social status of women and girls in all parts of the world and that the empowerment of and investment in women and girls is critical for economic growth, including the

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<sup>12</sup> A/HRC/26/22 and Corr.1.

<sup>13</sup> A/HRC/27/34.



eradication of poverty, as well as the meaningful participation of girls in all decisions that affect them,

*Noting with concern* that child, early and forced marriage disproportionately affects girls who have received little or no formal education and is itself a significant obstacle to educational opportunities for girls and young women, in particular girls who are forced to drop out of school owing to marriage and/or childbirth, and recognizing that educational opportunities are directly related to women's and girls' empowerment, employment and economic opportunities and to their active participation in economic, social and cultural development, governance and decision-making,

*Recognizing* that child, early and forced marriage constitutes a serious threat to multiple aspects of the physical and psychological health of women and girls, including but not limited to their sexual and reproductive health, significantly increasing the risk of early, frequent and unintended pregnancy, maternal and newborn mortality and morbidity, obstetric fistula and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV/AIDS, as well as increasing vulnerability to all forms of violence, and that every girl and woman at risk of or affected by these practices must have equal access to quality services such as education, counselling, shelter and other social services, psychological, sexual and reproductive health-care services and medical care,

1. *Urges* all States to enact, enforce and uphold laws and policies aimed at preventing and ending child, early and forced marriage and protecting those at risk and to ensure that marriage is entered into only with the informed, free and full consent of the intending spouses;

2. *Calls upon* States, with the participation of relevant stakeholders, including girls, religious and community leaders, civil society, women's and human rights groups, men and boys and youth organizations, to develop and implement holistic, comprehensive and coordinated responses and strategies to eliminate child, early and forced marriage and to support already married girls, adolescents and women, including through the strengthening of child protection systems, protection mechanisms such as safe shelters, access to justice and the sharing of best practices across borders;

3. *Calls upon* States and the international community to create an environment in which the well-being of women and girls is ensured by, inter alia, cooperating, supporting and participating in efforts for the eradication of extreme poverty, and reaffirms that investment in women and girls and the protection of their rights are among the most effective ways to end the practice of child, early and forced marriage;

4. *Calls upon* States to promote and protect the right of women and girls to education through enhanced emphasis on quality education, including catch-up and literacy education for those who have not received formal education, while recognizing that education is one of the most effective ways to prevent and end child, early and forced marriage and to help married women and girls to make more informed choices about their lives;

5. *Urges* Governments to promote and protect the human rights of all women, including their right to have control over and decide freely and responsibly on matters related to their sexuality, including sexual and reproductive health, free

of coercion, discrimination and violence, and to adopt and accelerate the implementation of laws, policies and programmes that protect and enable the enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including reproductive rights, in accordance with the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development,<sup>8</sup> the Beijing Platform for Action<sup>14</sup> and the outcome documents of their review conferences;

6. *Encourages* relevant United Nations entities and agencies to continue to collaborate with and support Member States in developing and implementing strategies and policies at the national, regional and international levels to prevent and eliminate child, early and forced marriage, as well as to support already married girls, adolescents and women;

7. *Recalls* the inclusion of a target on eliminating all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage, in the outcome document of the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals,<sup>15</sup> recognizes child, early and forced marriage as a barrier to development and the full realization of women's and girls' human rights, and recognizes the need to give due consideration to the inclusion of the target in the post-2015 development agenda in order to help ensure progress towards the elimination of child, early and forced marriage;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a comprehensive report to the General Assembly, before the end of its seventieth session, on progress towards ending child, early and forced marriage worldwide since the issuance of the report of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights of 2 April 2014,<sup>12</sup> with particular emphasis on high-prevalence countries, best practices for programmes aimed at ending the practice and supporting already married women and girls, gaps in research and implementation and legal reforms and policies related to this matter, using information provided by Member States, United Nations bodies, agencies, funds and programmes, civil society and other relevant stakeholders;

9. *Decides* to consider the issue of child, early and forced marriage at its seventy-first session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children", taking into account the multifaceted and worldwide nature of the issue of child, early and forced marriage.

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<sup>14</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, annex II).

<sup>15</sup> See A/68/970.

## Draft resolution II Rights of the child

*The General Assembly,*

*Reaffirming* all its previous resolutions on the rights of the child in their entirety, the most recent of which is resolution 68/147 of 18 December 2013, and in particular recognizing the importance of resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, in which it adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>1</sup> and welcoming the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of its adoption in 2014,

*Emphasizing* that the Convention on the Rights of the Child constitutes the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, and bearing in mind the importance of the Optional Protocols to the Convention,<sup>2</sup> and calling for their universal ratification and effective implementation, as well as that of other human rights instruments,

*Recalling* the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,<sup>3</sup> the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,<sup>3</sup> the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,<sup>4</sup> the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,<sup>5</sup> the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,<sup>6</sup> the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime<sup>7</sup> and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,<sup>8</sup> and the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women,<sup>9</sup>

*Reaffirming* that the general principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, including the best interests of the child, non-discrimination, participation and survival and development, provide the framework for all actions concerning children,

*Recalling* the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples<sup>10</sup> of 2007, as well as the outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples, held on 22 and 23 September 2014,

*Reaffirming* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action,<sup>11</sup> the United Nations Millennium Declaration<sup>12</sup> and the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for

<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*, vols. 2171 and 2173, No. 27531; and resolution 66/138, annex.

<sup>3</sup> See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

<sup>4</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

<sup>5</sup> Resolution 61/177, annex.

<sup>6</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2220, No. 39481.

<sup>7</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 2237, No. 39574.

<sup>9</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1249, No. 20378.

<sup>10</sup> Resolution 61/295, annex.

<sup>11</sup> A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

<sup>12</sup> Resolution 55/2.

children”,<sup>13</sup> and recalling the Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development and the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development,<sup>14</sup> the Dakar Framework for Action adopted at the World Education Forum,<sup>15</sup> the Declaration on Social Progress and Development,<sup>16</sup> the Universal Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition,<sup>17</sup> the Declaration on the Right to Development,<sup>18</sup> the Declaration of the commemorative high-level plenary meeting devoted to the follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children, held in New York from 11 to 13 December 2007,<sup>19</sup> the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, held in New York from 20 to 22 September 2010,<sup>20</sup> the outcome document, entitled “The future we want”, adopted at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012,<sup>21</sup> and the outcome document of the third Global Conference on Child Labour, held in Brasilia from 8 to 10 October 2013, and recalling the World Congresses against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents, held in Stockholm from 27 to 31 August 1996, in Yokohama, Japan, from 17 to 20 December 2001 and in Rio de Janeiro from 25 to 28 November 2008,

*Taking note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on progress made towards achieving the commitments set out in the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly<sup>22</sup> and on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the issues addressed in Assembly resolution 68/147,<sup>23</sup> as well as the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children,<sup>24</sup> the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict<sup>25</sup> and the report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,<sup>26</sup> whose recommendations should be carefully studied, taking fully into account the views of Member States,

*Reaffirming* that States have the primary responsibility to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the rights of the child,

*Acknowledging* the important role played by national governmental structures for children, including, where they exist, ministries and institutions in charge of child, family and youth issues and independent ombudspersons for children or other national institutions for the promotion and protection of the rights of the child,

<sup>13</sup> Resolution S-27/2, annex.

<sup>14</sup> *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

<sup>15</sup> See United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Final Report of the World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal, 26-28 April 2000* (Paris, 2000).

<sup>16</sup> See resolution 2542 (XXIV).

<sup>17</sup> *Report of the World Food Conference, Rome, 5-16 November 1974* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.75.II.A.3), chap. I.

<sup>18</sup> Resolution 41/128, annex.

<sup>19</sup> Resolution 62/88.

<sup>20</sup> Resolution 65/1.

<sup>21</sup> Resolution 66/288, annex.

<sup>22</sup> A/69/258.

<sup>23</sup> A/69/260.

<sup>24</sup> A/69/264.

<sup>25</sup> A/69/212.

<sup>26</sup> A/69/262.

*Recognizing* that the family has the primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children, in the best interests of the child, and that children, for the full and harmonious development of their personality, should grow up in a family environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding,

*Noting with appreciation* the work to promote and protect the rights of the child carried out by all relevant organs, bodies, entities and organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, by relevant mandate holders and special procedures of the United Nations and by relevant regional organizations, where appropriate, and intergovernmental organizations, and recognizing the valuable role of civil society, including non-governmental organizations,

*Profoundly concerned* that the situation of children in many parts of the world remains negatively affected by the world financial and economic crisis, and reaffirming that eradicating poverty continues to be the greatest global challenge facing the world today, recognizing its impact beyond the socioeconomic context,

*Profoundly concerned also* that the situation of children in many parts of the world remains critical, in an increasingly globalized environment, as a result of the persistence of poverty, social inequality, inadequate social and economic conditions, pandemics, in particular HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis, non-communicable diseases, lack of access to safe drinking water and sanitation, environmental damage, climate change, natural disasters, armed conflict, foreign occupation, displacement, violence, terrorism, abuse, trafficking in children and their organs, all forms of exploitation, commercial sexual exploitation of children, child prostitution, child pornography and child sex tourism, neglect, illiteracy, hunger, intolerance, discrimination, racism, xenophobia, gender inequality, disability and inadequate legal protection, and convinced that urgent and effective national and international action is called for,

*Expressing deep concern* that, despite the recognition of the right of the child to express his or her views freely on all matters affecting him or her, with his or her views given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child, children are still seldom seriously consulted and involved in such matters owing to a variety of constraints and impediments and that the full implementation of this right in many parts of the world has yet to be fully realized,

*Deeply concerned* that children disproportionately suffer the consequences of discrimination, exclusion, inequality and poverty,

*Deeply concerned also* that more than 6,300,000 children under the age of 5 die each year, mostly from preventable and treatable causes, owing to inadequate or lack of access to integrated and quality maternal, newborn and child health care and services, early childbearing, as well as to health determinants, such as safe drinking water and sanitation, safe and adequate food and nutrition, and that mortality remains highest among children belonging to the poorest and most marginalized communities,

*Recognizing* that a strong focus is needed on poverty, deprivation and inequality to prevent and protect children from violence and to promote the resilience of children, their families and communities,

*Recognizing also* the large and growing number of migrant children, including those unaccompanied or separated from their parents or primary caregivers, and

especially those who find themselves in a vulnerable situation by attempting to cross international borders without the required travel documents,

*Taking into special consideration* the situation of child refugees and child asylum seekers, in particular those unaccompanied or separated from their parents,

## **I Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto**

1. *Welcomes* the commemoration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,<sup>1</sup> the human rights treaty with the largest number of ratifications, and acknowledges that the Convention and the Optional Protocols thereto<sup>2</sup> contain a comprehensive set of international legal standards for the protection and well-being of children;

2. *Recognizes* that, while progress has been made, many challenges remain, and that, in this regard, the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, on 20 November 2014, is an occasion for States to reflect on implementation gaps and to undertake additional measures to ensure that the rights of children are fully realized;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the entry into force on 14 April 2014 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure,<sup>27</sup> and encourages States to consider its accession, ratification and implementation;

4. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 1 to 10 of its resolution 68/147, and urges States that have not yet done so to consider acceding to or ratifying the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto as a matter of priority and to implement them effectively and fully;

5. *Urges* States parties to withdraw reservations that are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention or the Optional Protocols thereto and to consider reviewing regularly other reservations with a view to withdrawing them in accordance with the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;<sup>11</sup>

6. *Welcomes* the work of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, taking into account the adoption of its general comments, and its actions to follow up on its concluding observations on the implementation of the Convention and recommendations, and calls upon all States to strengthen their cooperation with the Committee, to comply in a timely manner with their reporting obligations under the Convention and the Optional Protocols thereto, in accordance with the guidelines elaborated by the Committee, and to take into account its recommendations, observations and general comments on the implementation of the Convention;

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<sup>27</sup> Resolution 66/138, annex.

## **II Promotion and protection of the rights of the child and non-discrimination against children**

### **Non-discrimination**

7. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 11 to 14 of its resolution 68/147, and calls upon States to ensure the enjoyment by all children of all their civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights without discrimination of any kind;

8. *Notes with concern* the large number of children belonging to national, ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, migrant children, refugee or asylum-seeking children, internally displaced children, and children of indigenous origin who are victims of discrimination, including racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance, stresses the need to incorporate special measures, in accordance with the principle of the best interests of the child and respect for his or her views and the child's gender-specific needs, including children with special needs, in education programmes and programmes to combat these practices, and calls upon States to provide special support and to ensure equal access to services for those children;

9. *Urges* all States to respect and promote the right of girls and boys to express themselves freely, and their right to be heard, to ensure that their views are given due weight, in accordance with their age and maturity, in all matters affecting them, and to involve children, including children with special needs, in decision-making processes, taking into account the evolving capacities of children and the importance of involving children's organizations and child-led initiatives;

10. *Recognizes* that discrimination against any child on the basis of disability is a violation of the inherent dignity and worth of the child, and expresses grave concern that children with disabilities face violations of their human rights, as well as discriminatory, attitudinal and environmental barriers to their participation and inclusion in society and in the community;

### **Registration, family relations, adoption and alternative care**

11. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 15 to 19 of its resolution 68/147, and urges all States parties to intensify their efforts to comply with their obligations under the Convention on the Rights of the Child to protect children in matters relating to registration, family relations and adoption or other forms of alternative care, and, in cases of international parental or familial child abduction, encourages States to engage in bilateral and, when appropriate, multilateral cooperation to resolve those cases, and in this regard to consider accession to or ratification of the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction<sup>28</sup> and to facilitate, *inter alia*, the return of the child to the country in which he or she resided immediately before the removal or retention, while taking into consideration the principle of the best interest of the child;

### **Economic and social well-being of children**

12. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 20 to 29 of its resolution 68/147, paragraphs 42 to 52 of its resolution 61/146 of 19 December 2006, on children and poverty, and

<sup>28</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1343, No. 22514.

paragraphs 37 to 42 of its resolution 60/231 of 23 December 2005, on children living with and affected by HIV and AIDS, and calls upon all States and the international community to create an environment in which the well-being of the child is ensured, including by strengthening international cooperation in this field and by implementing their previous commitments relating to poverty eradication, including the Millennium Development Goals, the right to education, including equal access to quality education, and measures to promote human rights education, including the safe and beneficial use of the Internet as a tool for the advancement of the child's social and educational well-being, the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, including efforts to address the interlinked root causes of preventable mortality and morbidity of children under 5 years of age and to address the situation of children living with or affected by HIV and AIDS and to eliminate mother-to-child transmission of HIV, and, through the provision of adequate nutritious foods and clean drinking water and sanitation, the right to food for all and the right to an adequate standard of living, including housing and clothing;

13. *Calls upon* all States and the international community to cooperate, support and participate in the global efforts towards poverty eradication and to mobilize all necessary resources and support in that regard, according to national plans and strategies, including through an integrated and multifaceted approach based on the rights and well-being of children;

14. *Strongly underlines* the importance of giving due consideration to the inclusion of the promotion and protection of the rights and well-being of children in the post-2015 development agenda, including by ending extreme poverty, reducing inequalities and eliminating all forms of violence against children, including harmful practices;

### **Child labour**

15. *Calls upon* all States to translate into concrete action their commitment to the progressive and effective eradication of child labour that is likely to be hazardous, to interfere with the child's education or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development, to eliminate immediately the worst forms of child labour and to promote education as a key strategy in this regard;

16. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying both the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182)<sup>29</sup> and the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138)<sup>30</sup> of the International Labour Organization;

17. *Recognizes* that poverty and social exclusion, labour mobility, discrimination and lack of adequate social protection and educational opportunity as well as lack of birth registrations all influence child labour;

### **Prevention and elimination of violence against children**

18. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 34 to 39 of its resolution 68/147 and paragraphs 47 to 62 of its resolution 62/141 of 18 December 2007, on the elimination of violence

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<sup>29</sup> Ibid., vol. 2133, No. 37245.

<sup>30</sup> Ibid., vol. 1015, No. 14862.



against children, condemns all forms of violence against children, and urges all States to implement the measures set out in paragraph 34 of its resolution 68/147 and:

(a) To take effective and appropriate legislative and other measures to prohibit, prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against children in all settings, including harmful practices in all situations, and to strengthen international, national and local cooperation and mutual assistance in this regard;

(b) To exercise due diligence, investigate, prosecute and punish the perpetrators of violence against all children and end impunity, and provide protection as well as universal access to comprehensive social, physical and mental health and legal services and counselling for all victims and survivors, to ensure their full recovery and reintegration into society and, bearing in mind the importance for all children to live free from violence, to address the structural and underlying causes of violence against all children through enhanced prevention measures, research and strengthened coordination and monitoring and evaluation;

(c) To address the gender dimension of all forms of violence against children and incorporate a gender perspective in all policies adopted and actions taken to protect children against all forms of violence, acknowledging that girls and boys face varying risks from different forms of violence at different ages and in different situations;

19. *Reaffirms* that violence against children is never justifiable and that it is the duty of States to protect children, including those in conflict with the law, from all forms of violence and human rights violations, and to exercise due diligence to prohibit, prevent and investigate acts of violence against children, eliminate impunity and provide assistance to the victims, including preventing revictimization;

20. *Strongly condemns* the abduction of children, and calls upon all States to take all the appropriate measures to secure their unconditional release, rehabilitation and reintegration and their reunification with their families;

21. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children to advance the implementation of the recommendations of the United Nations study on violence against children and to continue to promote the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence against children, including through her regional and thematic consultations and field missions, and to continue the effective and independent performance of her mandate set out in resolution 62/141, as well as thematic reports addressing emerging concerns, such as the risks associated with information and communications technologies for the protection of children from violence;

22. *Also notes with appreciation* the adoption of the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,<sup>31</sup> encourages States to take effective measures for their dissemination and implementation, as appropriate, and invites relevant United Nations actors to support Member States, where appropriate, to this end through concerted efforts;

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<sup>31</sup> See Economic and Social Council resolution 2014/18.

**Promoting and protecting the rights of children, including children in particularly difficult situations**

23. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 40 to 48 of its resolution 68/147, and calls upon all States to promote and protect all human rights of all children, to implement evidence-based programmes and measures that provide them with special protection and assistance, including access to health care and inclusive and quality education and social services, to consider implementing voluntary repatriation, reintegration where appropriate and feasible, family tracing and family reunification, in particular for children who are unaccompanied, and to ensure that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration;

24. *Calls upon* all States to ensure, for children belonging to minorities and vulnerable groups, including migrant children and indigenous children, the enjoyment of all human rights, as well as access to health care, social services and education, on an equal basis with others and to ensure that all such children, in particular unaccompanied migrant children and those who are victims of violence and exploitation, receive appropriate protection and assistance;

**Migrant children**

25. *Reaffirms* the need to promote and protect effectively the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrant children, regardless of their migration status, and to address international migration through international, regional or bilateral cooperation and dialogue and through a comprehensive and balanced approach, recognizing the roles and responsibilities of countries of origin, transit and destination in promoting and protecting the human rights of all migrant children, and avoiding approaches that might aggravate their vulnerability;

26. *Expresses the commitment* to protect the human rights of migrant children, given their vulnerability, particularly unaccompanied migrant children, and to provide for their health, education and psychosocial development, ensuring that the best interests of the child are a primary consideration in policies of integration, return and family reunification;

**Children and the administration of justice**

27. *Encourages* continued regional and cross-regional efforts, the sharing of best practices and the provision of technical assistance in the field of juvenile justice, and notes in this regard the initiative to convene a world congress on juvenile justice in Geneva from 26 to 30 January 2015;

28. *Takes note with appreciation* of Human Rights Council resolution 25/6 of 27 March 2014 on the rights of the child: access to justice for children, and recalls in this regard the thematic report entitled “Promoting restorative justice for children”, issued by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children in 2013;

29. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 49 to 57 of its resolution 68/147, and calls upon all States to respect and protect the rights of children alleged to have infringed or recognized as having infringed penal law, as well as children of persons alleged to have infringed or recognized as having infringed penal law;

30. *Encourages* States to develop and implement a comprehensive juvenile justice policy to protect and address the needs of children in contact with the law, with a view to promoting, inter alia, crime prevention programmes, the use of alternative measures, such as diversion, restorative justice and community-based programmes that focus on the rehabilitation and reintegration of the child, and ensuring compliance with the principle that deprivation of liberty of children should be used only as a measure of last resort and for the shortest appropriate period of time, as well as to avoid, wherever possible, the use of pretrial detention for children;

#### **Prevention and eradication of the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography**

31. *Reaffirms* paragraph 58 of its resolution 68/147, and calls upon all States to prevent, criminalize, prosecute and punish all forms of sale and trafficking of children, including for the purposes of removal of organs of the child for profit, child slavery, sexual exploitation of children, child prostitution and child pornography, with the aim of eradicating those practices and the use of the Internet and other information and communications technologies for these purposes, to combat the existence of a market that encourages such criminal practices and take measures to eliminate the demand that fosters them, as well as to address the rights and needs of victims effectively and take effective measures against the criminalization of children who are victims of exploitation;

#### **Children affected by armed conflict**

32. *Reaffirms* paragraphs 59 to 70 of its resolution 68/147, and condemns in the strongest terms all violations and abuses committed against children in armed conflict, and in this regard urges all States and other parties to armed conflict that are engaged, in contravention of applicable international law, including humanitarian law, in the recruitment and use of children, in patterns of killing and maiming of children and/or rape and other sexual violence against children, acknowledging that sexual violence in these situations disproportionately affects girls, and in recurrent attacks on schools and/or hospitals and related personnel, as well as in all other violations and abuses against children, to take time-bound and effective measures to end them;

33. *Recalls*, in accordance with international humanitarian law, that indiscriminate attacks against civilians, including children, are prohibited and that civilians shall not be the object of attack, including by way of reprisal or disproportionate attacks, condemns such practices resulting in the killing and maiming of children, and demands that all parties immediately put an end to such attacks;

34. *Urges* States, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, other relevant international and regional organizations and civil society to give serious attention to, and to protect and assist child victims of, all violations and abuses committed against children in situations of armed conflict, in accordance with international humanitarian law, including the First to Fourth Geneva Conventions;<sup>32</sup>

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<sup>32</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 75, Nos. 970-973.

35. *Calls upon* States to protect children affected by armed conflict, in particular from violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law, and to ensure that they receive timely, effective humanitarian assistance, noting the efforts taken to end impunity by ensuring accountability and punishing perpetrators, and calls upon the international community to hold those responsible for violations accountable, inter alia, through the International Criminal Court;

36. *Remains deeply concerned*, however, over the lack of progress on the ground in some situations where parties to armed conflict continue to violate with impunity the relevant provisions of applicable international law relating to the rights and protection of children in armed conflict;

37. *Expresses deep concern* about attacks, as well as threats of attacks, in contravention of applicable international law against schools and/or hospitals, and protected persons in relation to them, welcomes the publication of the guidance note on Security Council resolution 1998 (2011) of 12 July 2011 on attacks on schools and hospitals by the Office of the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict in collaboration with the United Nations Children's Fund, the World Health Organization and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and notes the adoption of Security Council resolution 2143 (2014) of 7 March 2014;

38. *Welcomes* in this regard the "Children, not soldiers" campaign initiated by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the United Nations Children's Fund, in collaboration with other United Nations partners, aimed at ending and preventing the recruitment and use of children by the armed forces concerned by 2016, and requests the Special Representative to report on progress in her next report to the General Assembly;

### **III**

#### **Progress achieved and challenges in protecting children from discrimination and overcoming inequalities in the light of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Convention on the Rights of the Child**

39. *Reaffirms* that the Convention on the Rights of the Child constitutes the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child, and that States parties to the Convention shall undertake all appropriate legislative, administrative and other measures for the implementation of the rights recognized therein, while bearing in mind the importance of the Optional Protocols to the Convention;

40. *Recognizes* that the full realization of children's rights requires the adoption and implementation of comprehensive laws, policies and programmes for all children, taking into account the right of the child to express his or her views freely in all matters affecting him or her, the views of the child being given due weight in accordance with his or her age and maturity;

41. *Also recognizes* that financial and material poverty, or conditions directly and uniquely imputable to such poverty, should never be the only justification for the removal of a child from the care of his or her parents or primary caregivers, for receiving a child into alternative care, or for preventing his or her reintegration, but should be seen as a signal for the need to provide appropriate support to the family;

42. *Expresses its concern* that children with disabilities, particularly girls, are often at greater risk, both within and outside the home, of physical or mental

violence, injury or abuse, including sexual abuse, neglect or negligent treatment and maltreatment or exploitation;

43. *Calls upon* States parties to respect and ensure the rights set forth in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Optional Protocols thereto and to take all appropriate measures to ensure that all children are protected against all forms of discrimination, violence, including sexual violence, abuse and exploitation and traditional, customary harmful practices, which can be harmful to the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development;

44. *Calls upon* all Member States to take all appropriate measures to safeguard the realization of the rights of the child in a manner conducive to his or her fullest possible social inclusion and individual development;

45. *Encourages* States to consider the guiding principles on extreme poverty and human rights<sup>33</sup> in the formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes to implement the post-2015 development agenda;

46. *Recognizes* that in order to further the positive impacts achieved through the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Millennium Development Goals, the post-2015 development agenda will need to consider people living in poverty and in vulnerable situations as well as the most marginalized and excluded populations, including children, which are most at risk and in need of protection;

47. *Also recognizes* that children may face additional barriers in accessing justice, and reaffirms the duty of States to respect and ensure an effective remedy and access to justice for each child within their jurisdiction without discrimination of any kind;

48. *Calls upon* all States to include the relevant provisions to protect children from discrimination and overcome inequalities and, in particular:

(a) To take all necessary and effective measures to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence and discrimination motivated by intolerance or prejudice of any kind;

(b) To incorporate special measures in formal and non-formal education and other programmes to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance affecting children;

(c) To address the root causes of inequality and remove barriers that prevent children, particularly those who suffer the worst deprivations in society, from accessing education, health care, adequate nutritious food, sanitation, clean water, protection and other services necessary for their survival, growth and development;

(d) To take all necessary and effective measures to prevent and eliminate all forms of discrimination against girls and all forms of violence, including female infanticide and prenatal sex selection, rape, sexual abuse, forced sterilization and harmful traditional or customary practices, including female genital mutilation and child, early and forced marriage, by enacting and enforcing legislation and, where appropriate, by formulating comprehensive, multidisciplinary and coordinated national plans, programmes or strategies to protect girls, as well as by promoting

<sup>33</sup> A/HRC/21/39.

awareness-raising and social mobilization initiatives for the protection of their rights;

(e) To eliminate all forms of discrimination against girls and to take measures to address stereotyped gender roles and other prejudices based on the idea of the inferiority or the superiority of either of the sexes, and to mainstream in this context a gender perspective in all development and human rights policies and programmes related to children and those specific to the girl child;

(f) To take measures to collect and disaggregate relevant information, including statistical and research data, as appropriate, in order to identify the barriers faced by children, especially those who are marginalized or in vulnerable situations, in exercising their rights;

(g) To develop and strengthen the collection, analysis and dissemination of data for national statistics on children as far as possible and to use data disaggregated by relevant factors that may lead to disparities and other statistical indicators at the subnational, national, subregional, regional and international levels in order to develop and assess social and other policies and programmes so that economic and social resources are used efficiently and effectively for the full realization of the rights of the child;

(h) To take steps to design and implement preventive and comprehensive anti-bullying measures, including in educational settings, that address bullying and peer-directed aggression against children, which could include the training of educators and family members and also raising awareness of this matter among children;

(i) To take all necessary measures to ensure universal access to birth registration of all children immediately after birth, including those living in remote areas, by, inter alia, removing barriers that impede their registration, moving towards the provision of free birth registration, ensuring the existence of a simple, effective, expeditious and accessible birth registration system, including late birth registration, ensuring the right of every child to a name and the right to acquire a nationality, respecting the selection by parents of a name of their own choosing, respecting the child's preservation of his or her identity and, as far as possible, protecting the child's knowing and being cared for by his or her parents;

(j) In accordance with article 7 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, to continuously raise awareness of the importance of birth registration at the national, regional and local levels, to ensure free or low-fee late birth registration, to ensure that all legal and procedural impediments to the registration of children who reside in a State party are addressed and to ensure that children who have not been registered enjoy their human rights and have access without discrimination to health care, quality education, protection from violence, safe drinking water and sanitation, and other basic services;

(k) To design and implement programmes to provide pregnant adolescents and adolescent mothers with education, including access to quality education, social services and support, to enable them to continue and complete their education and protect them from discrimination, as well as to ensure a healthy and safe pregnancy;

(l) To develop and implement educational programmes and teaching materials, including comprehensive evidence-based education on human sexuality,

based on full and accurate information, for all adolescents and youth, in a manner consistent with their evolving capacities, with appropriate direction and guidance from parents and legal guardians, with the involvement of children, adolescents, youth and communities, and in coordination with women's, youth and specialized non-governmental organizations, in order to modify the social and cultural patterns of conduct of men and women of all ages, to eliminate prejudices and to promote and build decision-making, communication and risk reduction skills for the development of respectful relationships based on gender equality and human rights, as well as teacher education and training programmes for both formal and non-formal education;

(m) To take all measures necessary to ensure that children enjoy the right to the highest attainable standard of health, in keeping with existing obligations, including by ensuring that all children and adolescents have access to quality, free or affordable, gender-sensitive, appropriate health-care services, including age-appropriate health-care programmes in the area of sexual and reproductive health, taking into account the needs and evolving capacities of the child;

(n) To adopt legislative and other appropriate measures, including cross-sectoral approaches, to ensure the full realization by all children of the right to education, including their access to quality education, on the basis of equal opportunity, in a manner conducive to their fullest possible social inclusion and individual development, including through the provision of compulsory primary education that is available free to all and to take all appropriate measures to make all other levels and all forms of education available and accessible to all children without discrimination;

(o) To take all appropriate measures to ensure protection and safety for all children, including the prevention of sexual abuse and exploitation, during and after situations of risk, situations of armed conflict, humanitarian emergencies and natural disasters, by adopting and implementing prevention and response programmes, including those related to the recruitment of children by armed forces and armed groups in contravention of applicable international law, to ensure the physical and psychological recovery, family reunification and social reintegration of these children and ensure that such recovery, reintegration and rehabilitation take place in an environment which fosters the well-being, health, self-respect and dignity of the child;

49. *Calls upon* all Member States, and invites the United Nations system, to strengthen international cooperation to ensure the realization of the rights of the child, including the most marginalized and excluded children, inter alia, by supporting national initiatives that give more emphasis to the development of the most marginalized and excluded children, as appropriate, and by reinforcing international cooperation measures in fields of research or on the transfer of technology such as assistive technologies;

50. *Calls upon* the relevant entities, funds and programmes of the United Nations system, and invites the international financial and donor institutions and bilateral donors, to support, when requested, national initiatives, including development programmes, for the most marginalized and excluded children, financially and technically, as well as to enhance effective international cooperation and partnerships to strengthen knowledge-sharing and capacity-building, with

particular attention to policy development, programme development, research and professional training;

#### **IV**

##### **Follow-up**

51. *Recognizes* the work of the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, its increased level of activity and the progress achieved since the establishment of the mandate of the Special Representative, and, bearing in mind its resolution 63/241 of 24 December 2008 and paragraphs 35 to 37 of its resolution 51/77 of 12 December 1996, recommends that the Secretary-General extend the mandate of the Special Representative for a further period of three years;

52. *Decides:*

(a) To request the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its seventieth session a report on the rights of the child containing information on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the issues addressed in the present resolution, with a focus on the right to education;

(b) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict to continue to submit reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council on the activities undertaken in the fulfilment of her mandate, including information on her field visits and on the progress achieved and the challenges remaining on the children and armed conflict agenda;

(c) To request the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children to continue to submit annual reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council on the activities undertaken in the fulfilment of her mandate, consistent with paragraphs 58 and 59 of its resolution 62/141, including information on her field visits and on the progress achieved and the challenges remaining on the violence against children agenda, and, in accordance with paragraph 39 of its resolution 68/147, to ensure that the effective performance and the sustainability of the core activities of the mandate of the Special Representative are maintained;

(d) To invite the Secretary-General to commission an in-depth global study on children deprived of liberty, funded through voluntary contributions and conducted in close cooperation with relevant United Nations agencies and offices, including but not limited to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, as well as the Interagency Panel on Juvenile Justice, and in consultation with relevant stakeholders, including Member States, civil society, academia and children, and to include good practices and recommendations for action to effectively realize all relevant rights of the child, including supporting the implementation of the United Nations Model Strategies and Practical Measures on the Elimination of Violence against Children in the Field of Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and invites the Secretary-General to submit the conclusions of the study to the General Assembly at its seventy-second session;



(e) To request the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography to continue to submit reports to the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council on the activities undertaken in the fulfilment of her mandate, including information on her field visits and on the progress achieved and the challenges remaining on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography agenda;

(f) To invite the Chair of the Committee on the Rights of the Child to present an oral report on the work of the Committee and engage in an interactive dialogue with the General Assembly at its seventieth session as a way to enhance communication between the Assembly and the Committee;

(g) To continue its consideration of the question at its seventieth session under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of the rights of children", focusing section III of the resolution entitled "Rights of the child" on the theme "Right to education".

### **Draft resolution III**

## **Protecting children from bullying**

*The General Assembly,*

*Emphasizing* that the Convention on the Rights of the Child<sup>1</sup> constitutes the standard in the promotion and protection of the rights of the child and that States parties to the Convention shall undertake all appropriate legislative, administrative and other measures for the implementation of the rights recognized therein,

*Recalling* all its previous resolutions on the rights of the child and the resolutions adopted by the Human Rights Council that are relevant to the protection of children against bullying,

*Recalling also* the United Nations Declaration on Human Rights Education and Training,<sup>2</sup> and noting the adoption of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Declaration of Principles on Tolerance,<sup>3</sup>

*Noting the submission of* the United Nations report on violence against children of 2006,<sup>4</sup> the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children entitled “Tackling violence in schools: a global perspective — bridging the gap between standards and practice”, the 2014 thematic report entitled “Releasing children’s potential and minimizing risks: information and communication technologies, the Internet and violence against children” and the 2014 report of the United Nations Children’s Fund on violence against children, entitled “Hidden in plain sight: a statistical analysis of violence against children”, which included references regarding bullying,

*Recognizing* that bullying, including cyberbullying, can be expressed through violence and aggression and that bullying in any form can have a negative impact on the rights of children and their well-being, and aware of the need to prevent and eliminate bullying among children,

*Concerned* about the occurrence of bullying in different parts of the world and the fact that children who are victimized by their peers may be at heightened risk for a wide range of emotional problems, as well as potential long-term effects on the individual’s ability to realize his or her own potential,

*Acknowledging* that in some countries, relevant United Nations agencies and mechanisms have been providing, upon request, technical cooperation and support to enhance national capacities to address and prevent bullying,

*Recognizing* that the family has the primary responsibility for the nurturing and protection of children, in the best interests of the child, and that children, for the full and harmonious development of their personality, should grow up in a family environment and in an atmosphere of happiness, love and understanding,

*Recognizing also* that environments surrounding children can affect their behaviour, and recognizing further the important role that family members, legal

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

<sup>2</sup> Resolution 66/137, annex.

<sup>3</sup> A/51/201, annex, appendix I.

<sup>4</sup> A/61/299.

guardians, caregivers, teachers and civil society have and that the media should have in the prevention of bullying,

*Recognizing further* the importance of generating appropriate statistical information on bullying,

*Noting* the risks associated with the misuse of new information and communication technologies and applications, including increased vulnerability to bullying, while stressing that these can create new ways to enhance education and, inter alia, learn and teach about the rights of the child, and can be useful tools to promote children's protection,

*Recognizing* that children in vulnerable situations can be at greater risk of being bullied and that children may face different forms of bullying,

1. *Recognizes* that bullying, including cyberbullying, can have a potential long-term impact on the enjoyment of the human rights of children and negative effects on children affected by or involved in bullying;

2. *Also recognizes* that bullying can be associated with, inter alia, discrimination and stereotypes, and that action must be taken to prevent bullying on any basis;

3. *Encourages* Member States:

(a) To take all appropriate measures to prevent and protect children, including in school, from any form of violence, including forms of bullying, by promptly responding to such acts, and to provide appropriate support to children affected by and involved in bullying;

(b) To continue to promote and invest in education, including as a long-term and lifelong process by which everyone learns tolerance and respect for the dignity of others and the means and methods of ensuring such respect in all societies;

(c) To generate statistical information and data disaggregated by sex, age and other relevant variables at the national level, and to provide information on disability, with regard to the problem of bullying, as a basis on which to elaborate effective public policies;

(d) To raise public awareness, involving family members, legal guardians, caregivers, youth, schools, communities, community leaders and the media as well as civil society organizations, with the participation of children, regarding the protection of children from bullying;

(e) To share national experiences and best practices for preventing and tackling bullying, including cyberbullying;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, using information provided by Member States and relevant stakeholders, in collaboration with relevant United Nations entities, to submit a report to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session on protecting children from bullying, with an emphasis on causes and effects, good practices and guidance to prevent and respond to bullying.

30. The Third Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

**Reports considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of the promotion and protection of the rights of children**

The General Assembly decides to take note of the following reports submitted under the item entitled “Promotion and protection of the rights of children”:

(a) Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict;<sup>1</sup>

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly on children;<sup>2</sup>

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child;<sup>3</sup>

(d) Annual report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children;<sup>4</sup>

(e) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the summary report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the panel discussion on preventing and eliminating child, early and forced marriage;<sup>5</sup>

(f) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on preventing and eliminating child, early and forced marriage;<sup>6</sup>

(g) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> A/69/212.

<sup>2</sup> A/69/258.

<sup>3</sup> A/69/260.

<sup>4</sup> A/69/264.

<sup>5</sup> A/69/165.

<sup>6</sup> A/69/166.

<sup>7</sup> A/69/262.