

MUNA 21 – AGREED DRAFT RESOLUTIONS

(As at 24 June 2021 Version 2.1)

1. Structural Reform of the UN

The General Assembly,

Expresses concern over Security Council reform which has been one of the most persistent and contentious UN reform issues over the last 70-odd years. The use of the veto power by the Permanent Five (P5) members of the Security Council and proposals for expanding the Council's membership (permanent and/or non-permanent seats) are the main points of concern.

Notes there is substantial pressure to reform the Security Council in recent years, with reform proposals being promoted by groups such as the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect (GlobalR2P) and The Elders—an influential group founded by Nelson Mandela and chaired by former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan.

Notes the United Nations' activities are guided by its Charter which can be amended 'a vote of two thirds of the members of the General Assembly' an action which has occurred on three occasions (1963, 1968 and 1971).

Considers the use of veto by the Permanent Five (P5) members of the UN Security Council is a particularly contentious issue.

Notes that the UK supports expanding the Security Council's membership to include Brazil, Germany, India, Japan and more African nations, and recalls that on July 2015, the Intergovernmental Negotiations on Security Council Reform released text that proposed options to improve the Council's membership categories; the use of the veto; acceptable regional representation; the size and working methods of the Security Council and the relationship between the Security Council and the General Assembly.

Calls on all countries to:

- a. work for an expansion of the Security Council, including new permanent seats without veto power, for South America and the Caribbean, Africa, and Asia,
- b. limit the use of the veto power by the existing permanent members in the Security Council and that member states which use the veto should be required to justify its use to the General Assembly,
- c. Seek greater involvement of the General Assembly in scrutinising the decisions of the Security Council,
- d. Develop closer consultation between the Security Council, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations and contributing powers in the course of the framing of UNSC resolutions.

2. The rights of indigenous populations

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and good faith in the fulfilment of the obligations assumed by States in accordance with the Charter.

Affirming that indigenous peoples are equal to all other peoples, while recognizing the right of all peoples to be different, to consider themselves different, and to be respected as such.

Affirming further that all doctrines, policies and practices based on or advocating superiority of peoples or individuals on the basis of national origin, racial, religious, ethnic or cultural differences are racist, scientifically false, legally invalid, morally condemnable and socially unjust.

Reaffirming also that indigenous peoples, in the exercise of their rights, should be free from discrimination of any kind.

Concerned that indigenous peoples have suffered from historic injustices as a result of, inter alia, their colonization and dispossession of their lands, territories and resources, thus preventing them from exercising, in particular, their right to development in accordance with their own needs and interests.

Calls on all countries to provide effective mechanisms for prevention of, and redress for:

- a. Any action which has the aim or effect of depriving them of their integrity as distinct peoples, or of their cultural values or ethnic identities;
- b. Any action which has the aim or effect of dispossessing them of their lands, territories or resources;
- c. Any form of forced population transfer which has the aim or effect of violating or undermining any of their rights;
- d. Any form of forced assimilation or integration;
- e. Any form of propaganda designed to promote or incite racial or ethnic discrimination directed against them.

3. **Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping**

The General Assembly,

Affirming that the efforts of the United Nations in the peaceful settlement of disputes, including through its peacekeeping operations, are indispensable,

Convinced of the need for the United Nations to continue to improve its capabilities in the field of peacekeeping and to enhance the effective and efficient deployment of its peacekeeping operations.

Considering the contribution that all States Members of the United Nations make to peacekeeping,

Noting the widespread interest in contributing to the work of the UN Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations expressed by Member States, in particular troop- and police-contributing countries,

Bearing in mind the continuous necessity of preserving the efficiency and strengthening the effectiveness of the work of the Special Committee,

Urges Member States, the Secretariat and relevant organs of the United Nations to take all steps necessary to implement the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee;

Decides that the Special Committee, in accordance with its mandate, shall continue its efforts for a comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects and shall review the implementation of its previous proposals and consider any new proposals so as to enhance the capacity of the United Nations to fulfil its responsibilities in this field.

Calls on all member countries to:

- a. Assess the major policy and strategy dilemmas facing UN Peacekeeping today and over the coming years;
- b. Reinvigorate the ongoing dialogue with stakeholders on possible solutions to better calibrate UN Peacekeeping to meet current and future requirements;
- c. Support three critical, cross-cutting areas of activity: protection of civilians, robust peacekeeping, and early peacebuilding.

4. United response against global health threats: combating COVID-19

The General Assembly,

Expressing grave concern and deep sadness at the global crisis triggered by the novel disease COVID-19 pandemic and its unprecedented negative health, economic and social impacts on the international community,

Acknowledging that the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic is a powerful reminder of our interconnectedness and vulnerabilities, as the virus respects no borders, and that combating this pandemic calls for an open, transparent, robust, coordinated, large-scale, science-based and inclusive global response in the spirit of solidarity,

Noting the importance of utilizing all available policy tools to safeguard the global economy, financial markets, trade and global supply chains in order to minimize the economic damage from the pandemic, restore global growth and maintain market stability,

Calls for intensified international cooperation and multilateral efforts in handling disease outbreaks, including by sharing timely, accurate and transparent information, exchanging epidemiological and clinical data, sharing materials necessary for research and development, and implementing the International Health Regulations and relevant guidance.

Emphasizes the need for the United Nations system, as well as relevant regional and international organizations and financial institutions, to collaborate in order to ensure that the adverse social, economic, humanitarian and financial impacts of COVID-19 are addressed in a timely and non-discriminatory manner.

Calls upon Member States to enhance coordination on public health and financial measures as well as cooperation at the national, regional and international levels to confront and combat this pandemic.

Urges Member States, in conjunction with the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank Group and other regional and international organizations, working within their existing mandates, to embark on sustainable pandemic preparedness, response and recovery planning, taking into account strengthening the capacity of health sector institutions in developing countries.

5. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of space

The General Assembly,

Deeply convinced of the common interest of mankind in promoting and expanding the exploration and use of outer space, as the province of all mankind, for peaceful purposes and in continuing efforts to extend to all States the benefits derived there from, and also of the importance of international cooperation in this field, for which the United Nations should continue to provide a focal point.

Reaffirming the importance of international cooperation in developing the rule of law, including the relevant norms of space law and their important role in international cooperation for the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes, and of the widest possible adherence to international treaties that promote the peaceful uses of outer space in order to meet emerging new challenges, especially for developing countries.

Seriously concerned about the possibility of an arms race in outer space, and bearing in mind the importance of article IV of the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,

Urges States that have not yet become parties to the international treaties governing the uses of outer space to give consideration to ratifying or acceding to those treaties as well as incorporating them in their national legislation.

6. Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin

The General Assembly,

Calls upon all relevant bodies, agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and other relevant intergovernmental organizations to work in coordination with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue to address the issue of return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin.

Deplores damage to the cultural heritage of countries in situations of crisis, conflict and post-conflict, in particular recent attacks on world cultural heritage sites, and calls for an immediate end to such acts.

Recognises that the greatest theft of cultural heritage occurred under the authority and often with the direct support of colonial powers and insists that items of great cultural value being held by former colonial powers should likewise be subject to return to their countries of origin.

Also recognizes the importance of cooperation among States in the fight against illicit trafficking in cultural property, as well as its illegal removal from the countries of origin through, inter alia, the conclusion of bilateral agreements and mutual legal assistance, including the prosecution of persons involved in such activities and extradition, in accordance with the laws of cooperating States and under applicable international law.

7. The situation in Myanmar

The General Assembly,

Calls on the Myanmar armed forces to respect the will of the people — as freely expressed in the 8 November 2020 general election — to end the state of emergency, respect all human rights and to allow sustained democratic transition, including the opening of a democratically elected parliament and by bringing all national institutions under a fully inclusive civilian Government.

Calls on the Myanmar armed forces to immediately and unconditionally release President Win Myint, State Counsellor Aung San Suu Kyi and all others who have been arbitrarily detained, charged or arrested, and to engage constructively with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to realize an inclusive, peaceful dialogue among all stakeholders through a political process led and owned by the people of Myanmar.

Calls on all Member States to prevent the flow of arms to the country.

8. The situation in the South China Sea

The General Assembly,

Urges all States that have not yet done so to become parties to the Convention on the Law of the Sea, in order to fully achieve the goal of universal participation.

Further urges all Member States with territorial claims in the South China Sea to refrain from aggressively asserting those claims by placing permanent or semi-permanent structures for either military or commercial purposes on any maritime or terrestrial territory that is subject to dispute, but instead to pursue the resolution of their claims through the relevant international courts and tribunals.

Encourages States that do not have territorial claims in the region to refrain from inflaming the situation by commenting on the actions of specific claimants, or by unnecessarily or aggressively physically challenging those claims, including by the conduct of so-called “freedom of navigation” and other military exercises.

Reminds all States of the importance to international trade that international waters remain open to all States to use in accordance with international law and consequently insists upon the obligation of all States to observe the relevant laws and respect the decision of the relevant international courts and tribunals, whatever their position on the claims advanced by others.

Insists that the rights of communities with traditional economic or cultural links to waters in their vicinity be upheld and that those communities not be subject to harassment or threat as they exercise those rights.

9. Protection of global climate for present and future generations of humankind

The General Assembly,

Recalling also the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement adopted under the Convention acknowledging that they are the primary international, intergovernmental forums for negotiating the global response to climate change, expressing determination to address decisively the threat posed by climate change and environmental degradation, recognizing that the global nature of climate change calls for the widest possible international cooperation aimed at accelerating the reduction of global greenhouse gas emissions and addressing adaptation to the adverse impacts of climate change, and noting with concern the significant gap between the aggregate effect of parties' mitigation pledges, in particular their nationally determined contributions, as appropriate, and aggregate emission pathways,

Reaffirms that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time, expresses profound alarm that the emissions of greenhouse gases continue to rise globally, remains deeply concerned that all countries, particularly developing and island countries, are vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and are already experiencing increased impacts, and emphasizes that adaptation to climate change represents an immediate and urgent global priority.

Urges all Member States to undertake all necessary steps to continue to work towards keeping the increase in global average temperature to well below 2°C, including the ratification the agreements entered at the United Nations Climate Change Conference held in Paris, France in 2015, noting that these agreements still fall short of the desired limitation on temperature rises.

Deplores the decision by some Member States to withdraw support for the Paris agreements and urges these States to recommit to contributing positively to the efforts of the global community to avoid the disastrous consequences of inaction.

Insists that all agreements and funding arrangements recognise the responsibility of the developed world for much of the global emissions to date and hence their obligation to support climate change mitigation in the developing world, in particular by developed countries acting without delay on their collective goal to mobilise USD 100 billion per year by 2020 then extend this until 2025.

10. Regulating International Migration

The General Assembly,

Underlines the important role that migrants play as contributors in the development of origin, transit and destination countries and encourages Member States to consider reducing the costs related to migration, such as the fees paid to recruiters, where applicable, lowering the transfer costs of remittances, enhancing the portability of social security entitlements and other acquired rights and promoting the mutual recognition of the educational and professional qualifications and competencies of migrants;

Urges Member States

To cooperate fully to address, in a holistic and comprehensive manner, the challenges of irregular migration to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration with full respect for human rights as defined in the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights; recognizing the roles and responsibilities of countries of origin, transit and destination in promoting and protecting the human rights of all migrants, and avoiding approaches that might aggravate their vulnerability;

Calls upon Member States to cooperate on and appropriately fund mobility programmes that facilitate safe, orderly and regular migration, including through labour mobility, as well as programmes that allow migrants to integrate fully into society and that facilitate family reunification in accordance with the laws and specific criteria of each Member State;

Expresses concern about legislation adopted by some Member States that results in measures and practices that may restrict the human rights and fundamental freedoms of migrants, especially those of women and children, and reaffirms that, when exercising their sovereign right to enact and implement migratory and border security measures, States have the duty to comply with their obligations under international law, including international human rights law, in order to ensure full respect for the human rights of migrants;

Emphasizes the obligation of Member States to contribute to the coordinated efforts of the international community to assist and support migrants stranded in vulnerable situations, including the provision of acceptable housing, accommodation, education and health care for refugees and displaced people during the time it takes to determine their status.