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Documentation of the Work of the Economic and Social Council Plenary (ECOSOC)

TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

Conference A

Economic and Social Council Plenary (ECOSOC)

Committee Staff

Director	Stephanie N. Shady
Assistant Director	Zachery Stuebs
Chair	Max Liebermann
Rapporteur	J.E.B. Stuart Myers

Agenda

    I.   Strengthening the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance

    II.   Integrating Sustainable Development into Post-Conflict Reconstruction

    III.   Implementing SDG 7: Ensure Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable and Modern Energy for All

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
ECOSOC/1/1	Strengthening the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance	Adopted without a vote
ECOSOC/1/2	Strengthening the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance	Adopted without a vote
ECOSOC/1/3	Strengthening the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance	Adopted without a vote
ECOSOC/1/4	Strengthening the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance	Adopted without a vote
ECOSOC/1/5	Strengthening the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance	30 votes in favor, 2 votes against, 7 abstentions
ECOSOC/1/6	Strengthening the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance	Adopted without a vote

Summary Report

The Economic and Social Council Plenary held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

  I.   Strengthening the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance
  II.   Implementing SDG 7: Ensure Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable and Modern Energy for All
  III. Integrating Sustainable Development into Post-Conflict Reconstruction

The session was attended by representatives of 42 Member States and one non-governmental organization.

On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda in the order of I, III, II, beginning discussion on the topic of "Strengthening the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance."

By Tuesday, the Dais received a total of eight proposals covering a wide range of subtopics, including the involvement of non-governmental organizations in humanitarian efforts, information and communication technologies, streamlining the Cluster Approach, and providing healthcare in emergencies. The debate had a tone of cooperation and consensus-building, with working groups exchanging ideas and consolidating proposals into focused roadmaps for action.

On Wednesday, six draft resolutions were approved by the Dais, none of which had amendments. The committee adopted all six resolutions following voting procedure, five of which received unanimous support by the body. The resolutions represented a wide range of issues, including incorporating technology into the coordination of humanitarian assistance, strengthening cooperation on the fulfillment of basic human needs in disaster-affected areas, and mobilizing a variety of actors in order to ensure the adequate training of humanitarian workers. The body's commitment to consensus and focus on incorporating diverse perspectives into their proposals resulted in strong recommendations to address contemporary challenges to humanitarian assistance coordination.

Code: ECOSOC/1/1
Committee: Economic and Social Council Plenary
Topic: Strengthening the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance

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1   *The Economic and Social Council,*
2
3   *Acknowledging* Article 1.3 of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945), calling for the promotion of international
4   cooperation on humanitarian matters,
5
6   *Affirming* General Assembly resolution 70/107, "International cooperation on humanitarian assistance in the field of
7   natural disasters, from relief to development," stressing the need for significant cooperation of all Member States in
8   recognizing existing platforms in humanitarian response,
9
10 *Noting with concern* the shortcomings of $ 23 billion in funding of humanitarian support, hampering the
11 enhancement of the coordination of humanitarian assistance, as stated in the *Global Humanitarian Overview 2018*
12 by the United Nations (UN) Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA),
13
14 *Recognizing* "Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations:
15 Report of the Secretary-General" (A/70/77) calling for improved accessibility to information and communication in
16 humanitarian situations,
17
18 *Keeping in mind* the 2005 *Tunis Commitment* of the World Summit on the Information Society, pointing out the
19 high potential of information and communication technology (ICT) solutions for humanitarian assistance,
20
21 *Recalling* the Secretary-General's bulletin on "Information sensitivity, classification and handling,"
22 (ST/SGB/2007/6) emphasizing the importance of transparency in handling data and ensuring the ethical usage of
23 data when utilizing ICT to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance,
24
25 *Guided by* Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution 2016/23 on "Science, technology and innovation for
26 development," which emphasizes the need to prioritize innovations as it plays a significant role in both domestic and
27 international development,
28
29 *Expressing its appreciation* for "One humanity: shared responsibility: Report of the Secretary-General" (A/70/709),
30 which outlines the *Agenda for Humanity* and paves the way for the establishment of the Centre for Humanitarian
31 Data (CHD),
32
33 *Welcoming* the establishment of the 2017 Humanitarian ICT Forum, which serves as an avenue for representatives
34 from private technology companies and humanitarian aid organizations, and which seeks innovative ICT solutions to
35 strengthening humanitarian response,
36
37 1. *Requests* OCHA to create the United Nations Technology Enhancing the Coordination of Humanitarian Support
38   (UN TECHS) office, to boost the integration of ICT into humanitarian response;
39
40 2. *Tasks* UN TECHS to:
41
42   a. Evaluate the feasibility of new ICT solutions for humanitarian crisis situations presented at the annual
43   meeting of the Humanitarian ICT Forum;
44
45   b. Provide non-governmental organizations (NGOs), national governments, and UN entities in the field of
46   humanitarian aid with advice on enhancing the integration of ICT into humanitarian response, in order
47   to provide these actors with technological instruments to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian
48   support;
49

    c.   Develop phone applications for crisis connectivity in close cooperation with relief organizations, which will enable crisis-affected people to access information on where, when, and how to utilize offered aid, which will enable relief organizations to gain information on how to enhance coordination processes;

    d.   Implement norms for a coherent approach in data collection amongst actors engaging in humanitarian assistance to improve data processing and data analysis, which will facilitate humanitarian organizations to enhance coordination of humanitarian support based on the better understanding on the specific needs on the ground;

    e.   Field-test new avenues in humanitarian ICT, such as digital payments, digital identification, or aid delivery by drones in hardly accessible terrains, which bears the potential to provide aid in a more decentralized manner, which makes coordination more efficient;

    f.   Complement the work done at the CHD through data sharing;

3. *Asks* OCHA to consider the need to include both engineers and programmers, as well as humanitarian specialists, into the workforce of UN TECHS;

4. *Highly encourages* the integration of women into the workforces of UN TECHS, keeping in mind the work of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Reference Group on Gender and Humanitarian Action, which points out the importance of integrating women in humanitarian assistance and the coordination of it;

5. *Intends* UN TECHS to operate for an initial period of four years, starting its work on 1 January 2019, with the possibility to continue UN TECHS if OCHA considers it a valuable contributor in strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance;

6. *Requests* UN TECHS to submit an annual report on the implementation of ICT into humanitarian assistance to ECOSOC;

7. *Recommends* further collective action by Member States through UN TECHS through the creation of an international information hub, maintained by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), that caters to secure the safety procedures during conflict situations by utilizing data collected by CHD;

8. *Emphasizes* the need for UN TECHS to develop ICT that facilitates transparency and communication between non-governmental, inter-governmental organizations, and UN bodies in cooperation with the ITU;

9. *Further encourages* the UN Development Programme (UNDP) to create a new framework building on the work done by the *Conseil aux Voyageurs* framework, which is under the Crisis and Support Center of France, to monitor and notify nationals in foreign countries about nearby emergencies and attacks by using ICT, which will further strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance by taking into account the special needs of foreign nationals in crisis situations;

10. *Recommends* the Central Emergency Response Fund to invest in projects and programs in crisis-affected countries through a dual-scale framework focusing on passing allocation breakdown of proposed projects for rehabilitation to gain information on the efficiency of coordination in funding of humanitarian assistance;

11. *Decides* to establish communication between think tanks and academia through ECOSOC's Humanitarian Affairs Segment, which serves as a platform for Member States and other UN organizations to address pressing humanitarian issues.

1 *The Economic and Social Council,*
2
3 *Affirming* the rights and benefits of Member States through giving utmost importance to their sovereignty, as stated
4 in Article 1.2 of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945) and leveraging diplomacy,
5
6 *Recalling* the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, which defines the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
7 that would uphold humanity's needs as well as the planet's needs,
8
9 *Reaffirming* General Assembly resolution 45/100 on "Humanitarian assistance to victims of natural disasters and
10 similar emergency situations" and the immediate need to provide assistance to victims of natural disasters and
11 emergency situations,
12
13 *Recognizing* the commitment of the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction* (2015) to make Disaster Risk
14 Reduction (DRR) more inclusive and coordinated for the post-2015 Development Agenda,
15
16 1. *Recommends* the consultation of experts assigned by their respective national governments for the purpose of
17   coordinating Member States at the regional level regarding information specific to natural disasters experienced
18   by the marginalized sectors in the affected Member States, areas, or regions, which would work to fortify
19   coordination at the:
20
21   a.   Local government level that would relay data on the disaster(s) to their national governments;
22
23   b.   National government level that would relay data on the disaster(s) to their respective Economic and
24   Social Commissions;
25
26   c.   Regional level with the Economic Commissions of Africa, Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean,
27   Asia and the Pacific, and Western Asia;
28
29 2. *Calls upon* the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Humanitarian Affairs Segment (HAS) to initiate
30   socially-empowering dialogue and to ensure the inclusion of marginalized groups in coordinating humanitarian
31   assistance by:
32
33   a.   Involving women in peacebuilding measures through leadership positions to ensure equal participation,
34   and to transformatively increase public trust, which can efficiently improve the coordination of the
35   deployment of aid to various groups during emergencies;
36
37   b.   Actively promoting the participation of the youth for early response, as they are the backbone of any
38   given society and have geographical and social knowledge of the areas affected by disasters;
39
40   c.   Including persons with disabilities in all phases of disaster preparedness through a non-discriminatory
41   approach by instating comprehensive programs to promote involvement in community engagement,
42   such as Think Tanks and volunteering;
43
44   d.   Initializing programs for marginalized groups to have a uniform approach for such humanitarian
45   workers to follow in order to coordinate the cultural impacts some humanitarian resources could
46   possibly have;
47
48 3. *Recommends* Member States to integrate goals for improving the efficiency of humanitarian assistance between
49   relevant stakeholders such as, but not limited to, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), local and national

governments, international governmental organizations, and civil society organizations, in a neutral, complementary, and interdependent manner that would aim to:

   a. Encourage public-private-plural partnerships, drawing upon the experience and expertise of all Member States;

   b. Promote investment by willing Member States for disaster preparedness campaigns of multi-stakeholder partnerships in developing economies, which would build trust at the local level regarding their presence in the region during crises;

   c. Call upon United Nations (UN) bodies such as the UN Environment agency and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to better cooperate with the private sector, in an attempt to mitigate the risks brought about by natural disasters through:

      i.   Determining the phases in disaster preparedness where the resources of private sectors add to the humanitarian aid effort;
      ii. Initiating a conversation with the private sector to gather additional expertise;
      iii. Systematically establishing dialogue to integrate SDGs in the partnership between UN bodies and the private sector;
      iv. Committing to the proper storage and strategic resource management of relief supplies and humanitarian support equipment in cooperation with the UN Humanitarian Response Depot;

4. *Requests* that all Member States collaborate by establishing disaster-specific training programs for all humanitarian workers in partnership with UN bodies and NGOs, with the intent to:

   a. Prepare and equip authorities, such as the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Red Crescent Movement, in the coordination of humanitarian aid to synergize with Member States in order to react quickly during natural disasters that affect particular Member States and unequally harm marginalized groups by improving stand-by logistical support;

   b. Increase the systemization of humanitarian aid distributed regionally by ensuring that all Member States implement all advised training programs bi-annually, as administered by the UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination (UNDAC), as well as focus on gender and social inclusion;

   c. Assess all training in a forum facilitated by the HAS, which would then be used to update future training programs to be implemented by UNDAC.

1   *The Economic and Social Council,*

2

3   *Reaffirming* the importance of humanity, neutrality, impartiality, and independence as the guiding principles,
4   contained in General Assembly resolution 46/182 (1991), in the provision of humanitarian assistance, and also
5   reaffirming that all stakeholders should abide by them,

6

7   *Believing* that Member States have the capacity to enhance the allocation of resources for humanitarian affairs to
8   further support specific initiatives and improve on coordination resources, through adequate, predictable, timely, and
9   flexible mechanisms,

10

11   *Guided by* Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution 2009/32 (2009) and other relevant resolutions on
12   strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations (UN),

13

14   *Believing* that transparency and accountability are integral to effective humanitarian assistance, and emphasizing the
15   value of enhancing transparency and accountability mechanisms of humanitarian actors or stakeholders at all stages
16   in the provision of humanitarian aid,

17

18   *Recognizing* that innovation ought to be systematically identified and integrated into humanitarian assistance in a
19   sustainable manner to substantially improve the efficiency and quality of the humanitarian response,

20

21   *Emphasizing* the importance of frequent, inclusive, and coherent dialogue within relevant UN organizations such as
22   but not limited to the UN International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) and the UN Educational,
23   Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), as well as inter-governmental organizations (IGOs), humanitarian
24   and development actors, and Member States, to continue to work on the coordination of effective humanitarian
25   assistance,

26

27   *Reaffirming* the commitments of *The Grand Bargain: A Shared Commitment to Better Serve People in Need*, which
28   assures realignment and combating of crises that direct financial means to the society's requisites and improving
29   cooperation between humanitarian assistance and development actors,

30

31   *Bearing in mind* the mandate of the UN Office of Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance (OCHA), which
32   reaffirms the importance of local actors as key stakeholders for the collection of information,

33

34   *Reaffirming* the importance of sharing knowledge and establishing international, centralized communication within
35   the international humanitarian community, and recalling the guidelines of the World Humanitarian Summit (2016),
36   the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) *Transformative Agenda*, and the recommendations of the *Global*
37   *Humanitarian Assistance Report* of 2017,

38

39   1.   *Reaffirms* the necessity of selection criteria, training procedures, and task performances for humanitarian
40   personnel to be in accordance of cultural and religious sensitivities of the region(s) they are working in, to
41   prevent humanitarian personnel abuse or exploitation by:

42

43   a.   Evaluating humanitarian personnel training programs and the significance of giving timely feedback to
44   the selected personnel so that they can continuously make adjustments and improvements to their
45   duties, especially when interacting with the target populations and remaining culturally aware through
46   the help of local actors to obtain in-depth knowledge that adheres to the perspective of their own
47   Member States and IGOs such as UNESCO to facilitate the process;

48

49   b.   Specifying the tasks of the assigned humanitarian personnel based on their own skills, such as, but not
50   limited to cultural skills, people skills, operative knowledge, and procedural skills, to ensure that tasks
51   are equally distributed and efficiently done by all personnel on the ground level;

52

53   c.   Opening comprehensive avenues for local communities to submit assessments such as surveys and
54   periodical evaluations conducted by both the UN Evaluation Group (UNEG) and local NGOs on the
55   performances of the humanitarian personnel and how they treat the people they are working with to
56   ensure that all actors are referring to the same set of facts;

57

58   2.   *Encourages* all Member States to donate for humanitarian assistance according to their capacities in order to
59   close the existing funding gap and achieve reliable and predictable financing of humanitarian aid, which is
60   essential for any further enhancement of closer cooperation, by allocating funds to the UN managed pooled
61   funds such as Country-based Pooled Fund (CBPF) and Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), thus
62   allowing for flexible and un-earmarked funds to be allocated by UN bodies such as OCHA and the Emergency
63   Relief Coordinator (ERC) to national governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and civil society
64   organizations (CSOs) in an unbiased way;

65

66   3.   *Affirms* the necessity of a coordinated performance, pertaining to humanitarian assistance, amongst national and
67   local governments, humanitarian and cooperation agencies, and non-governmental stakeholders, including
68   CSOs and private sector enterprises, by addressing:

69

70   a.   Priorities for resource allocation, based on the nature, intensity, and complexity of the humanitarian
71   emergency, regarding the establishment of goals, deadlines, and stages of the humanitarian aid
72   operations, which ought to be focused on:

73

74   i.   The scope of the humanitarian assistance to be provided, which must, for coordinated and
75   harmonized results, differentiate short-term emergency relief programs from long-term
76   development and resilience-building programs;
77   ii.   The allocation mechanisms, which are brought forward through two pathways, channeling
78   funds directly to humanitarian assistance receiving-countries' national budgets, in order to
79   align the funding with their national humanitarian response strategies; or by directly funding
80   humanitarian assistance operations deployed by UN agencies;
81   iii.   The transparency of the operating capital, regarding how the financial resources are spent, by
82   the means of implementing Mutual Accountability Frameworks, which conditions financial
83   humanitarian aid on better governance, in order to avoid budgetary mismanagement;

84

85   b.   The emphasis on the responsibilities of the stakeholders involved in the process of providing
86   humanitarian aid, by taking into consideration their operative and procedural capacities, legitimacy,
87   and resource constraints;

88

89   4.   *Recommends* the following outline of stakeholder functions:

90

91   a.   National governments should consider sharing information including, but not limited to data on
92   infrastructure, social economy, NGO presence, governmental programs, and risk management
93   organization resources regarding where un-earmarked UN funds including CBPF and CERF are being
94   utilized;

95

96   b.   NGOs, including local organizations, should serve as a resource for on-site personnel and experts;

97

98   c.   CSOs should serve as a resource for local distributors and cash and vouchers administration, and
99   should provide feedback for in-depth analysis of local society and markets, expressing importance on
100   what necessities are needed;

101

102 5.   *Encourages* the collaboration amongst the UNISDR, UNESCO, and World Meteorological Organization
103   (WMO) to consolidate strong partnerships at global, national, regional, and local levels in order to effectively

104 cooperate in the execution of humanitarian assistance to reach the most vulnerable populations, which
105 addresses:

    a. Priorities regarding the establishment and ensuring the constant rehabilitation of early warning
       systems;

    b. Strengthening and building resilience to how society responds to disasters and conflict, through
       collaboration with the relevant UN entities including, but not limited to:

         i. The UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) for the
          promotion of resilience of women in crises, and for the enhancement of the response for
          preparedness;
        ii. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for the promotion of resilience of the
          protection of refugees;

    c. Setting forth a specific agenda to enforce a continuous and habitable environment for humanitarian
       assistance regarding the collaboration of:

         i. UNISDR, based on the World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (WCDRR) and the
          Sendai Framework;
        ii. UNESCO and WMO in relation to the results that have been achieved by the WCDRR;

6. *Encourages* all Member States to commit to the *Grand Bargain* as a framework when charting out strategies to enhance overall humanitarian assistance coordination, such as providing flexible funding, prioritizing the role of local humanitarians in all humanitarian missions, and improving cooperation between humanitarian assistance personnel and development actors.

Code: ECOSOC/1/4
Committee: Economic and Social Council Plenary
Topic: Strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance

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1   *The Economic and Social Council,*
2
3   *Recalling* the commitment of General Assembly resolution 46/182 on "Strengthening of the coordination of
4   humanitarian assistance of the United Nations," which adopted the guiding principles for humanitarian assistance
5   and established a framework to coordinate humanitarian assistance,
6
7   *Further recalling* the commitment of Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution 2017/14 on
8   "Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations," noting specifically
9   encouragement to strengthen coordination through supplementary enhancements to the relationships shared among,
10 but not limited to, regional organizations, governments, donors, civil society, development organizations, and the
11 private sector,
12
13 *Highlighting* the urgency of humanitarian assistance through meeting and reducing needs risk and vulnerability
14 following crises addressed in the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly and ECOSOC A/72/76-
15 E/2017/58,
16
17 *Emphasizing* the importance of increasing the efficiency of the Office of Humanitarian Activities (OCHA) databases
18 to be as efficient as possible in the sharing of information between Member States, non-governmental organizations
19 (NGOs), and local organizations in order to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian aid,
20
21 *Recognizing* the need of the *Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction* (2015), which implores the United
22 Nations (UN) to recognize the importance of the partnership between the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and
23 OCHA in obtaining greater assistance in humanitarian efforts from the private sector,
24
25 *Reaffirming* the need for a stronger data sharing program that will allow Member States, NGOs, intergovernmental
26 organizations (IGOs) and civil society to be able to easily identify areas with an anticipated humanitarian need,
27
28 *Aware of* the fact that, according to *Global Humanitarian Overview 2018*, the necessity for funding is ever-
29 increasing, as in 2017, $ 11.9 billion were provided for a project in need of $ 23.5 billion,
30
31 *Addressing* the need to update and to strengthen risk disaster reduction measures, improving natural calamities
32 preparedness, as said in ECOSOC resolution 2008/36,
33
34 1. *Recommends* that OCHA implement strong partnerships between the data collection and data analysis platforms
35   of the UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination, the Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System, the
36   Humanitarian Response System, and the Centre for Humanitarian Data, in order to improve the availability of
37   data and therefore humanitarian aid missions that are based upon the more comprehensive information;
38
39 2. *Suggests* that the Centre for Humanitarian Data pools the electronic database at its current facilities in the
40   Netherlands;
41
42 3. *Further suggests* that databases of national, local, and non-governmental provenance and research be included
43   in order to improve reliability of information, as well as the speed of input to databases that often get hindered
44   at the start of any given crisis, and making the databases accessible to all Member States, possible donors, and
45   local humanitarian actors;
46
47 4. *Encourages* the newly pooled database in the Centre for Humanitarian Data to divide its work into the
48   following four distinct areas as to better organize the information:
49
50   a. Natural disasters, including but not limited to tsunamis, earthquakes, mudslides, droughts, floods;

b. Conflicts, including but not limited to civil wars and revolutions;

c. Health concerns and gender issues, including but not limited to tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, malaria, girls' education and access to family planning;

d. Results of past missions, including but not limited to funds allocated, personnel implicated, and resources deployed;

5. *Recommends* that the Office of Information and Communications Technology (OICT), in collaboration with OCHA, develop an algorithm connected tool accessible for NGOs, IGOs, UN entities, UNDP, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF), as well as local authorities in order to:

a. Continue the sharing of information on the Inter-Agency Standing Committee and extend the data contributions over time;

b. Monitor the worldwide flow of financial resources transiting through the UN agencies and their partners regarding humanitarian assistance to underline the amount of funding needed and already allocated;

c. Allow donors to see where humanitarian aid is needed, by receiving direct feedback from active local participants in the crisis regions who share their measures taken in the past and recommending further actions in regions struck by humanitarian crisis, based on their field of expertise and understanding for local needs and circumstances;

d. Improve possibilities to transfer responsibility to local staff in the field of humanitarian assistance in terms of operative questions without having to report every decision, thus lightening the common structure and giving more autonomy for operatives and easier access to required resources;

e. Encourage the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to enhance their efforts in regard to its establishment of telecommunication technology, underlining the need to enhance technology in the outlands of countries currently in need of humanitarian assistance, and further recommending the ITU to consider private sector initiatives aiming at connecting all regions of the world;

6. *Proclaims* the need for a standardized process for a controlled and integrated data pool that would ensure reliable, accessible, and verified information to achieve an optimal operating procedure, providing the international humanitarian community with an information hub ensuring the streamlining of best practices and shared knowledge across Member States, thus avoiding information losses between clusters and therefore increasing the attractiveness of investments and lowering financial risks, by:

a. Strengthening the coordination within the cluster approach, to further improve on the effectiveness of humanitarian assistance, with focus on concrete operational challenges, such as the immediateness of response and the communication and translation between headquarter decisions to country and field operations, through an international level training program for both local, and international personnel, to be reintegrated within local agencies;

b. Inviting the UN Statistics Division (UNSD) to facilitate the creation and development of the data pool and sharing platform, which is instrumental to achieve higher standards and efficiency of coordination;

c. Inviting the regional commissions under ECOSOC, namely the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), and the Economic Commission for West Asia (ESCWA) to collaborate both with the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and the UN Big Data Global Working Group, to facilitate training of humanitarian personnel by granting facilities and training programs;

d. Suggesting the collection of information specifically on, but not limited to the following:

    i. Current infrastructure to provide information through health-care systems, power grids, and other necessities;

    ii. Social economy to provide information on the management of the distribution of resources;

    iii. NGO presence and governmental programs to recognize already involved actors and actions;

    iv. Risk management organization to utilize the gathered data to analyze, manage and prevent further issues regarding both financial and natural phenomenon through the use of Big Data.

7. *Hopes* that the existing Centre for Humanitarian Data can better monitor the distribution of funds by creating international funds managed by the OCHA, where excess funds can be used by Member States when unpredictable humanitarian issues are faced;

8. *Advocates* for the establishment of an emergency preparedness division to share knowledge and tactics between willing Member States via the improved OCHA data streaming system, understanding that this could be used in order to establish superior preventative measures as well as a stronger basis for anticipated humanitarian aid;

9. *Further encourages* Member States to promote these goals domestically and help internationally promote the works of the Global Networks project created by the partnership formed by OCHA, the UN Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), and UNDP, in hopes of receiving as much additional aid as possible from the private sector and donors such as the International Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, in order to have a bigger outreach on predictable conflicts of any kind that may have limited access to media coverage due to low development and/or violent areas that may not be safe for media personnel.

1 *The Economic and Social Council,*
2
3 *Alarmed* by the lack of coordination to prevent all threats and acts of violence against the wounded and sick and
4 against humanitarian personnel engaged in medical and humanitarian duties, as expressed in Economic and Social
5 Council (ECOSOC) resolution 2017/14 (2017) on "Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian
6 assistance of the United Nations," and deeply concerned about the consequences of such attacks for the provision of
7 humanitarian assistance to affected populations,
8
9 *Concerned* by how humanitarian actions have been politicized and take on military sides, as noted by the 2011
10 report *United Nations Integration and Humanitarian Space*, endangering humanitarian workers and aid beneficiaries
11 by making them the targets of militant political agents,
12
13 *Deploring* the long-term consequences of attacks on humanitarian personnel for civilian populations and national
14 healthcare systems, as noted by the Secretary-General's report to the General Assembly and ECOSOC on
15 "Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations" (A/72/76-
16 E/2017/58),
17
18 *Recognizing* the coordination of humanitarian assistance necessitates the safety, independence and impartiality of
19 humanitarian personnel from United Nations (UN) peacekeepers and military forces as fundamental in the provision
20 of humanitarian resources,
21
22 *Reiterating* the necessity for transparency and efficiency to take priority in inter-governmental organization (IGO)
23 coordination, on both domestic and international levels, by providing direct communication avenues between
24 specific government humanitarian agencies and their corresponding IGO humanitarian agencies in annual reports
25 and conferences to share their pressing needs,
26
27 *Aware* of the importance of information sharing, data, and knowledge between Member States, non-governmental
28 organizations (NGOs), and civilians as means of strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance,
29
30 *Deeply concerned* about the relationship between governments and the private sector, specifically the lack of
31 information sharing and communication between authorities and civilians,
32
33 *Cognizant* that the needs, capabilities, and standards for humanitarian assistance between nations are nuanced and
34 diverse, requiring a common framework coordinating the connections between national, local, international and UN
35 humanitarian agencies and organizations,
36
37 *Emphasizing* the work of ECOSOC resolution 2015/14 on "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian
38 assistance of the United Nations" (2015) and the importance of long-term collaboration amongst UN humanitarian
39 bodies, Member States, and the impacted local humanitarian organizations, security forces, and officials and
40 participation in technology and information sharing in order to strengthen the safety and coordination within
41 communities that face recurrent humanitarian crises,
42
43 *Having examined* the difficulties in humanitarian assistance coordination in recently conflict-affected areas, and thus
44 believing in the need to mutually share knowledge between Member States,
45
46 1. *Requests* the Security Council to consider the implementation of humanitarian safe zones in conflicted areas and
47   disaster areas, in order to protect aid beneficiaries and humanitarian workers and strengthen humanitarian
48   coordination by:
49

| 50 | | a. | Facilitating constructive dialogue amongst local authorities, such as domestic police forces, in order to |
| 51 | | | ensure the safe passage of humanitarian workers in the delivery of assistance to civilians; |

50   a. Facilitating constructive dialogue amongst local authorities, such as domestic police forces, in order to
51   ensure the safe passage of humanitarian workers in the delivery of assistance to civilians;

52

53   b. Ensuring the safety, independence, and impartiality of humanitarian personnel and assistance to the
54   populations in need in affected areas by protecting them from unlawful attacks and keeping the
55   demonstrable independence of humanitarian agencies to affirm that safe zones will:

56

57   i. Discourage emblems, symbols, and other visual associations that may cause adverse reactions
58   and compromise humanitarian workers and safe zones in fragile conflict areas;
59   ii. Note the impact that OCHA integration policy defined by the Secretary-General decision
60   2008/24 has played in associating impartial and independent humanitarian agencies with
61   political agendas and affecting their access to vulnerable populations in high-risk, conflict
62   areas;
63   iii. Recommend that the OCHA integration strategies be reframed to incorporate safe zones and
64   separate UN security forces and peacekeepers from humanitarian workers in different
65   agencies through different emblems and symbols to signify their different purposes to aid
66   beneficiaries;

67

68 2. *Recommends* that all relevant UN humanitarian agencies, such as OCHA, evaluate and transform the Multi-
69   Cluster/Sector Initial Rapid Assessment (MIRA) reports to focus on the specific needs of Members States
70   where safe zones are needed and consider amending the existing Cluster Strategy to work through safe zones to
71   better coordinate interactions between domestic and UN humanitarian agencies and civil society organizations;

72

73 3. *Affirms* oversight of the work of UN agencies operating within the safe zone in order to prevent corruption,
74   promote transparency and ensure an efficient of use of allocated funds by producing periodic evaluations and
75   reports of the operations;

76

77 4. *Suggests* building on the work with IGOs similar to the Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and
78   Development, that provide the international community with analysis of the efficiency and effectiveness of
79   humanitarian assistance, with the goal of providing best practices measures to ensure the international
80   community is arranging the most beneficial method of deploying assistance to promote mutual responsibility
81   and strengthen accountability;

82

83 5. *Encourages* the implementation of a framework that coordinates and connects national, local, international,
84   NGOs, UN agencies, and organizations by:

85

86   a. Recommending domestic NGOs take the forefront in providing humanitarian assistance through:

87

88   i. Including their input on needs and local capabilities into the MIRA, as they are often first
89   responders to crises and have already established relationships with the affected community
90   and comprehend the necessities of how resources should be utilized when practicing the
91   international coordination of humanitarian assistance;
92   ii. Encouraging local NGOs to provide crucial input and distribution in the allocation of
93   resources for humanitarian aid;

94

95   b. Inviting Member States to create domestic humanitarian coordination committees in order to establish
96   frameworks to address and coordinate humanitarian crises on a case-by-case basis in an effective and
97   timely manner, such as the Rwandan Commission of Human Rights and National Unity and
98   Reconciliation Commission;

99

100   c. Encourages dialogue in coordination among Member States to create transnational development
101   programs aimed at establishing long-term infrastructure development to minimize damage from
102   humanitarian crises;

103

104   d. Encourages Member States to strengthen the coordination with NGOs like Refugees International and
105   CARE International in order to foster relations between refugees and their countries of origin,
106   ultimately expediting reintegration processes;

107

108 6. *Invites* willing Member States and humanitarian-based organizations to utilize technology databases to
109   strengthen the transparency between organizations alongside making humanitarian responses more effective in
110   coordination and advocacy by:

111

112   a. Encouraging Member States to utilize independent platforms such as the Drupal Association software
113   which standardizes all of OCHA's databases and provides information to all humanitarian bodies on
114   safety and security in high-risk situations;

115

116   b. Allowing safe zones to provide access to these technological databases in the instance states when
117   humanitarian bodies themselves are unable to due to conflict;

118

119   c. Inviting UN humanitarian bodies including the World Food Programme, the World Health
120   Organization, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, the UN Children's Fund, and others, to
121   collaborate with local officials, security forces, and local humanitarian organizations in and around
122   using the Drupal Association software to better share information concerning safety and security for
123   the local populations and all the vulnerable people impacted by conflict;

124

125   d. Suggesting domestic coordination bodies such as the NGO Coordination Committee of Iraq act as a
126   link for information sharing in relation to technological databases;

127

128   e. Giving all humanitarian based agencies the option to be included in this database, and technology
129   sharing as a way to collaborate and share ideas and concerns throughout implementations and planning
130   processes specific to humanitarian crisis;

131

132 7. *Seeks* to have education and formation as the basis of a long-term solution in coordinating humanitarian
133   assistance by:

134

135   a. Encouraging public institutions, such as representatives of the local administrations and associations,
136   NGOs, and civilians, to cooperate under the framework of collaborative formation in order to share
137   their:

138

139   i. Expertise in specific fields of humanitarian assistance;
140   ii. Experiences from past crisis;
141   iii. Solutions and feedbacks on the past issues stemming from the lack of international
142   coordination of humanitarian assistance regarding regional conflicts;

143

144   b. Further suggesting authorities and NGOs that do not immediately use their emergency relief to lend it to
145   Member States facing immediate crises;

146

147   c. Recommending further coordination between international and local NGOs in expertise-sharing, as
148   global NGOs often have more various skills due to their international nature and local NGOs can share
149   their geographical and population knowledge.

Code: ECOSOC/1/6
Committee: Economic and Social Council Plenary
Topic: Strengthening the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance

1 *The Economic and Social Council,*
2
3 *Recognizing* that developing countries remain vulnerable to human and economic loss resulting from different
4 crises, and the need for international cooperation to strengthen their resilience,
5
6 *Emphasizing* the 1945 *Charter of the United Nations*' call to multilaterally respect equality, diplomacy, national
7 sovereignty, and international law, in order to assist in the delivery and coordination of aid,
8
9 *Reaffirming* the progress made in strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance by the Office for the
10 Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF),
11
12 *Fully aware* that natural disaster management and coordination of the emergency humanitarian assistance are topics
13 of high concern, as 164.2 million people are estimated to have needed aid in 2017, and that the coordination of
14 humanitarian assistance is essential to countries facing emergencies and natural disasters, as stated in General
15 Assembly resolution 46/182 on "Strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance of the United Nations,"
16
17 *Deeply concerned* that civil society organizations (CSOs) and national institutions are not adequately prepared for
18 the process of localization, or the transfer of management from intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and
19 international non-governmental organizations (NGOs),
20
21 *Encouraged by* existing United Nations (UN) bodies, such as OCHA, that emphasize expertise in humanitarian
22 assistance and in analysis and compare data,
23
24 *Fully aware* of the conflicting goals with regards to the accountability, preparedness and response capacity,
25 universality, and uniformity of the vision for humanitarian response, and the adequacy and flexibility of emergency
26 funding of humanitarian organizations in assisting and aiding populations affected by crisis, as stated in the *2005*
27 *Humanitarian Response Review,*
28
29 *Guided by* the *France Humanitarian Strategy* in enhancing the coordination of humanitarian assistance as a possible
30 best practice for modeling domestic policies,
31
32 *Recalling* the *2005 Tunis Commitment* of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) endorsing the use of
33 information and communication technologies (ICTs) in strengthening the coordination of humanitarian assistance,
34
35 1. *Suggests* the creation and/or implementation of emergency plans through the UN Office for Disaster Risk
36   Reduction (UNISDR) that would take into consideration the particular needs and capacities of every Member
37   State in dire need of assistance in such crises through:
38
39   a. Calling for an individual approach towards crises in different countries through the UN Development
40   Programme (UNDP) by engaging stakeholders on capacity development, assessing capacity assets and
41   needs, formulating a capacity development response, implementing that response, and evaluating
42   capacity development in order to encourage advocacy and advice;
43
44   b. Foster a more consultative and inclusive approach to humanitarian assistance when planning
45   humanitarian crisis response by including local agencies in the international discussion when deciding
46   to send UN peacekeepers to countries in order to maintain the sovereignty of states involved in
47   humanitarian crises;
48

49   c.   Strengthen humanitarian assistance by developing strong links and exchange of ideas with experts on
50   country, culture, and language;
51

52 2. *Emphasizes* the importance of transparency between those affected by crisis and those aiding in humanitarian
53   crises such as NGOs, IGOs, and the private sector so they may strengthen their cooperation through:
54

55   a.   Encouraging increased partnerships between international humanitarian organizations and local
56   humanitarian actors to assist in strengthening their capacities, international transparency, and
57   accountability procedures;
58

59   b.   Increasing the presence of humanitarian organizations, specifically international NGOs as well as
60   IGOs, by engaging in strong, steady dialogue to gain better and clearer access in disaster-affected
61   areas;
62

63   c.   Using the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to implement new technologies such
64   as social media, mobile applications, and geolocation, so that donors and implementing partners may
65   explore how humanitarian and the private sectors may team up in partnerships while respecting
66   humanitarian principles to gain sufficient expertise;
67

68   d.   Promoting the effectiveness of the Cluster Approach, and recommending further collaboration from
69   Member States and IGOs by:
70

71   i.   Emphasizing to the international community the need to deliver effective amounts of
72   humanitarian aid and have proper resource management to help other Member States in times
73   of crisis;
74   ii.   Recommending the establishment of subdivisions inside many humanitarian organizations
75   according to the different types of disasters to better address them;
76   iii. Promoting information sharing between Member States and local actors in order to improve
77   and strengthen these partnerships;
78   iv. Describing more precisely the fields of application and the special training of each cluster by
79   creating a catalogue, in order to have a quicker and more effective response to a particular
80   crisis;
81

82 4. *Calls for* a united effort by Member States in coordination with the World Food Programme (WFP) and the
83   Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to guarantee non-perishable foods and potable
84   water for everyone needing humanitarian assistance by:
85

86   a.   Promoting coordination for access to clean drinking water for everyone in need, such as through:
87

88   i.   Recommending the World Health Organization (WHO) to invest into public utilities,
89   such as water treatment facilities;
90   ii.   The improvement of hydration centers by the WHO in areas where people do not have
91   easy access to water;
92   iii. Encouraging investment into designing sewage projects that will improve the quality of
93   life of persons needing humanitarian assistance;
94

95   b.   Encouraging the improvement of the effectiveness of resource allocation by WFP and FAO for those
96   requiring humanitarian assistance, including:
97

98   i.   Recommending that a Humanitarian Country Team determine the necessary amount of
99   resource allocation in coordination with UN agencies, such as FAO, instead of media
100   coverage and/or donor preferences determining where resources go;
101   ii.   Welcoming the donation of financial resources by private donors;
102

103   c.   Strengthening the implementation of "drop zones" by WFP and FAO to safely deliver foods in areas
104   where needed;

d. Urging Member States to collaborate and improve mechanisms, which are responsible for providing easy access to potable water globally, and suggesting that NGOs are given resources to develop better tools to prevent disaster risk and water contamination;

4. *Recommends* the delivery of emergency funding by local humanitarian assistance organizations to areas impacted by humanitarian crises identified by the CERF and OCHA by:

    a. Strengthening OCHA's strategy to ensure if a humanitarian crisis happens, the proper precautions are taken to ensure as little damage as possible;

    b. Continuing on the consistent progress made by the CERF regarding delivering emergency funding to areas plagued by humanitarian crisis;

5. *Urges* improving information collaboration from Member States, NGOs, and IGOs after each humanitarian crisis through:

    a. Ensuring that OCHA continues to facilitate partnerships through determining successful methods in humanitarian assistance operations and recommending ways to improve coordination and cooperation in future emergencies;

    b. Drawing attention to the value of ICTs, as identified by the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) Emergency Telecommunications Cluster, in order to facilitate communication and data sharing among the aforementioned humanitarian actors;

    c. Recommending the establishment of a summit with participation from global partners in relation to the World Humanitarian Summit, in order to encourage collaboration, coordination, and timely response to humanitarian crises, based on shared experience of international actors on the coordination of strategies for water and other emergencies and on increasing cooperation with stakeholders;

6. *Emphasizes* that all Member States sustain a strategy similar to the *IASC Transformative Agenda* to improve information sharing and collaboration, and:

    a. Welcomes peer review analysis and collaboration along with information sharing through the exchange of periodic reports;

    b. Supports Member States' databases to increase and expand plans of action in order to have a cohesive response to the crises;

7. *Suggests* the deployment of emergency teams by CERF in addition to the WHO Emergency Medical Team in collaboration with local professionals to:

    a. Promote the role of healthcare operators and experts from the areas of engineering, disaster relief and infrastructure architecture to educate affected populations;

    b. Ensure education to those requiring humanitarian aid including sexual education, controlling contagions, mitigating the effects of natural disasters, and constructing shelters;

8. *Encourages* other Member States to model their coordination strategies after the French Humanitarian Strategy by:

    a. Supporting the integration of a crisis and support center patterned from the French Crisis Center to Member States' disaster preparedness mechanisms, which will establish partnerships with NGOs for humanitarian expertise and assessment and also with the security of expatriates on risks;

160   b. Prioritizing the assistance of reconstructing disaster prevention frameworks of different Member States
161   through the evaluation of existing frameworks and the formulation of new strategic and operative tasks
162   to appropriate local institutions and ministries;

164   c. Fostering the establishment of communication and collaboration between Member States, Think
165   Tanks, and the academe through regional blocs to tackle on the localization of solutions for
166   humanitarian assistance;

168   d. Organizing Member States' humanitarian funding in a way that mirrors France's Humanitarian
169   Emergency Fund, giving proper allocation and feedback to IGOs, NGOs, and local institutions.