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Documentation of the Work of the Economic and Social Council
(ECOSOC) NMUN Simulation*



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Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

Committee Staff

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Agenda

- I. The Socio-Economic Effects of Global Pandemics
- II. Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Fragile States
- III. Mainstreaming a Gender Perspective into All Policies and Programmes in the United Nations System

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
ECOSOC/1/1	The Socio-Economic Effects of Global Pandemics	Adopted without a vote
ECOSOC/1/2	The Socio-Economic Effects of Global Pandemics	Adopted without a vote

Summary Report

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

- I. The Socio-Economic Effects of Global Pandemics
- II. Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Fragile States
- III. Mainstreaming a Gender Perspective into All Policies and Programmes in the United Nations System

The session was attended by representatives of 18 Member States.

On Monday, the committee adopted the agenda order I, II, III, beginning discussion on the topic of “The Socio-Economic Effects of Global Pandemics.” By Tuesday, the Dias received three working papers covering topics related to social aspects, economic aspects, as well as socio-economic aspects. The committee atmosphere was very collaborative and delegates approached writing the working papers in an organized manner.

On Tuesday, working papers were returned to the delegates for editing. On Wednesday, two working papers were merged into a single document. On Thursday, two draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais. The committee adopted two resolutions following the voting procedure; both were unanimously approved by the committee. The two resolutions contained material about social and economic issues dealing with pandemics. The committee showed transparency when working together and collaborated to create a well-rounded resolution. The delegates focus and dedication to the issue allowed for the delegates to reach a common goal of strengthening the international community’s responses to global pandemics.



Code: ECOSOC/1/1

Committee: Economic and Social Council Plenary

Topic: The Socio-Economic Effects of Global Pandemics

The Economic and Social Council,

Emphasizing Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3, which works to ensure good health and well-being, specifically targets 3.8 on achieving universal healthcare, 3.b on supporting the research and development of medications including vaccinations, 3.c on increasing health financing and supporting the health workforce in developing states, and 3.d on strengthening the capacity of all Member States for early warning and reduction of global health risks,

Recalling SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth, specifically 8.8 on protecting labor rights and promoting secure working environments, SDG 5 on gender equality, and SDG 17 on partnerships for the goals,

Mindful of the fact that 95% of cases and deaths of high mortality infectious diseases, such as tuberculosis and Ebola, globally occur in low and middle-income states, according to the World Health Statistics Report,

Cognizant of the important and critical work that the World Health Organization (WHO) carries out in gathering important and relevant information about potential pandemics and epidemics within the global community,

Recalling the definition of the WHO for zoonotic diseases, or zoonosis, which are diseases that jumped from a non-human animal to humans, similarly to the diseases of H1N1, Ebola and COVID-19,

Bearing in mind the Secretary General's Only Together campaign, which aims to advance fair and equitable access to vaccines worldwide as "COVID-19 vaccines should be considered a global public good" in the words of the Secretary General,

Acknowledging the heightened inequalities in the midst of pandemics, such as insufficient access to vaccines and medical aid, which increases pressure upon many vulnerable groups because of economic hardships as well as societal tensions, according to the *Omnibus Resolution Comprehensive and Coordinated Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic*,

Applauding the creation of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, as well as COVAX, a crucial part of the WHO's Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator, and the contributions Member States made to these initiatives, totaling 320 million vaccine doses for COVAX according to the *Interim Distribution Forecast*,

Recognizing the General Assembly resolution 74/274, "International cooperation to ensure global access to medicines, vaccines, and medical equipment to face COVID-19," as essential in tackling health inequalities within and among Member States through political commitment, policies and international cooperation,

Taking into account the *Plan of Action for Advancing Prevention, Protection and Solutions for Internally Displaced People 2018-2020*'s relevance throughout the entirety of the pandemic, as it brings together multilateral public-private stakeholders in order to protect internally displaced people,

Further recalling the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC) resolution 16/18, "Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against, persons based on religion or belief," and alarmed by the increase in race and religiously based defamation around the world following the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, specifically alarmed by the increase in racism, defamation, and xenophobia towards East Asians, religious minorities, and migrants,

Stressing the heightened negative consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic on indigenous communities according to reports of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), which state that measures put in place to face the pandemic, such as imposed isolation measures, have had greater consequences on the livelihood of indigenous communities,

Recognizing the *Agenda for Protecting the Most Vulnerable Children from the Impact of Coronavirus* set by the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), stating that the international community should contribute to protect children's rights throughout pandemics,



Regretting that 888 million children globally have experienced disruptions to their schooling, and that 35% of primary schools don't have basic hand-washing facilities, which accelerates the spread of COVID-19 due to unsanitary practices, according to the *2020 SDG Report* and the *UNICEF Education Response*,

Reiterating Secretary General Guterres' message during the Web Summit in Lisbon on December 4th, 2020, stating that the pandemic is exacerbating inequalities of all kinds, specifically highlighting the digital divide and the role this divide plays in creating a "shadow pandemic of misinformation,"

Noting the importance of the United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD) and their ability to utilize information provided by Member States to transparently share data on ongoing global issues including statistics critical to understanding pandemics,

Aware of the continued success of the United Nations Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries, and the important role they play in expanding access to required technology necessary for combating, preventing pandemics in the future as well as providing safe and remote working environments,

Further emphasizing the fact that the COVID-19 pandemic pushed 115 million people into extreme poverty globally as of 2021, particularly in less-developed countries, according to the *Poverty and Shared Prosperity* report by the World Bank,

Recognizing the *Addis Ababa Action Agenda* which identified the fact that official development assistance (ODA) commitments may fall short of the 0.7 percent of gross national income commitment made by the international community, which is problematic as bilateral aid is key to sustainable development, especially during global pandemics when the global economy is disrupted,

Further recognizing Secretary General Guterres' comments in a policy brief in March 2021 that "unless we take decisive action on debt and liquidity challenges, we risk another 'lost decade' for many developing countries,"

Acknowledging that large portion of ODA given out to Least Developed Countries (LDCs) includes high interest loans, which tend to increase debt accumulation for emerging economies, according to the European Network on Debt and Development 2014 report *A matter of high interest: Assessing how loans are reported as development aid*,

Highlighting the importance of international financial organizations such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), in providing economic relief to those Member States most disproportionately affected by global health crises, such as through the Rapid Financing Instrument and the Catastrophe Containment and Relief Trust,

Recalling the *Global Economic Prospects* report by the World Bank, which states that vaccine distribution and debt accumulation by emerging economies are detrimental to global economic growth in 2021,

Underlining the fact that economic recovery is projected to be the weakest in the Middle East, in Northern Africa, and in Sub-Saharan Africa according to the World Bank and the *Global Economic Prospects* report, with economic weakness concentrating around the countries that have large COVID-19 outbreaks and countries that have COVID-19 spillovers due to tourism and industrial commodity exports,

Remembering the United Nations Industrial Development Organization report, *Responding to the Crisis: Building a Better Future*, which called for better cooperation between International Financial Institutions, governments and regional organizations in order to avoid supply shortages at national and global scales,

1. *Recommends* the expansion of the collaboration between the Committee for Development Policy and the IMF in order to increase aid in developing Member States by:
 - a. Restructuring loans administered between fiscal years 2019 to 2023 inclusively following the Catastrophe Containment Relief Trust model, the definition of restructuring including debt forgiveness or debt suspension within the purview of the IMF's restructuring protocols;
 - b. Developing a program for monetary grants and loan forgiveness for the purchase of medical equipment and technological equipment in the future;
2. *Calls upon* the Committee for Development Policy to emphasize to the IMF, the World Bank, and private banks the importance of making monetary grants conditional to spending on the welfare and



health systems of recipient Member States by:

- a. Providing the economic capabilities needed to create sustainable and adequate medical infrastructure to mitigate the impacts of future pandemics, as well as a strong social security fabric;
 - b. Combating potential problems due to global economic inequality in terms of the rollout of vaccinations and effective treatment to provide the most effective healthcare to all global citizens regardless of economic situations;
 - c. Connecting health systems that are overburdened or understaffed to civil society organizations that have status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) to provide training, expertise, and boots on the ground support;
 - d. Accelerating the international vaccination process by incentivizing willing Member States in possession of the vaccine to sell surpluses to those Member States in need of additional vaccines;
3. *Requests* for the Committee for Development Policy to create a dialogue between Member States requesting aid and the General Assembly Sixth Committee towards the development of a new definition for ODA that focuses on:
- a. Ensuring high interest loans given out to emerging states and loans that are conditional to political change are not considered a form of ODA;
 - b. Ensuring loans that are conditional to a certain type of spending by recipient states, such as donations towards United Nations programs and agencies, and infrastructure loans can be considered a form of ODA;
 - c. Ensuring Member States with gross domestic product goals for ODA and foreign aid will have to take this definition into account when collaborating with ECOSOC;
4. *Further calls upon* the 2030 Agenda Partnership Accelerator program to begin high-level dialogue, shock planning, and facilitating public-private partnerships, in efforts to strengthen Member States supply chains and economic infrastructure that facilitates trade during shocks that disrupt the global economy, such as pandemics, through:
- a. Enhancing regional cooperation on trade policy to coordinate and harmonize trade measures that impact supply chains and connectivity to lowering the cost of fighting the crisis and set the stage for a quicker economic recovery;
 - b. Stepping up multilateral and regional cooperation in facilitating trade and strengthening logistics by:
 - i. Fast-tracking customs procedures for the import of medical supplies, critical products, and essential goods through establishing regional working groups;
 - ii. Strengthening the air cargo capacity and maintain borders open for humanitarian assistance;
 - c. Increasing the supply on essential drugs and medical supplies, as well as for enabling local pharmaceutical production given the scale generated by one single market;
 - d. Leveraging the digital payment, fintech logistics, facilitating e-commerce, and cross-border digital services;
5. *Encourages* innovative ways to instigate tourism-based economies by ECOSOC and partnered NGOs through the development of safe quarantine facilities based on the report *Guidance and Measures on Isolation Wards and Quarantine Facilities* of the WHO and improving infrastructures for sustainable and safe tourism;
6. *Suggests* strengthened collaboration with ECOSOC regional commissions to develop action plans in order to strengthen the development of regional economies and promote regional cooperation towards



the prevention of future pandemics;

7. *Further encourages* the optimization of existing information sharing services to establish a centralized and inclusive service in collaboration with the UNSD, WHO, the United Nations Office of Information and Communication Technologies, and the ECOSOC Partnership Forum that will share relevant and current facts, recommendations, and statistics throughout global pandemics in order to:
 - a. Allow Member States the ability to share information about the outbreak of health-related crises within their state by leveraging the power of big data for real time tracking of disease outbreaks;
 - b. Give widespread access to individuals throughout the global community regarding the symptoms, treatments, and dangers of global diseases;
 - c. Allow for increased visibility of health-related ECOSOC partnered NGOs in order to allow Member States to reach out to these organizations for assistance more efficiently;
 - d. Utilize artificial intelligence in order to provide better practices and advice for citizens by connecting them with automated mental health support response systems and assisting healthcare workers and healthcare systems in finding the most applicable treatments;
8. *Recommends* that the UN Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) assist with expertise, capacity development, and technological aid for employers and schools in least developed countries to provide an environment favorable to the development of home-office activities and home-schooling by:
 - a. Identifying the type of technologies that will meet the needs of private enterprises, workers, and Member States whilst generating a lasting impact on the economy;
 - b. Establishing partnerships with governments, academia, civil society and the private sector to guarantee access to the needed technologies to execute the home-office work by:
 - i. Facilitating technology transfer with some of the aforementioned stakeholders;
 - ii. Promoting local researches and innovations to meet technological needs;
 - c. Scaling up home learning options, including no-tech and low-tech solutions, if the schools have to remain closed;
9. *Resolves* to protect targeted ethnic groups, minority groups, and economically susceptible groups from discrimination due to the socio-economic consequences of global pandemics by:
 - a. Protecting religious and ethnic groups through the establishment of an anti-defamation task force collaborating with the HRC to protect those individuals most subjugated to discrimination during pandemics;
 - b. Establishing an anti-racism and anti-misinformation media campaign led by the task force to combat misinformation and discrimination towards marginalized groups according to the *United Nations Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech*;
10. *Requests* that the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) generate a report on the financial status of women during pandemics for financial institutions in order to aid in the economic situation of women during the COVID-19 pandemic, which would:
 - a. Allow economic institutions to provide low interest credit to women;
 - b. Outline the importance of the development of effective remote learning in order to improve the situation of women;
 - c. Focus agricultural and local economic projects led by ECOSOC on the improvement of the situation of women;
 - d. Recommend internships, scholarships, and workshops for women in academia and leadership in collaboration with Search for Common Ground;



11. *Further recommends* efficient and accessible information and guidelines for victims of domestic violence, especially during crises such as pandemics, by the CSW and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) by:
 - a. Accepting an international standard of zero tolerance of abuse and domestic violence for women and children;
 - b. Supporting national and sub-national institutions on the development of safe houses and centers to house victims during the pandemic;
 - c. Increasing information gathering and sharing of domestic violence and abuse situations in order to formulate a bi-annual report on domestic violence during outbreaks of diseases and crises situations by the CCPCJ;
12. *Calls for* an increased focus by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other ECOSOC subsidiary bodies and partner organizations in the midst of pandemics in order to ensure funding and increased support of basic needs and protections for the most vulnerable and marginalized children, such as but not limited to:
 - a. Providing basic water, sanitation, and hygiene facilities, which will ensure safer health guidelines in primary schools;
 - b. Providing opportunities and responsible services for children who are complementary to distance learning for better education stability and social well-being;
13. *Suggests* partnered ECOSOC civil society organizations increase their share of support of G-77 Member States to reduce global inequalities in medical supplies and reliable health information by:
 - a. Supporting pool procurement of diagnostics and other medical commodities by the regional Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for distribution to the Member States in order to mitigate the pandemic's socio-economic and humanitarian impact on the most impacted populations;
 - b. Collaborating with the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women to provide employment and protective gear to women in the G-77 Member States;
14. *Further requests* this committee to work with consultative NGOs to support local and sustainable agriculture in relevant states, which would avoid the apparition of zoonotic disease linked to industrial agriculture, by:
 - a. Working with NGOs such as Oxfam and the African Green Belt Project and regional ECOSOC economic commissions to aid communities;
 - b. Encouraging crop rotation and forest management in order to maintain the fertility of arable lands;
15. *Suggests* intergovernmental organizations such as the WHO, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, the United Nations Humanitarian Response Depots, and the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund expand and improve existing humanitarian aid in the form of personal protective equipment, medical supplies, and vaccinations, specifically to vulnerable groups and developing states;
16. *Further invites* this committee to collaborate with the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues to develop COVID-19 sensitization programs at a local scale taking into account native languages, cultures and the urban/rural divide, which are specific to each region in order to protect the local communities in an inclusive manner, and to facilitate the adaptation to COVID-19 safety measures for indigenous communities;
17. *Further suggests* the expansion of Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance, as well as the COVAX initiative to further help vaccinate priority groups for each Member State against deadly and debilitating infectious diseases through:



- a. Building effective partnerships with the WHO, UNICEF, the World Bank, the private sector and donor states;
 - b. Establishing regional working groups and voluntary systems to ensure the on-ground delivery of the vaccination implementation;
 - c. Distributing vaccines to each Member State for the purpose of vaccinating their priority groups, such as the immunocompromised or elderly, which Member States may determine through collaboration with the WHO to devise the best domestic vaccination plan;
18. *Urges* the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development to initiate dialogue to develop public programs of vaccine and pharmaceutical production independent from the private sector, which constitutes a safety net for pharmaceutical production for future epidemics and pandemics.



Code: ECOSOC/1/2

Committee: Economic and Social Council Plenary

Topic: The Socio-Economic Effects of Global Pandemics

The Economic and Social Council Plenary,

Deeply conscious of the decline caused by COVID-19 in official development assistance, foreign direct investment, and other reductions as indicated by the United Nations with regards to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically SDG 17, which is a call for global partnership,

Taking into account General Assembly resolution 61/16 on the establishment of a High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) that will proceed as an annual meeting, bringing together government representatives, private sector partners, academia, and civil society to discuss cooperation to ensure that early warning systems are in place to swiftly detect and contain future disease outbreaks,

Emphasizing Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution 2020/9 for continuing to better align programs for gender equality with national priorities across sectors, by facilitated capacity-building for government institutions and the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into legislation, policies, and programmes in relation to national gender equality priorities, especially given increases in gender inequality during pandemics,

Understanding that labor force participation decreases of the COVID-19 pandemic has been disproportionately burdened by women, with employment losses 5% higher for women than men, as women-overrepresented sectors such as retail, hospitality, and tourism have been among those that have been most impacted, as outlined in the International Labor Organization (ILO) Monitor *COVID-19 and the World of Work Seventh Edition*,

Recognizes emergency lockdown measures brought by COVID-19 containment measures have increased violence and sexual abuse against women and girls at home by 30% during the first 12 months of the COVID-19 pandemic as outlined in the *United Nations Policy Brief: Impact of COVID-19 on Women*,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 48/141 adopted to ensure and recognize the promotion and protection of all human rights regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights articles 1 and 25, which promote equality and adequate living standards,

Understanding families that are in the base-ladder of the income distribution experience high levels of distress during disease outbreaks resulting from decreases in income, elevated levels of uncertainty, and increased reliance on informal work, which decrease progress on SDGs 3, Good Health and Well Being; SDG 4, Quality Education; and SDG 8, Decent Work and Economic Growth; as outlined in the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs *World Social Report: Inequality in a Rapidly Changing World*,

Recalling the interlinked nature of youth exclusion from governance and the lack of youth access to health services as outlined in the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) report *Youth Global Programme for Sustainable Development & Peace*,

Taking into account the United Nations Children's Fund's (UNICEF) report, *Migrant and Displaced Children in the age of COVID-19*, which stated that 1.5 billion students, including refugee children, have been affected by COVID-19's detrimental impacts on schools,

Recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic has magnified pre-existing global inequalities and reaffirming the mandate of ECOSOC to foster multilateral collaboration in instilling lasting social change,

Further recognizing that the COVID-19 pandemic has been a catalyst to a larger discussion about access and quality of education during future pandemics as outlined in United Nations Policy Brief: *Education during COVID-19 and beyond*,

Noting with deep concern the disproportionate impact of pandemics on young displaced people, young people who have lost education, as well as the lack of youth input into policies and programmes established by Member States, as outlined in Security Council resolution 167 (2020),



Taking into account that the digital gender divide causes additional barriers to education for girls and women, especially during disease outbreaks, as outlined in the UNICEF report on August 27, 2020, which mentions one third of the kids in the world (463 million) did not have access to a distance education since COVID-19 started,

Observing the nutrition crisis caused by lack of school meals from COVID-19 school closures, which have reduced the diets of 370 million of the most vulnerable children globally by 40 percent, as outlined by the World Food Programme report *A Chance for Every School Child: Partnering to Scale Up School Health and Nutrition in the COVID Era*,

Taking note of the resolutions of other organizations, such as the UN General Assembly resolution 74/L.92 which reaffirms the commitment of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to the principles outlined pertaining to the use of global communications and reducing the digital divide that have been issued in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic,

Recognizes the UNDP's global Accelerator Lab network as a strong body for innovation for combatting socioeconomic impacts caused by disease outbreaks and assisting Member States with achieving SDGs,

Noting the socio-economic repercussions on developmental gains in their effect on progress in the achievement of the SDGs, as discussed previously in resolution A/HRC/RES/44/2, adopted by the Human Rights Council on 16 July 2020, *The central role of the State in responding to pandemics and other health emergencies, and the socioeconomic consequences thereof in advancing sustainable development and the realization of all human rights*,

Acknowledging the *COVID-19 Supply Chain System: Requesting and Receiving Supplies*, which stresses the importance of supply chains to get essential items for a pandemic response, such as personal protective equipment (PPE),

Appreciating the *Sendai Declaration for Disaster Risk Reduction*, specifically Priority 4, which within calls for the guidance protocols for preparedness, response, recovery, and habilitation as it is necessary and fosters collaboration,

Convinced of the influence which information and communication technologies possess as they enable economic transactions and social encounters throughout lockdowns with reference to *Building E-competence* from the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO),

Aware of the severity of the current COVID-19 pandemic claiming over 2 million lives worldwide in 2020 and acknowledges the impact of past dangerously infectious diseases such as HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria, as described in past resolution A/RES/58/179,

Understanding that the unprecedented effects of COVID-19 have strained economies lowering the national Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 2.3% in 2020 declining the global economy by 4.4% as estimated by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and seeking change with extreme consideration to A/RES/74/30, adopted by the General Assembly on 11 September 2020, *United Response Against Global Health Threats: Combating COVID-19*,

Understanding the importance of the work done by the World Health Organization (WHO) and Gavi initiatives for the distribution of vaccines as a paramount contribution in the resolution of the COVID-19 pandemic,

Considering the *United Nations Framework for Immediate Socio-Economic Response to COVID-19* which called for provisions for debt relief towards developing countries and countries with economies in transition, which are in susceptible of a debt crisis due to the current ongoing global pandemic,

1. *Reaffirms* Member States commitment to revitalize strong global partnerships for sustainable development as described in SDG 17 by:
 - a. Calling Member States to strengthen domestic resource mobilization in order to improve domestic capacity for tax and other revenue collection while implementing investment promotion regimes for least developed states to increase overall economic development;
 - b. Encouraging Member States to work with multilateral development banks (MDB), such as the World Bank, to discuss attaining long-term debt suspension and relief plans aimed to alleviate debt and financial distress;



- c. Suggests Member States to enhance North-South and South-South cooperation in the economic sector;
 - d. Asking Member States to enhance policy coordination and policy coherence in order to achieve global macroeconomic stability;
 - e. Recommending Member States to implement multi-stakeholder partnerships that mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources in order to enhance global partnerships and promote the achievement of the SDG's amongst all Member States, prioritizing developing states;
2. *Welcomes* all ECOSOC Regional Economic Commissions to prepare detailed reports on the socio-economic effects of each pandemic in their covered territories, with emphasis on the effects on vulnerable populations due to location, gender, political situation, health, and other similar variables, pointing to the *Socio-Economic Impacts of Ebola on Africa*, which provides robust recommendations on how the region can improve responses to future disease outbreaks affecting groups with intersectional vulnerabilities;
3. *Requests* the next ECOSOC HLPF to address disaster risk management in times of pandemics, focusing on international cooperation for risk mitigation during disease outbreaks and economic recovery;
4. *Suggests* Member States take measures of economic relief during global pandemics to ensure the principle of no discrimination and include affirmative action to prevent women from being left behind, particularly women in the highest risk groups, by:
 - a. Calling on women to take leadership roles in responding to both immediate dangers due to the pandemic, as well as implementing long-term recovery;
 - b. Promoting the provision of equal access to jobs through the use of corporate gender quotas and the structural increase of job availability for women;
5. *Invites* Member States to partner with international organizations such as the Sexual Rights Initiative (SRI) or the World Bank Umbrella Facility for Gender Equality (UFGE) to ensure protection against child marriages, teenage pregnancies, sexual abuse, and youth well-being;
6. *Encourages* the United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development to increase frameworks to facilitate greater youth participation in pandemic recovery initiatives by forming partnerships with NGOs and businesses to increase capacity, skills, mentoring and opportunities for young people;
7. *Further encourages* the ECOSOC Youth Forum to discuss methods to foster increased youth innovation and engagement initiatives within pandemic response policies and programmes;
8. *Urges* the United Nations pandemic response bodies, such as the World Health Organization and ECOSOC region subcommittees, to engage representatives from the ECOSOC Youth Forum to provide non-tokenistic lived experience perspectives which Member States can most effectively engaged;
9. *Calls upon* the UNDP to increase youth participation in Global Accelerator Labs, recognizing this as a robust platform to facilitate innovation in addressing sustainable solutions to socioeconomic challenges, including those in relation to pandemic recovery;
10. *Asks* all Member States to collaborate with organizations such as WHO and each government leadership to establish youth frameworks to challenge the spread of public health disinformation around pandemic responses;
11. *Expresses its hope* that all Member States to collaborate and allocate resources to the sole purpose of research, analysis, experimentation, establishment, and improvement of/within outcome-based education while simultaneously showing immense support for the Global Partnership for Education (GPE);
12. *Expresses with hope* the efforts undertaken by the COVID-19 Global Education Coalition, launched by UNESCO, which provides multi-sectoral partnerships between UN bodies, civil society organizations,



and IT partners to address the digital technology divide in education that has increased during disease pandemics, which:

- a. Aim to address educational issues, such as equitable educational solutions during periods of educational disruption and the digital gender gap, during pandemics;
 - b. Seek to provide solutions to tackle content and connectivity gaps and facilitate hi-tech, low-tech and no-tech learning opportunities;
 - c. Emphasize coordinated responses to avoid overlapping efforts and mitigating upsurges in school dropout rates through facilitating the return of students to school upon reopening;
13. *Draws attention to* the significance of food programs for students without access to adequately nutritious meals during times of educational disruption caused by disease pandemics, and encourages the expansion of the World Food Programme's *Learning Never Stops* initiative to provide universal alternatives to comprehensive school feeding programmes such as take home rations or cash transfers;
 14. *Recommends* United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to assist Member States in establishing internet access as a Global Public Good and sourcing financing mechanisms for investments into ICT infrastructure in accordance with the UN Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development's report *State of Broadband*, as global digital technology access gaps have been exacerbated by pandemics, disproportionately impacting education within low and lower-middle income countries;
 15. *Endorses* initiatives that promote science, technology and innovation initiatives, policies and programmes to bridge digital divides such as the digital gender divide including the EQUALS global partnership and the #eSkills4Girls initiative within a pandemic context;
 16. *Welcomes* UNIDO to enhance the understanding of COVID-19's impact on micro-, small-, and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) within their Programme for Country Partnership, a program designed to coordinate partnerships between stakeholders at all levels, to facilitate recovery at the pandemic's end;
 17. *Reminds* Member States of their commitment in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda to official development assistance, which is 0.7% of their gross national income into development aid, in:
 - a. Increased funding towards the COVID-19 Supply Chain Task Force, created by WHO in support of the UN Crisis Management Team;
 - b. The distribution of PPEs to MSMEs to assist the emergency response of the current global pandemic;
 18. *Supports* UNIDO in collaborating with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction's (UNDRR's) ARISE Network to utilize the information from the national networks to create a recovery guidance plan for MSMEs post-COVID-19, while understanding the lack of capacity for general infrastructure and financing problems that a developing country will face in economic recovery during a global pandemic;
 19. *Invites* collaboration between UNIDO's Refurbished Computer Programme, designed to increase access to ICTs in developing countries especially in rural areas, and the United Nations Tech Bank to supply ICTs in order to assist local MSMEs' preparedness for future global pandemics by facilitating access to e-commerce;
 20. *Highly suggests* UNCTAD create a sub-programme inside the E-Commerce and Digital Economy Programme that focuses on a unique platform that looks upon the exchange of technical assistance during times of pandemics between developed and developing countries under the supervision of experts in the matter;
 21. *Affirms* that the World Bank Group (WBG) has determined that the realization of the SDGs has been adversely affected by the economic burdens caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, burdens potentially alleviated by:



- a. Supporting the Gavi initiative and WHO in the distribution of vaccines and multilateral partnerships with the World Bank to expedite the distribution of vaccines for underdeveloped economies;
 - b. Aiding in funding emergency operations, pharmaceutical access, necessary medical transportation, and hospitalization maintenance irrespective of financial ability during times of global health crises;
22. Asks that the WBG continue the current suspension of payments on financing provided to Member States for emergency COVID-19 response, through their COVID-19 projects, for another five years with annual reviews once the pandemic ends to allow economies to fully recover from the pandemic and encourage further debt sustainability.