Eradication of poverty

Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty

As requested in General Assembly resolution 68/226 [YUN 2013, p. 795], the Secretary-General, in August [A/69/204], submitted a report on the implementation of the Second United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (2008–2017), proclaimed by the Assembly in resolution 62/205 [YUN 2007, p. 847]. The report discussed progress and challenges to poverty eradication, presented some policy considerations, and highlighted the latest UN system activities in that area. According to the report, while progress in reducing poverty was remarkable in some regions and countries, the uneven progress across regions and within countries remained a major concern. Much more had to be done to ensure that the goal of poverty eradication was linked to the formulation of social, economic and environmental policies at all decision-making levels. To eliminate extreme poverty, policy efforts at all levels had to go beyond addressing its symptoms to building the physical, social, economic and political infrastructure needed to sustain eradication efforts. Macroeconomic policies had to be consistent with other policies to address social and environmental realities as part of an integrated effort towards inclusive, equitable and sustainable growth that generated decent and productive employment. Public spending should prioritize investment in human development, improving access to social services and building universal systems of social protection. The ongoing deliberations on the SDGs and the post-2015 development agenda provided an opportunity to reframe the approach to poverty eradication in a way that fostered more balanced and inclusive progress at national and international levels. The multidimensional nature of poverty should be adequately reflected in the elaboration of the post-2015 development agenda, with full employment and decent work being an essential element of that holistic approach. Countries, in pursuing poverty eradication might consider setting national strategies for achieving full and productive employment and decent work for all, especially women, young people, persons with disabilities, indigenous people and other marginalized and vulnerable groups; continuing the pursuit of sustained, inclusive and equitable economic growth that supported the structural transformation of economies towards progressively higher levels of productivity in all sectors and activities; reducing inequality of opportunity and outcomes among social and populations groups, including economic, social and environmental inequalities; ensuring that all people were empowered through access to quality education, skills development and vocational training aligned with labour market needs; and creating a culture of sustainable lifestyles, including through consumer awareness-raising, tax incentives and other behaviour-changing policies.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION

On 19 December [meeting 75], the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Second Committee [A/69/472/Add.1], adopted resolution 69/234 without vote [agenda item 23 (a)].


The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 68/226 of 20 December 2013 and all other resolutions related to the eradication of poverty,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration, adopted by Heads of State and Government on the occasion of the Millennium Summit, as well as the international commitment to eradicate extreme poverty and to halve, by 2015, the proportion of the world’s people whose income is less than one United States dollar a day and the proportion of people who suffer from hunger,

Recalling further the 2005 World Summit Outcome and the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development, entitled “The future we want”,

Recalling the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020, adopted in May 2011 at the Fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, with a main aim of enabling half of the least developed countries to meet the criteria for graduation by 2020,

Recalling also its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006 on the follow-up to the development outcome of the 2005 World Summit, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals, and its resolution 63/303 of 9 July 2009, entitled “Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development”,

Taking note with appreciation of the ministerial declaration adopted at the high-level segment of the substantive session of 2006 of the Economic and Social Council on creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive to generating full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its impact on sustainable development and also of Economic and Social Council resolution 2011/37 of 28 July 2011, entitled “Recovering from the world financial and economic crisis: a Global Jobs Pact”,

Recalling the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development: outcome document of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus,

Recalling also the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals, held in 2010, and its outcome document, and the special