

## **Draft Resolution SDG 11**

COMMITTEE: Sustainable Development Committee

TOPIC: Achieving the Sustainable Development Goal 11 (SDG 11) 'Sustainable Cities and Communities' in Fragile States

SPONSORS: Russian Federation and The Republic of Indonesia

SIGNATORIES: Kingdom of Denmark, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States of America, The Republic of Ecuador, Kuwait

The Sustainable Development Committee,

*Reaffirming* its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, and reaffirming our unwavering commitment to achieving this agenda and utilizing it to the full to transform our world for the better by 2030,

*Endorsing* the realization of the the Millenium Goals together with Agenda 21 agreed upon the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

*Bearing in mind* the implementation platform for achieving SDG 11 as proposed by the the New Urban Agenda during the UN Habitat III Conference,

*Noting with approval* the tremendous effort that all nations states have put into achieving SDG 11 ‘Sustainable Cities and Communities’ up until this point,

*Alarmed by* the deteriorating state of many city communities as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic and the corresponding measures that have been taken to curb the further spread of this virus,

*Endorsing* UNDP’s implementation and innitiatiative plans to build Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) towards Fragile States as well as its aid,

*Encouraging* several mechanisms of international aid towards countries to ensure efficacy of aid,

## **BASIC NEEDS**

1. Recognizes that all citizens in the world, and especially those living in cities in fragile states, share common basic needs that need to be satisfied in order to help them reach their respective capabilities and flourish in life, which are those but not limited to;
2. Reminds all nation states and international organizations, that it is their prime and utmost responsibility to satisfy the following basic needs for their citizens and work together towards achieving this goal:
  - a. Public health,
  - b. Security and peace,
  - c. Quality education,
  - d. Adequate infrastructure,
  - e. Bottom-up decision making;

### **Public Health**

3. Remarks the necessity to have sufficient food and water supply for all citizens in these fragile cities;
4. Reaffirms the importance of having proper hygiene and sanitation conditions in all communities;
5. Emphasizes the difficulties ingrained in the recovery of the COVID-19 pandemic and the provision of adequate and accessible health-care for all;
6. Supports initiatives to improve existing health infrastructures such as hospitals or health centers to ensure better living conditions;
7. Encourages the inclusion of additional safety measures to mitigate the elevated risk of coronavirus transmission in crowded public transport;
8. Calls upon the reimagining of urban public space in an era of social distancing;
9. Notes the risk that high population densities pose to sustainability and public health;

### **Security and Peace**

10. Recognizes that citizens in many cities across the world suffer under continuing states of violence in areas where there is a great lack of security, which puts limits on efforts to satisfy their basic needs and limits them in achieving their full capabilities;
11. Proposes the collaboration with other UN bodies or international organizations that work towards ensuring peace and safety around the world, favouring processes conflict resolutions based on country's sovereignty;

### **Quality Education**

12. Emphasizes the importance of the promotion of education in cities in fragile states for the development of their citizens and prepare the future generation for sustainability challenges;
13. Recommends to include discussions on sustainability topics, challenges and possible solutions in the standard national curriculum being taught at educational institutions in Fragile States to prepare the future generations to the changing climate;
14. Recognizes the importance of using smart technologies to promote and improve education in fragile states and lower the threshold for children to enter education, including encouraging remote learning and online teaching;
15. Calls upon all nations to support improvement of educational system of Fragile States to to bridge the gap of education quality between developed and developing states, including but not limited to:
  - a. Increasing their financial aid to promote the education of children in fragile states, including funding for but not limited to:
    - i. The training of teachers,
    - ii. Construction of modern and safe educational institutions;
  - b. Actively engage in knowledge sharing between education systems;

### **Adequate Infrastructure: Public Transportation**

16. Draws attention to the need for a sustainable, accessible and secure infrastructure for all, particularly taking into account the needs of women and indigenous groups, in order to close the center-periphery gap;
17. Recommends the adoption of a two-fold strategy such as but not limited to:
  - a. The incentivisation of reducing fares,
  - b. Disinfecting public vehicles and stations, and
  - c. Reducing passenger occupancy to ensure social distancing;
18. Encourages advocating the benefits of non-motorised transport by institutionalising the efforts of a few cities and encouraging walking, cycling, and other non motorised transport options for short distances through well designed, articulated and enforced policies;
19. Calls upon the expansion of educational facilities that offer proper education of citizens on traffic management;
20. Encourages the cooperation of government and citizens in establishing holistically sustainable transportation networks;

### **Housing**

21. Recognizes the importance of government and international subsidies and construction standards to provide safe and affordable housing that is accessible for all citizens living in fragile states;
22. Further recommends establishing government programmes that are specifically devoted
  - a. To finding appropriate housing that reflects the needs of a nation's citizens such as:
  - b. Job opportunities,
  - c. Financial resources;

23. Recommends fragile states to implement strong intervention in the real estate industry:
- a. State and local governments playing a large role of housing provision, especially for slum cleanse,
  - b. Prevent over-privatization and speculation where houses are considered as commodities instead of living space and basic human rights;
24. Notes the importance of well-established infrastructures to sustainability and preventing risk that high population densities pose to sustainability and other aspects such as health;

### **Bridging the center-periphery gap**

25. Supports national efforts for homogenizing population densities in order to improve the quality of communities' lives through strategies such as but not limited to:
- a. Expanding urban areas,
  - b. Creating new cities or maximizing existing areas to utilize it for citizens;
26. Supports the economic growth of states that experience adversities funding SGDs by:
- c. Promoting low-interest-rate loans to the Global South,
  - d. Encouraging states that quickly recovered from the pandemic to help the ones falling behind and bridge the Global North and Global South;

### **Bottom-up decision making for institutions**

27. Recommends adopting bottom-up decision making in city councils to give citizens capacity within their communities, fostering mutual trust and public participation;
28. Proposes the provision UN SDG programs to those countries especially Fragile States who ask for the assistance,
29. Calls upon all nation states to introduce and implement multilateral regional or international aids to provide timely and proportional aid (financial or logistic) to those countries who suffer from political/social turmoil to ensure long-term welfare and institutional stability willingly;

## COOPERATION FRAMEWORK

30. Promotes the creation of Cooperational Framework for Sustainable Development in Fragile States as a basis of principles and guidelines of sustainable development for fragile states that includes several SDG plans and visions for fragile states by these mechanisms:

- a. Giving international cooperation between states under the basis of good intention and respect towards countries' sovereignty,
- b. International aid:
  - i. Prioritizing support of SDG 11 for Fragile States based on OECD list as well as keeping the lists updated to ensure correct provision of aid,
  - ii. Creating emergency funds for sudden unexpected shocks such as power outages and natural disasters happen in certain countries that are not commonly on the Fragile States list,
  - iii. Promoting international aid from internal UN bodies such as UNDP, external UN bodies such as corporations and NGOs and member states, while encouraging the respect of national sovereignty,
- c. National Institutional Capacity,
  - i. Addressing the need of strong institution such as good economic resilience to enable institution to face challenges in fragility,
  - ii. Informing governments on the harms of external aid dependence to create initiatives of government to have a better national capacity,
- d. Economy:
  - i. Prioritizing transfer of knowledge on having economic resilience from developed states to the developed ones,
  - ii. Promoting feedback from member states regarding the growth and the result of the knowledge to ensure constant improvement and efficiency of the framework;
- e. City-networks:
  - i. Supporting the city councils all over the world that are forming cross-border information sharing networks to facilitate the exchange ideas and solutions for sustainable governance and environmental challenges;

- ii. Encouraging to include also cities located in fragile states within these cross-border information networks, so that they can also benefit from the knowledge of other cities and can share the challenges they face with other cities as well;
- iii. Further encouraging coastal metropolis to be exposed in the international cooperation and supervision to both promote sustainable practices and experiment for more advanced administrative patterns;

### **SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS PRACTICES**

31. Encourages a program called Program towards Environmental Sustainability that targets new approaches to convince cooperation to start business behavior and models that are more environmentally friendly and to promote it to society to achieve environmental sustainability;

- a. Constructing deeper understanding of sustainability and profitability by having an environmentally friendly business with these mechanisms:
  - i. Gathering data and research results regarding sustainable business models and its precedents, including its short-term and long-term profitability,
  - ii. Giving assistance towards businesses to achieve a possible business model shift, such as but not limited to:
    - 1. Introducing incentives for green businesses if possible,
    - 2. Prospecting their new business model and promoting Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and its benefits,
    - 3. Encouraging switch to raw materials that are environmentally friendly,
    - 4. Requesting them to collaborate with the government in investing in stable and sustainable infrastructure (example lighting and reliable internet connection) in the fragile states they are in;
- b. Educating Citizens to enable them to have a better understanding of sustainable living:
  - i. Campaigning consumption towards business sustainability and sustainable living,

- ii. Feedback from the people regarding the socialization for constant improvement;

## **ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES**

32. Emphasizes that highly populated urban areas will especially be hit hard by the changing climate and need special attention of regional, national, and international decision making bodies as places where mitigation and adaptation to the changing climate is fundamental to guarantee the safety of citizens;

33. Reminds all states of the urgent environmental degradation provoked by the high levels of greenhouse gas emissions and encourages states and cities to compromise with their GHG emission reduction goals established in the Paris Agreement of 2015;

34. Further reminds all states that the most prominent environmental threats that urban areas face include but are not limited to rising sea levels, desertification, extreme weather events, intensified natural disasters, rising temperatures, and the spread of tropical diseases and viruses;

35. Recommends all countries, especially developed ones, to shift towards greener and more sustainable energies in order to promote more sustainable ways of living for the citizens and prevent the negative effects of climate change, favouring long-term stability;

36. Encourages technologies utilization towards businesses and national spaces that would increase environmental condition;

37. Reminds other countries of desertification prevention and reaffirm the promise to plant more trees with low evapotranspiration rates in domestic areas vulnerable to desertification;

38. Requests all nation states, international organizations including the UN and ECOSOC specialized funds, and regional organizations, to increase their funding and financial aid to

support cities to achieve this transition to green energy as mentioned by clause 2, especially those cities located in Fragile States;

## **TECHNOLOGY IN SUSTAINABILITY**

39. Recommends the collaboration of the government as well as the private entities in reducing the use of harmful chemicals when manufacturing and improving technologies;

40. Considers the necessity of creating technological infrastructure in order to guarantee access to the Internet and better connection;

41. Encourages the implementation of several mechanisms such as GIS (Geographic Information System), STI (Science, Technology and Innovation) initiatives and platforms to exchange expertise and improve productivity in the agriculture sector;

42. Considers attempting smart technologies in less developed areas for more efficiency plannings and progress in democracy;

43. Recommends the utilization of an infrastructure that allows for an emergency system among nation states to provide alerts to all citizens concerned prior and during the disaster or calamity (example typhoon, tornado, tsunami, flash flood, sand storm, landslide, sinkhole) in order for fragile states to achieve resilience amid natural disasters and calamity;

## **PROTECTING NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE**

44. Emphasizes the need to protect and rebuild the natural and cultural heritage, particularly with regard to the preservation of biodiversity and the inclusion of minorities, in particular the protection of the ancestral lands of the indigenous people;

45. Encourages the greening of cities in fragile states in order to counteract the disproportionate warming in urban spaces caused by soil sealing and air pollution;

46. Calls upon cities all around the world to provide infrastructures which acknowledges and includes the needs of vulnerable minorities and environments;

47. Strongly condemns any kind of exploitation, discrimination against, or deliberate disadvantage of cultural minorities in infrastructural planning;

48. Further recommends to raise public awareness and establish frameworks for cultural exchange and education on colonial history within cities as well as on national and international level;

49. Recognizes the importance of respecting national sovereignty.