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Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly: review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups: Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairperson of the Commission, Ms. Lorena Giménez (Venezuela), on the basis of informal consultations

First review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

The Commission for Social Development,

Recalling the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,¹ adopted by the Second World Assembly on Ageing, held in Madrid from 8 to 12 April 2002, and bearing in mind that continuing the systematic review of its implementation by Member States is essential for its success in improving the quality of life of older persons,

Taking note of the report by the Secretary-General entitled “Further implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing: strategic implementation framework”,² which was based on the results of the global first review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action that involved inputs from Member States and the United Nations system, with the participation of civil society actors,

Recognizing the need to incorporate gender perspective in all measures concerning older persons,

Recognizing the important role of various intergovernmental organizations that deal with training, capacity-building, policy design and monitoring at the national

¹ *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8-12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

² E/CN.5/2009/5.

and regional levels, in order to promote and facilitate the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to continue their efforts in the implementation of the Madrid Plan of International Action on Ageing, 2002,¹ through, inter alia, national strategies and policies, improving data collection and sharing ideas, information and good practices, bearing in mind the report of the Secretary-General containing the strategic framework for future implementation of the Madrid Plan² and the Guide to the National Implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing prepared by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, which is intended to assist Member States in focusing on the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action;

2. *Invites* Member States to determine their priorities for the coming years by, inter alia, building on those areas in which they had achieved success during the review and appraisal process, while paying special attention to areas where shortcomings had been identified, with a view to improving policy development;

3. *Encourages* Member States to continue their efforts to mainstream the concerns of older persons into their policy agendas, bearing in mind the crucial importance of family intergenerational interdependence, solidarity and reciprocity for social development and the realization of all human rights for older persons, and to prevent age discrimination and to provide social integration;

4. *Urges* Member States to consider including in their national strategies, inter alia, policy implementation approaches, such as empowerment and participation, awareness-raising and capacity development, and such essential policy implementation tools as evidence-based policymaking, mainstreaming and participatory approaches and suggested indicators, as presented in the report of the Secretary-General;³

5. *Calls upon* Member States to adopt appropriate measures, including, if necessary, legislative measures to promote and protect the rights of older persons and measures aimed at providing economic security and health care, while mainstreaming a gender perspective, full participation of older persons in the decision-making process affecting their lives and ageing with dignity;

6. *Calls upon* Member States to take concrete measures to further protect and assist older persons in emergency situations, in accordance with the Madrid Plan of Action on Ageing;

7. *Recommends* that Member States strengthen their networks of national focal points on ageing, work with the regional commissions to exchange best practices and undertake a range of awareness-raising activities, including enlisting the assistance of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to expand media coverage on ageing issues;

8. *Also recommends* that Member States reach out to older persons and the organizations that represent them, providing them with needed information, and soliciting their feedback to make the national implementation process inclusive;

9. *Invites* Member States as well as all other major national and international stakeholders to continue their cooperation with the Department of

³ Ibid., para. 65.

Economic and Social Affairs, as the United Nations global focal point on ageing, in further implementing the Madrid Plan of Action;

10. *Invites* Member States to continue reviewing their national capacity for policy development concerning older persons and demographic ageing, with a view to implementing appropriate measures to enhance their national capacity in this area of policy development, as necessary;

11. *Encourages* Member States to promote the development of regional and subregional networks of experts and practitioners from government, non-governmental organizations, academia and the private sector in order to increase the potential for policy action on ageing;

12. *Encourages* the international community, including international and bilateral donors, to enhance international cooperation, in keeping with internationally agreed goals, to support national efforts to eradicate poverty, in order to achieve sustainable social and economic support for older persons, including by strengthening their national capacity in the area of policy development and implementation, regarding older persons, while bearing in mind that countries have the primary responsibility for their own economic and social development;

13. *Also encourages* the international community and the relevant organizations of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to support national and regional efforts and to provide funding for research and data-collection initiatives on ageing in order to better understand the challenges and opportunities presented by population ageing and to provide policymakers with more accurate and specific information on ageing and gender, such as for policy planning, monitoring and evaluation;

14. *Invites* the United Nations system to strengthen within existing resources its capacity to support international action on ageing, with a view to deepening understanding of issues related to ageing, including the effectiveness of related policy measures, and requests the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States regarding possible mechanisms to improve the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, including on the basis of the report of the Secretary-General (E/CN.5/2009/5), to be presented during the forty-eighth session of the Commission for Social Development;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission for Social Development, at its forty-eighth session, a report on the implementation of the present resolution.