STATEMENT

BY

H.E. MR. NEVILLE GERTZE

AMBASSADOR AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

73RD SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

AT THE 2019 ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR DEVELOPMENT SEGMENT

NEW YORK
21-23 May 2019

(Check against delivery)
Madam President,

1. Thank you for giving me the floor and I align my statement with the statements delivered by Senegal on behalf of the African Group and by the State of Palestine on behalf of the G77 and China.

Madam President,

2. Namibia is pleased to see the extent of the implementation of the General Assembly resolution on Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR) as narrated in the report of the Secretary General.

3. I wish to acknowledge the strong political will Member States and other stakeholders have showed towards the reinvigorated RC system by making financial contributions for its smooth implementation. This is indeed a measure which demonstrates commitment towards multilateralism as a common feature.

4. The Secretary-General’s report on the implementation of the above mentioned resolution states that the world is now registering more conflicts globally than at any point in the past three decades. Without doubts, more conflicts means more dents on the efforts to achieve the SDGs. The SDGs are all important to our collective development, and more importantly, Namibia has declared war against poverty as we strive to eradicate poverty.

5. In terms of Climate Change, Namibia is currently under a state of emergency declared by the President of the Republic of Namibia, due to drought in all regions of the country. This situation poses a threat to the growth of the economy, due to systematic droughts and floods. Namibia therefore wishes to reiterate the need to focus more on the nexus between development and security, including food security. Drought and disasters linked to climate change are among the key factors leading to increased hunger. I wish to reiterate
Namibia’s call that climate change effects should be dealt with a sense of urgency.

I thank you