GA/II/6

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Follow-up to the Outcome of the Special Session on

Children

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly

SUBMITTED BY: China, Cambodia, Malaysia, Nigeria, Russian

Federation, Haiti

The General Assembly

Concerned that over 121 million school age children are being deprived their right to education often because of poverty – as stated in the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) report, The State of the World's Children 2005 – and that the promotion and protection of the rights of the child is incumbent upon the endorsement of the right of every child to primary and secondary education in an effort to allow children to contribute to a better future,

Welcoming the progress that has been made since the Millennium Declaration toward universal attainment of primary education,

Noting UNICEF's report titled Progress Since the World Summit for Children of 2001 which states that primary education for all children is, "not only a right; education has major positive effect[s] on the well-being of children," and is both directly and indirectly related to decreased poverty levels, a more heightened ability to combat preventable diseases such as malaria, tuberculosis, polio, and the spread of HIV/AIDS, and helps to curb the trafficking of children for labor purposes and sexual purposes,

Alarmed that many children cannot achieve primary education due to the need to support themselves and their families,

*Recognizing* that it is up to member states to uphold accountability and transparency in government in order to facilitate the funding of organizations and frameworks geared towards assisting children in their right to education as guaranteed in General Assembly resolution 44/25 also known as the Convention of the Rights of the Child of 1989,

*Emphasizing* the need to maintain the sovereign equality of all member states of the United Nations as outlined in Article 2, Section 1 in the United Nations Charter,

Recalling GA resolution 58/156 outlining the rights of the girl child and stating that education is an important factor in reducing the trafficking of children, especially of the girl child, and that it is important for all member nations to create legal frameworks to prohibit the exploitation of children,

1. Reaffirms the conclusions of the 2000 Special Session on Children, outlined in "A

 World Fit for Children" and the Millennium Project's report Investing in Development;

2. Stresses the importance of all developed nations' contribution of the recommended target of 0.7 % of gross national product (GNP) as the Official Development Assistance as reiterated in the 2002 Monterrey Consensus,

3. *Commends* those countries that have met their target of 0.7% GNP and urges those who have not to work as quickly as possible to achieve this goal in order to aid developing nations in working towards providing equal opportunities for education for all children;

4. *Calls on* all member states to ratify both Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child prohibiting the involvement of children in armed conflict and also prohibiting the involvement of children in prostitution and pornography and to continue to work towards equality in education;

5. *Encourages* member states to take concrete actions to remove barriers to primary education for the poorest children in all countries, through approaches such as, inter alia:

(a)Establishing nutrition programs in schools for children in order to uphold their right to food, preferably using local agricultural sources,

(b) Creating national and local government programmes to help eliminate or lower tuition and uniform costs through the re-allocation of funds with the ultimate objective of providing universal primary education,

(c) Allowing flexibility within school schedules in order to accommodate students who have no choice but to work while they receive their schooling,

(d) Encouraging parental involvement in their children's education, inviting them to be stakeholders in the primary education process;

6. *Suggests* member states undertake further actions to increase the utility of primary education through, inter alia:

(a) Incorporating culturally sensitive health education and primary health screening into schools through curriculum, the advocacy of school nurses, and the creation of nutrition education programmes,

(b) Ensuring the education of children, parents, and teachers concerning the rights of the child and what legal recourse are available when those rights are violated,

(c) Providing objective education on local, regional, and international cultures and conflict resolution, in accordance with GA resolutions 58/11 and 57/6, advocating the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence,

(d) Increasing provision of skill-building courses in the primary years,

(e) Encouraging children to act as teachers themselves and take an active part in distributing information to the broader community surrounding the school;

- 7. Suggests that all member states to foster a commitment to secondary and vocational training where possible through such innovative techniques as the replication of "best practices" to support low cost sustainable farming in rural communities, and the inclusion of training in information and communications technologies (ICTs) in an effort to allow developing member states to better cope with the difficulties of globalization;
- 8. *Upholds* the responsibility of all United Nations recognized governments to maintain transparency in government institutions on the local and national level to ensure the efficient and legitimate flow of funds to and from various institutions and continue good governance and responsible social spending as outlined in the A/Res56/326, the Roadmap towards the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals of 2001;
- 9. *Reaffirms* the Brassels Declaration and Programme of Action of 2001 advocating sovereign financial responsibility and self-sufficiency in order to create an environment that is attractive and receptive to international investment and aid to education;
- 10. Advocates the pursuit of the Road map towards the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 2001 which outlines the importance of education in increasing human capital, breaking the cycle of poverty and upholding regional as well as international cooperation;
- 11. *Urges* member states to establish a separate and unique conference discussing the importance of the relationship between education and sustainable development, while following world progress on the protection of children's rights especially in terms of child pornography, trafficking, involvement in armed conflict, and the promotion of sanitary living conditions, access to health care, food and shelter, and access to appropriate levels of education under the auspices of UNICEF to be convened within the space of five years after the passage of this resolution.

Passed, Yes: 45 / No: 5 / Abstain: 23