

## American Model United Nations General Assembly Second Committee

GA Second/II/1

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: Development cooperation with middle-income countries

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly Second Committee

The General Assembly Second Committee,

Recalling resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly its emphasis on addressing the specific needs of Middle-Income Countries (MICs) to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty,

Recognizing that MICs face unique challenges, including rising inequalities, environmental vulnerabilities, and limited access to concessional financing, despite being home to a significant proportion of the world's poor,

*Noting with concern* the growing debt burdens of many MICs, which hinder their ability to invest in infrastructure, social services, and climate resilience,

Reaffirming the need for tailored support and international solidarity to address the multifaceted challenges of MICs,

Noting with approval the completion of the work of the High-Level Panel on the Development of a Multidimensional Vulnerability Index, which acknowledges the ineffectiveness of relying on gross national income per capita alone to determine development and donor assistance policies,

Recognizing the importance of lowering barriers to trade and regional free trade agreements, including the African Continental Free Trade Area, the European Union, the Caribbean Community, the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement, and the Greater Arab Free Trade Agreement,

Further Recognizing the critical need to expand opportunities for low-income countries to foster sustainable development, reduce poverty, and ensure equitable access to global markets, particularly through increased international cooperation, concessional financing, and capacity-building initiatives tailored to their unique challenges,

Stressing the risk of countries entering a middle-income trap is when a nation becomes stagnant after initial economic growth due to diminishing returns to capital a lack of innovation,

- 1. Encourages Member States, United Nations agencies, and international financial institutions to strengthen financial and technical support tailored to the specific needs of MICs, including through concessional financing, grants, and debt relief initiatives financed by high-income countries;
- 2. *Urges* international financial institutions to revise eligibility criteria for development financing, considering multidimensional indicators such as inequality, environmental vulnerabilities, and economic resilience, alongside income levels;
- 3. Proposes the establishment of additional microcredit programs, seasonal loans, and targeted grants to fund small-scale producers' investments in equipment, infrastructure, and provision of crop insurance to protect against climate risks;
- 4. Recommends the establishment of a dedicated platform under the United Nations to facilitate dialogue, knowledge-sharing, and best practices among high-income countries, MICs, and low-income countries, focusing on sustainable development challenges and solutions;
- 5. Calls for increased investments in capacity-building initiatives in MICs, particularly in areas such as digital transformation, healthcare, education, and climate resilience to enhance their ability to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially for rural areas;

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- 6. Encourages North-South, and South-South as effective mechanisms to foster peer learning, technological innovation, and joint initiatives to address shared development priorities among MICs and other nations:
  - 7. Requests the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and other relevant entities provide targeted support to MICs in implementing policies that promote inclusive economic growth, social equity, and environmental sustainability;
  - 8. Stresses the importance of addressing rising inequalities within MICs through social protection measures, inclusive education, and health services to ensure no one is left behind in achieving sustainable development;
  - 9. Calls upon Member States to honor their commitments to official development assistance and explore innovative financing mechanisms to bridge resource gaps in MICs;
  - 10. *Urges* international stakeholders to collaborate with MICs in addressing their debt challenges through fair debt restructuring processes, aiming to create fiscal space for development priorities;
  - 11. Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the progress and challenges faced by MICs in achieving sustainable development, with recommendations for enhancing development cooperation, at the 79th session of the General Assembly;
    - 12. Encourages Member States to support regional trade agreements through:
      - (a) Lowering/eliminating trade barriers such as tariffs and other restrictions;
  - (b) Increasing openness to foreign investment, especially as it pertains to infrastructure investments;
  - 13. *Urges* long-term collaboration with smaller, private business sectors for global investments in middle-income countries;
  - 14. Emphasizes the importance of rebuilding and developing new infrastructure, specifically in countries being affected by conflicts; high-income countries to provide aid and investment specifically for the use of infrastructure development through the United Nations Office for Public Services;
  - 15. Calls upon Member States to commit to zero-interest and low cost loans to move towards sustainable investments in developing countries;
  - 16. Encourages developing and middle-income member states to implement climate-resistant infrastructure to progress towards SDGs and the objectives of the Paris Climate Agreement.

Passed, Yes: 70 / No: 5 / Abstain: 11

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