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Report of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development on its tenth session and follow-up activities

I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted to the Committee of Experts of the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) to inform it of the work and outcomes of the tenth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development and follow-up activities.
2. The plans for the eleventh session of the Forum are also set out in the present report, so as to inform members of ECA and other stakeholders and catalyse their engagement in the planning process.
3. The Committee is invited to share its perspectives and to provide guidance and recommendations in relation to the content of the report, with a view to stepping up the pace and scale of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union.
4. The overall purpose of the Forum is to advance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063, with a focus on reviewing progress, strengthening learning and advocating policy measures for the effective implementation of the two agendas. The Forum is convened annually by ECA, together with the Government of the host country and in collaboration with the African Union Commission, the African Development Bank and various international organizations, including entities of the United Nations system.¹

* Reissued for technical reasons on 21 February 2025.

** E/ECA/COE/43/1.

¹ The following international organizations were involved in convening the tenth session of the Forum: Department of Economic and Social Affairs; Development Coordination Office; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; International Labour Organization; International Organization for Migration; Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS; Office of the Special Adviser on Africa; Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; Regional United Nations Sustainable Development Group; United Nations Children's Fund; United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; United Nations Development



II. Organization and focus

5. ECA, together with the above-mentioned partners, convened the tenth session of the Forum in Addis Ababa, in a hybrid format, with both in-person and online participation, from 23 to 25 April 2024.

6. The session was attended by more than 1,250 participants, comprising ministers and high-level representatives of the Governments of 51 members of ECA and representatives of intergovernmental bodies, entities of the United Nations system, other international organizations, major groups and other stakeholders.

A. Context, focus and objectives

7. The session was held as progress in the implementation of the two agendas remained generally off track. Globally, only 16 per cent of the Sustainable Development Goal targets were on course to be met by 2030. With the remaining 84 per cent, progress was limited or a regression had occurred.² In relation to Africa specifically, the continent was on track to achieve only 10 of the 144 measurable targets by 2030, with 106 requiring accelerated action and 28 having experienced a regression.³ Furthermore, it had been estimated that some 55 per cent of the global population living below the international poverty line of \$2.15 per day were in Africa.⁴ Moreover, the proportion of the African population living in chronic hunger had increased from 15.1 per cent in 2010 to 19.7 per cent in 2022.⁵ Climate change disproportionately affected Africa, while raising climate finance remained challenging. Investment in the attainment of the Goals was severely constrained by the limited revenue base, high cost of capital and growing sovereign debt burden of many African States.

8. Against that backdrop, the tenth session of the Forum was held under the theme “Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions”, which was closely aligned with the theme of the 2024 meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, namely “Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions”.

9. During the session, an in-depth review of progress was carried out and measures were identified to accelerate efforts to attain the five selected Sustainable Development Goals (Goals 1, 2, 13, 16 and 17) and the corresponding goals of Agenda 2063.

10. The session also offered an opportunity for capacity development in relation to voluntary national and local reviews, peer-to-peer learning, the

Programme; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women); United Nations Environment Programme; United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat); United Nations Industrial Development Organization; United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction; United Nations Office to the African Union; United Nations Population Fund; United Nations Volunteers; World Food Programme; and World Trade Organization.

² Jeffrey D. Sachs, Guillaume Lafortune and Grayson Fuller, *Sustainable Development Report 2024: the SDGs and the UN Summit of the Future* (Dublin, Dublin University Press, 2024).

³ Adivhaho Ramaite and Alize le Roux, “Accelerate, extend or abandon? Africa’s SDG dilemma”, Institute for Security Studies, 12 September 2024.

⁴ World Bank, Poverty and Inequality Platform. Available at <https://pip.worldbank.org/home> (accessed on 12 February 2024).

⁵ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), ECA, African Union Commission and World Food Programme, *Africa: Regional Overview of Food Security and Nutrition 2023 – Statistics and Trends* (Accra, FAO, 2023).

exchange of best practices, and the formulation and promotion of solutions, including policy options and specific initiatives, to accelerate and expand the scale of implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.

11. Convened in the lead-up to the 2024 meeting of the high-level political forum and the Summit of the Future, held in July and September 2024, respectively, the session also provided a platform for African preparation for those events.

12. The proceedings of the Forum were guided by its elected Bureau.⁶

B. Main meetings and events held on the margins of the Forum

13. The session was officially opened by the Minister of Planning and Development of Ethiopia, Fitsum Assefa. Opening statements were delivered by the Minister of Water, Sanitation and the Environment of the Niger and Chair of the outgoing Bureau, Maizama Abdoulaye; the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, Claver Gatete; the Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Monique Nsanzabaganwa; the Prime Minister of Uganda, Robinah Nabbanja; and the Deputy Secretary-General, Amina Mohammed.

14. The proceedings of the session featured the following main meetings:

(a) High-level panels on three topics, namely “Stepping up ambition and innovative solutions to eradicate poverty and reinforce the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union”, “The race to 2030 and beyond: leveraging the Summit of the Future to get back on track towards the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals” and “Priorities of young people regarding the Summit of the Future and the reinforcement of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063”;

(b) Plenary round-table panels on two topics, namely “voluntary national and local reviews and actions to reinforce institutions, policies, plans and budgets to speed up and scale up integrated implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063” and “the transformation and modernization of statistical systems in order to produce high-quality data and statistics that can be used to track progress and reinforce national policies and plans to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063”;

(c) Parallel meetings for an in-depth review of progress made and peer-to-peer learning on the sub-themes of the session around the five selected Sustainable Development Goals and the corresponding goals of Agenda 2063;

(d) Presentations and discussions on transformative pathways and ambitious actions for accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.

15. The main meetings of the session were preceded by several events held on its margins, the outcomes of which enriched deliberations during the main meetings. The events included:

- (a) Science, technology and innovation boot camp for young people;
- (b) Expert group meeting on the *2024 Africa Sustainable Development Report*;⁷
- (c) Sixth African Science, Technology and Innovation Forum;

⁶ Chair: Mauritania; First Vice-Chair: Namibia; Second Vice-Chair: Chad; Third Vice-Chair: Uganda; and Rapporteur: Niger.

⁷ African Union, African Development Bank, United Nations Development Programme and ECA, *2024 Africa Sustainable Development Report* (Addis Ababa; Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire; New York; 2024).

- (d) Fifth Africa climate talks;
- (e) Preparatory regional workshop on voluntary national and local reviews;
- (f) Dialogue on carbon markets;
- (g) Preparatory and capacity-development workshop for major groups and other stakeholders in Africa;
- (h) Review of progress in the transformation of food systems;
- (i) Event on the “Power of data: unlocking the data dividend for the Sustainable Development Goals and Agenda 2063”;
- (j) Harnessing the potential of innovative financing to reinforce the implementation of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme for an Africa that is free of hunger and for sustainable and resilient agrifood systems;
- (k) Annual meeting of the Regional Collaborative Platform for Africa;
- (l) Meeting of the resident coordinators with the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations;
- (m) Annual meeting of the Regional Collaborative Platform for Africa with the resident coordinators;
- (n) Retreat of the resident coordinators;
- (o) Youth Forum on the Summit of the Future;
- (p) In total, 32 other events on the margins, aligned with the theme and sub-themes of the session.

III. Outcome documents and main results

A. Consensus on practical measures to reinforce the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union and on African priorities for the 2024 meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and for the Summit of the Future

16. Forum participants reached agreement on African priorities and on practical measures to be taken by States, entities of the United Nations system and development partners to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. The priorities and measures are set out in the following two outcome documents of the session, which also served as the inputs of Africa to the 2024 meeting of the high-level political forum and to the Summit of the Future:

- (a) Tenth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development: summary and key messages;⁸
- (b) Addis Ababa Declaration on the Effective Delivery of Sustainable, Resilient and Innovative Solutions to Reinforce the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 and to Eradicate Poverty in Times of Multiple Crises.⁹

⁸ ECA/RFSD/2024/11.

⁹ ECA/RFSD/2024/12.

17. The African priorities presented to the 2024 meeting of the high-level political forum and to the Summit of the Future, on which action was also to be taken at the regional and national levels, include:

(a) Ensuring the inclusiveness of the Summit of the Future and the effective participation, with a stronger voice, of Africa and the global South in international governance and decision-making;

(b) Securing the accelerated implementation of the Global Digital Compact to bridge the digital divide across Africa, constructing secure and trusted digital ecosystems and guaranteeing good global digital governance for emerging technologies, such as artificial intelligence;

(c) Urgently reforming the global financial architecture to make it fit for purpose and ensuring that it serves the interests of African and other developing countries;

(d) Redoubling efforts to revitalize national frameworks, including national development plans, and channelling finance to accelerate integrated execution of the 2030 Agenda and the second 10-year implementation plan (2024–2033) of Agenda 2063;

(e) Advancing the efforts of the Secretary-General to use his proposed Sustainable Development Goal stimulus to close the financing gap in respect of the Goals;

(f) Improving the policy environment for sustainable finance and fostering innovations in climate finance, including through carbon markets, debt swaps and green and blue bonds;

(g) Encouraging States to pursue just transitions and to enhance resilience by scaling up investments in early warning systems and in climate literacy;

(h) Allocating substantial funds to reducing poverty and to addressing gender inequality and the poverty-climate nexus, with a particular focus on women and young people;

(i) Dramatically increasing investment and expanding programmes and services related to education, nutrition and health, with a view to empowering all children and young people and, thus, to harnessing the demographic dividend;

(j) Capitalizing on the vast market provided by the African Continental Free Trade Area and the global climate agenda, in order to sustainably harness the continent's natural resources, transform agriculture, boost food security and drive sustainable industrialization;

(k) Ensuring global solidarity towards Africa and scaled-up efforts to secure peace, to lay the foundations for security, thereby safeguarding human dignity and rights, good governance and development;

(l) Strengthening governance and legal frameworks to uphold human rights, enhance transparency and combat illicit financial flows and small arms trafficking;

(m) Transforming and modernizing statistical systems to enhance access to high-quality disaggregated data by harnessing the digital revolution, artificial intelligence and the High-Impact Initiative on the Power of Data.

B. Enhanced capacity for voluntary national and local reviews and increased knowledge of policies, plans, programmes and practices aimed at achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union

18. During the session, 14 African States¹⁰ were equipped with the capacity to conduct voluntary reviews and present their reports effectively at the 2024 meeting of the high-level political forum.

19. As a result of those efforts, universal coverage of voluntary national reviews was achieved in Africa in 2024: ECA made it possible for a voluntary national review to be conducted in South Sudan for the first time in 2024. ECA has now helped all 54 of its members to undertake at least one voluntary national review.

20. In addition, through its main meetings and events on the margins, the session provided for multi-stakeholder dialogue, including the sharing of experiences, best practices and lessons learned in the design and implementation of national frameworks, programmes and measures aimed at achieving the goals of the two agendas.

C. Action-oriented background reports on the various sub-themes of the session

21. The documentation prepared for the tenth session of the Forum included background reports on its five sub-themes, each of which related to one of the Sustainable Development Goals and corresponding goals of Agenda 2063: no poverty; zero hunger; climate action; peace, justice and strong institutions; and partnerships for the goals of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.¹¹

22. The focus of the background reports was progress towards the achievement of the goals addressed under the relevant sub-themes, along with challenges, gaps and options for scaling up efforts to attain the targets under each goal. The background reports were intended to support advocacy and inform deliberations on the key messages developed during the session.

IV. Follow-up to the tenth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

A. 2024 meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development

23. As part of the follow-up to the tenth session of the Forum, ECA and its partners sought to convey the outcomes of the session to other participants in the 2024 meeting of the high-level political forum, held in New York from 8 to 18 July under the theme “Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions”. In particular, the collective African position on priorities for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 was conveyed, with a view to promoting the sustainable development of the continent.

¹⁰ Chad, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Guinea, Kenya, Libya, Mauritania, Mauritius, Namibia, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

¹¹ ECA/RFSD/2024/5/Rev.1, ECA/RFSD/2024/6/Rev.2, ECA/RFSD/2024/7/Rev.1, ECA/RFSD/2024/8/Rev.2 and ECA/RFSD/2024/9/Rev.1.

24. The main outcome document of the 2024 meeting of the high-level political forum was the ministerial declaration,¹² which adequately reflects the African priorities and perspectives expressed in the key messages and Addis Ababa Declaration that resulted from the tenth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development. The salient points of the ministerial declaration are listed in annex I to the present report.

25. The follow-up activities also served to promote the uptake of the outcome documents of the session at the regional and national levels. The main follow-up activities are as highlighted in the following paragraphs.

1. Advancement of African priorities at the 2024 meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and the high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council

26. The Addis Ababa Declaration and key messages that had been adopted by the Forum were submitted to the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, as the African regional input to inform the 2024 meeting of the high-level political forum.

27. The session on messages from the regions was dedicated to discussion of the outcome documents of regional forums for sustainable development. The Minister of Education, Arts and Culture of Namibia and first Vice-Chair of the tenth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, Ester-Anna-Liisa Shiwomwenyo, the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa and representatives of African States presented the African priorities, drawn from the Addis Ababa Declaration and the key messages that had been adopted by the Forum at its tenth session.

2. Further support for African States participating in voluntary national reviews at the 2024 meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development

28. ECA participated in the sessions of the 2024 meeting of the high-level political forum concerning voluntary national reviews to support and reinforce the messages of the 14 African States that were presenting their reviews at the 2024 meeting.

3. Convening of and participation in Africa Day

29. Africa Day is an annual event at the high-level political forum, organized jointly by ECA, the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and the United Nations Development Programme. In 2024, Africa Day was held under the theme “Building a prosperous, inclusive and resilient Africa through renewed partnerships and strong institutions”. Bringing together ministers, experts and sustainability practitioners to advance efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and the goals of Agenda 2063, Africa Day 2024 provided a platform to strengthen the voice of Africa by promoting the outcome documents of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development; share best practices and lessons learned; and strengthen partnerships for the implementation of the two agendas.

4. Convening of and participation in other selected events on the margins of the 2024 meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development

30. To articulate and advance African perspectives and priorities, ECA joined partners to convene or participate in six workshops, known as “labs”, on voluntary national reviews and in other events on the margins of the 2024 meeting of the high-level political forum.¹³

¹² E/HLS/2024/1.

¹³ United Nations, “High-level political forum on sustainable development: 2024 side events”.

B. Summit of the Future

31. The Summit of the Future, held in New York on 22 and 23 September 2024, was the culmination of a number of multilevel meetings, including the tenth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development.

32. ECA participated in the Summit, including the associated action days, to advocate and mobilize partnerships to address African priorities.

33. The outcome documents of the Summit were the Pact for the Future and its annexes: the Global Digital Compact and the Declaration on Future Generations.¹⁴ A selection of the chief actions, objectives and commitments set out therein is detailed in annex II to the present report.

34. In relation to the Pact for the Future, the Committee of Experts is invited to provide guidance, including any further measures needed to address emerging issues and to fulfil the commitments made in the Pact:

(a) To advance implementation of the actions mentioned therein through relevant mandated intergovernmental processes;

(b) To review the overall implementation of the Pact at the beginning of the eighty-third session of the General Assembly, through a meeting at the level of Heads of State and Government.

35. On the content of the Digital Compact, the Committee is invited to provide similar guidance to build on the:

(a) Recognition of the role of the regional economic commissions and country teams in supporting regional and national stakeholders to advance digital transformation;

(b) Commitment to implement the Compact and request for reporting on progress with its implementation;

(c) Call for Governments to make support for digital transformation integral to development assistance, including through increased allocations to digital and data initiatives;

(d) Invitation for private sector and philanthropic actors to consider financial pledges in support of the implementation of the Compact;

(e) Invitation for international and regional organizations, the private sector, academia, the technical community and civil society groups to endorse the Compact and take active part in its implementation and follow-up;

(f) Request for the Secretary-General to put in place modalities for the voluntary endorsement of the Compact and to make this information public and accessible from December 2024.

36. Concerning the Declaration for the Future, the Committee is invited to provide similar guidance on the:

(a) Undertaking to implement, institutionalize and monitor the commitments made therein on national, regional and global policymaking;

(b) Contributions of Africa to the inclusive high-level plenary meeting to be held during the eighty-third session of the General Assembly to review implementation of the Declaration;

(c) Contributions of Africa to the Secretary-General's report on its implementation.

¹⁴ General Assembly resolution 79/1.

V. Plans for the eleventh session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

37. Following the offer by the Government of Uganda and in consultation with the Bureau of the tenth session of the Forum, the eleventh session will be held in a hybrid format, with in-person and online participation, at the Speke Resort and Convention Centre Munyonyo, Kampala, from 9 to 11 April 2025.

38. The session will be organized jointly by ECA and the Government of Uganda, in collaboration with the partners mentioned in paragraph 4 of the present report, under the theme “Driving job creation and economic growth through sustainable, inclusive, science-based and evidence-based solutions for implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union”. The theme is aligned with that of the 2025 meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, namely “Advancing sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for leaving no one behind”.

39. The session will be attended by ministers, other high-level policymakers and experts from all members of ECA; intergovernmental organizations, including entities of the United Nations system; the private sector; civil society organizations; the major groups and other stakeholders; and international development partners.

40. The main features of the eleventh session will be:

(a) An in-depth review of the implementation of five selected Sustainable Development Goals: Goal 3 (good health and well-being), Goal 5 (gender equality), Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth), Goal 14 (life below water) and Goal 17 (partnerships for the Goals) and the corresponding goals of Agenda 2063, with a particular focus on the second 10-year implementation plan of the latter;

(b) Identification of measures to follow up on and take forward the outcome documents of the Summit of the Future;

(c) Preparation and articulation of the African regional input to the meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, which will be held in New York in July 2025;

(d) African preparations for and input to the Second World Summit for Social Development, which will be held in Qatar from 4 to 6 November 2025;

(e) Adoption of the outcome documents of the session:

(i) Summary and key messages;

(ii) Kampala declaration on sustainable, inclusive, science-based and evidence-based solutions to drive job creation and economic growth and for implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063.

41. The session will also feature preliminary events, to be held from 6 to 8 April 2025.

42. Members of ECA, regional and subregional organizations, the major groups and other stakeholders, entities of the United Nations system and other development partners are invited:

(a) To contribute to the organization of the session, including by financing the participation of delegates;

- (b) To organize subregional forums on sustainable development to strengthen a bottom-up approach to the work of the Forum;¹⁵
- (c) To plan and participate in the session, including by organizing and holding events on its margins to enrich the deliberations of the Forum.

¹⁵ Such subregional forums could be organized by subregional offices of ECA, in collaboration with the regional economic communities and with other entities of the United Nations system at the subregional and national levels.

Annex I

Salient points of the ministerial declaration issued following the 2024 meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development

1. With a view to facilitating consideration by the Committee of Experts, the salient points of the ministerial declaration of the high-level political forum (E/HLS/2024/1) are listed below.
2. The ministers and high representatives:
 - (a) Reaffirmed the importance of the regional dimension of sustainable development in addressing regional challenges and scaling up action among States;
 - (b) Reaffirmed support for Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, of the African Union, and the programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, which are integral to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
 - (c) Called for renewed impetus and accelerated action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and, to that end, full implementation of the political declaration adopted at the 2023 Sustainable Development Goals Summit;
 - (d) Recognized the need to redouble efforts to resolve or prevent conflict and to support post-conflict countries, including by ensuring that women have a role in peacebuilding and State-building;
 - (e) Recognized the importance of integrated policy planning and moving towards inclusive, comprehensive social protection that leaves no one behind;
 - (f) Encouraged all stakeholders to better address interlinkages, synergies and trade-offs between the Sustainable Development Goals, enhancing policy coherence for sustainable development;
 - (g) Expressed support for the reform of the international financial architecture;
 - (h) Committed themselves to addressing ongoing financing gaps for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, called for the scaling up of international public finance and for improved access to concessional finance and undertook to deliver more affordable, predictable, sustainable and sufficient finance to developing countries;
 - (i) Undertook to enhance access to, and to leverage science, technology and innovation and the benefits of digital transformation and financial inclusion for all;
 - (j) Committed themselves to fostering sustainable, inclusive and sustained economic growth, employment and decent work for all, equal pay for work of equal value, economic diversification and productive capacity in developing countries, as drivers of the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions and of the achievement of sustainable development;
 - (k) Undertook to end hunger, malnutrition and poverty, in particular rural poverty, by promoting more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems, by strengthening policy coherence, and by increasing agricultural productivity, efficiency, sustainability and resilience;
 - (l) Committed themselves to enhancing synergies towards the effective implementation of national climate and development policies and

measures, contributing to the achievement of global climate goals and the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda;

(m) Recognized the need to ensure transition pathways that are just, equitable and inclusive across all sectors, to leave no one behind;

(n) Recommitted themselves to preventing and combating illicit financial flows and to strengthening international cooperation and best practices on the recovery and return of assets;

(o) Reaffirmed their commitment to strive to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for the transfer abroad of stolen assets and illicit financial flows;

(p) Committed themselves to taking action to bridge digital divides and spread the benefits of digitalization;

(q) Undertook to strengthen voluntary national reviews;

(r) Encouraged States to develop national road maps for voluntary national reviews, to be presented until 2030, and to support local authorities in the preparation of voluntary local reviews.

Annex II

Chief actions, objectives and commitments set out in the Pact for the Future and its annexes: the Global Digital Compact and the Declaration on Future Generations

1. With a view to facilitating consideration by the Committee of Experts, the salient points of the Pact for the Future and its annexes (A/RES/79/1) are listed in the following paragraphs.
2. The Pact for the Future comprises 56 actions on the themes of the Summit, namely sustainable development and financing for development; international peace and security; science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation; youth and future generations; and transforming global governance. The actions include:
 - (a) Planning for the future and strengthening collective efforts to turbocharge the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by 2030 and beyond;
 - (b) Redoubling efforts to build and sustain peaceful, inclusive and just societies and to address the root causes of conflicts;
 - (c) Supporting efforts by the Secretary-General to strengthen the role of the United Nations in supporting international cooperation on science, technology and innovation;
 - (d) Investing in the social and economic development of children and young people, so that they can reach their full potential;
 - (e) Strengthening meaningful youth participation at the national level;
 - (f) Accelerating reform of the international financial architecture:
 - (i) To address the challenges of today and tomorrow;
 - (ii) To strengthen the voice and representation of developing countries;
 - (iii) To mobilize additional financing for the Sustainable Development Goals, respond to the needs of developing countries and direct financing to those most in need.
3. The objectives of the Global Digital Compact are:
 - (a) To close all digital divides and accelerate progress across the Sustainable Development Goals;
 - (b) To expand inclusion in and benefits from the digital economy for all;
 - (c) To foster an inclusive, open, safe and secure digital space that respects, protects and promotes human rights;
 - (d) To advance responsible, equitable and interoperable data governance approaches;
 - (e) To enhance international governance of artificial intelligence for the benefit of humanity.
4. The Declaration on Future Generations includes commitments:
 - (a) To promote international stability, peace, and security, whereby conflicts and crises are resolved through peaceful means;

(b) To implement policies and programmes to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, and to eliminate all forms of discrimination and violence, harassment and abuse against women and girls, including sexual and gender-based violence;

(c) To eliminate all forms of persistent historical and structural inequalities and to eradicate all forms of discrimination;

(d) To recognize, respect, promote and protect the rights of Indigenous Peoples, and their territories, lands and ecosystems;

(e) To undertake comprehensive and targeted strategies to achieve inclusive economic growth and sustainable development, food security and the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions;

(f) To prioritize urgent action to address critical environmental challenges, to implement measures to reduce disaster risk and build resilience, reverse the degradation of ecosystems, ensure a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, and to accelerate action to address climate change;

(g) To harness the benefits of existing, new and emerging technologies and to mitigate the associated risks through effective, inclusive and equitable governance at all levels, scaling up collaboration to bridge the digital divides within and between developed and developing countries;

(h) To strengthen cooperation among States in their response to demographic trends and realities, such as rapid population growth, declining birth rates and ageing populations;

(i) To strengthen cooperation among States to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration between countries of origin, transit and destination;

(j) To invest in accessible, safe, inclusive and equitable high-quality education for all, including physical education and sport, and to promote opportunities for lifelong learning, technical and vocational training, and digital literacy.
