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Culture of peace

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[without reference to a Main Committee (A/78/L.75)]

78/286. International Day for Dialogue among Civilizations

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ in which it is proclaimed that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind, and States' obligations under international human rights law,

Recalling previous resolutions of the General Assembly on promoting understanding, development and exchange among civilizations and cultures, in particular its resolution 53/22 of 4 November 1998, by which the Assembly proclaimed the year 2001 as the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations, and its resolution 56/6 of 9 November 2001 on the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations and the Programme of Action and its objectives, principles and participants, contained therein,

Noting that globalization brings greater interrelatedness among people and increased interaction among cultures and civilizations, and encouraged by the fact that the proclamation and celebration of the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations in 2001 and the implementation of the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations invite us to embrace the interdependence of humankind and its rich cultural diversity,

Recalling its resolutions 53/199 of 15 December 1998 and 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years and Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries,

Recalling also previous relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, including its resolution 51/95 of 12 December 1996, by which the Assembly proclaimed

¹ Resolution 217 A (III).



16 November as the International Day for Tolerance, its resolution 72/130 of 8 December 2017, by which it declared 16 May as the International Day of Living Together in Peace, its resolution 75/200 of 21 December 2020, by which it proclaimed 4 February as the International Day of Human Fraternity, and its resolution 75/309 of 21 July 2021, by which it proclaimed 18 June as the International Day for Countering Hate Speech,

Bearing in mind the valuable contribution that dialogue among civilizations can make to an improved awareness and understanding of the universal values, enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and reaffirming that civilizational achievements constitute the collective heritage of humankind,

Convinced that dialogue contributes to combining the efforts of the international community in consolidating the traditions of peaceful and trust-based coexistence among the peoples of the world,

Emphasizing that participation in dialogue among civilizations should be global in scope and open to all and should contribute to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls from different backgrounds and cultures,

Recognizing with deep concern the overall rise in instances of discrimination, intolerance and violence, regardless of the actors, directed against members of many religious and other communities in various parts of the world,

Recognizing that all cultures and civilizations contribute to the enrichment of humankind, and encouraging tolerance, peaceful coexistence, respect, dialogue and cooperation among different cultures, civilizations and peoples in order to promote international peace and security, human welfare, freedom and progress everywhere,

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000,² in which Member States consider, inter alia, that tolerance is one of the fundamental values essential to international relations in the twenty-first century and should include the active promotion of a culture of peace and dialogue among civilizations, with human beings respecting one another, in all their diversity of belief, culture and language, neither fearing nor repressing differences within and between societies but cherishing them as a precious asset of humanity,

Recalling also the 2005 World Summit Outcome,³ in which the Heads of State and Government reaffirmed the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations and its Programme of Action and the value of different initiatives on dialogue among cultures and civilizations, welcomed the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations initiative announced by the Secretary-General on 14 July 2005 and committed to promoting a culture of peace and dialogue at the local, national, regional and international levels,

Underlining that all civilizations celebrate the unity and diversity of humankind and are enriched and have evolved through dialogue with others, respect for human rights as well as the need to acknowledge and respect the richness of all civilizations and to seek common ground among civilizations in order to address comprehensively challenges facing humanity,

Convinced that the full enjoyment of human rights by all persons, the promotion of cultural pluralism and tolerance towards and dialogue among various cultures and civilizations would contribute to the efforts of all peoples and nations to enrich their

² Resolution 55/2.

³ Resolution 60/1.

cultures and traditions by engaging in a mutually beneficial exchange of knowledge and intellectual, moral and material achievements,

Aware that positive and mutually beneficial interaction among civilizations has continued throughout human history despite impediments arising from intolerance, disputes and wars,

Recognizing that civilizations and cultures take diverse forms across time and space and flourish in contact with others and therefore shall be preserved, enhanced and handed on for the benefit of current and future generations as a record of human experience and aspirations, and recognizing also that the defence of cultural diversity implies a commitment to human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Noting with appreciation the valuable role played by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the other relevant entities of the United Nations, within their mandates, in implementing relevant resolutions and agendas,

Noting with appreciation also the valuable role of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and its High Representative in promoting greater understanding and respect among civilizations, cultures, religions and beliefs,

Noting with appreciation further the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations Global Forum as a global platform for dialogue among various stakeholders, including civil society organizations, religious leaders, youth, media and academia, as well as artists and athletes, and noting the efforts of relevant stakeholders to promote cross-cultural dialogue and mutual understanding among different civilizations, cultures, religions and beliefs,

Noting the various initiatives at the local, national, regional and international levels for enhancing dialogue, understanding and cooperation among civilizations, as well as declarations and statements from various meetings in this regard,

Recognizing the role of national parliaments and their active contribution at the national, regional and international levels for the dialogue among civilizations,

1. *Decides* to declare 10 June the International Day for Dialogue among Civilizations, in order to raise awareness of the value of the diversity of civilizations and promote dialogue, mutual respect, tolerance and global solidarity in this regard;

2. *Invites* all Member States and organizations of the United Nations system, within existing resources, as well as other international and regional organizations and other relevant stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector, academia and the media, to commemorate the International Day in an appropriate manner, including through educational and public awareness-raising activities, and to share best practices in this regard;

3. *Invites* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations with other relevant entities of the United Nations to facilitate the observance of the International Day;

4. *Stresses* that the cost of all activities that may arise from the implementation of the present resolution should be met from voluntary contributions;

5. *Invites* all relevant stakeholders to contribute to and support the International Day.

*88th plenary meeting
7 June 2024*