

**Human Rights Council****Forty-third session**

24 February–13 March and 15–23 June 2020

Agenda item 3

**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development****Resolution adopted by the Human Rights Council
on 19 June 2020****43/10. Mandate of the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and
other related international financial obligations of States on the full
enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and
cultural rights***The Human Rights Council,**Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and other relevant international human rights instruments,**Reaffirming all resolutions and decisions adopted by the Commission on Human Rights and the Human Rights Council on the effects of structural adjustment and economic reform policies and foreign debt on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights, the latest being Council resolution 40/8 of 21 March 2019, and all other relevant resolutions,**Recalling Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1, on institution-building of the Council, and 5/2, on the Code of Conduct for Special Procedures Mandate Holders of the Council, of 18 June 2007, and stressing that the mandate holder shall discharge his or her duties in accordance with those resolutions and the annexes thereto,**Stressing that one of the purposes of the United Nations is to achieve international cooperation in solving international problems of an economic, social, cultural or humanitarian character,**Emphasizing that the World Conference on Human Rights agreed to call upon the international community to make all efforts to help to alleviate the external debt burden of developing countries in order to supplement the efforts of the Governments of such countries to attain the full realization of the economic, social and cultural rights of their people,**Stressing the primacy of the means of implementation for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and in this regard underlining the fundamental principles of international cooperation, which are pivotal for the practical achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals,**Stressing also the determination expressed in the 2030 Agenda to assist developing countries in attaining long-term debt sustainability through coordinated policies aimed at*

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fostering debt financing, debt relief and debt restructuring, as appropriate, and to address the external debt of highly indebted poor countries to reduce debt distress,

Recognizing the commitments made in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, and noting that, despite international debt relief efforts, many countries remain vulnerable to debt crisis and some are in the midst of a crisis, including a number of least developed countries, small island developing States and some developed countries,

Recognizing also the sovereign right of any State to restructure its sovereign debt, which should not be frustrated or impeded by any measure emanating from another State,

Affirming that debt burden further complicates the numerous problems facing developing countries, contributes to extreme poverty and is an obstacle to sustainable human development, and is thus a serious impediment to the realization of all human rights,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the work and contributions of the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights;¹

2. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Independent Expert on the effects of foreign debt and other related international financial obligations of States on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights, for a period of three years, in accordance with the terms provided for by Human Rights Council resolution 34/3;

3. *Encourages* the Independent Expert to cooperate, in accordance with the mandate, with the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, special rapporteurs, independent experts and members of the expert working groups of the Human Rights Council and its Advisory Committee on issues relating to economic, social and cultural rights and the right to development;

4. *Requests* the Independent Expert to report regularly to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly in accordance with their respective programmes of work;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Independent Expert with all necessary assistance, in particular all the staff and resources required to carry out his or her functions;

6. *Urges* Governments, international organizations, international financial institutions, non-governmental organizations and the private sector to cooperate fully with the Independent Expert in the discharge of the mandate;

7. *Decides* to continue its consideration of this matter under the same agenda item, in accordance with its programme of work.

*44th meeting
19 June 2020*

[Adopted by a recorded vote of 26 to 15, with 6 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Angola, Argentina, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chile, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Libya, Mauritania, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Senegal, Somalia, Sudan, Togo, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

Against:

Australia, Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, Spain, Ukraine

Abstaining:

Afghanistan, Armenia, Bahamas, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Peru]

¹ See A/HRC/43/45 and Add.1 and 2.