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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/67/L.26 and Add.1)]

67/17. Sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 58/5 of 3 November 2003, 59/10 of 27 October 2004, its decision to proclaim 2005 the International Year for Sport and Physical Education, to strengthen sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace, and its resolutions 60/1 of 16 September 2005, 60/9 of 3 November 2005, 61/10 of 3 November 2006, 62/271 of 23 July 2008, 63/135 of 11 December 2008 and 65/4 of 18 October 2010,

Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Sport for development and peace: mainstreaming a versatile instrument”,¹ which reviews the programmes and initiatives implemented by States Members of the United Nations, United Nations funds and programmes, specialized agencies and other partners, using sport as a tool for development and peace,

Acknowledging the major role of Member States and the United Nations system in promoting human development through sport and physical education, through its country programmes,

Recognizing the potential of sport to contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, noting that sport has the potential, as declared in the 2005 World Summit Outcome,² to foster peace and development and to contribute to an atmosphere of tolerance and understanding, and reaffirming that sport is a tool for education that can promote cooperation, solidarity, social inclusion and health at the local, national and international levels, as declared in the outcome document of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,³

¹ A/67/282.

² Resolution 60/1.

³ Resolution 65/1.



Recognizing also the need to strengthen and further coordinate efforts, including multi-stakeholder partnerships, at all levels to maximize the potential of sport for contributing to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and national peacebuilding and State-building priorities,

Acknowledging the importance of sport and physical activity in combating non-communicable diseases, as reflected in the Political Declaration of the High-level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases,⁴

Recalling its resolution 64/3 of 19 October 2009, in which the International Olympic Committee was invited to participate in the sessions and work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer, and welcoming the partnerships that many United Nations system organizations have established with the International Olympic Committee, including the International Forum on Sport, Peace and Development, jointly organized with the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace,

Affirming the invaluable contribution of the Olympic movement in establishing sport as a unique means for the promotion of peace and development, in particular through the ideal of the Olympic Truce,

Welcoming the joint statement dated 28 May 2012 of the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland⁵ to promote the ideals of the Olympic Truce in advance of the Games of the XXX Olympiad and the XIV Paralympic Summer Games in London in 2012 and the XXII Olympic Winter Games and the XI Paralympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russian Federation, in 2014, and recognizing the importance of partnerships with the International Olympic Committee and the International Paralympic Committee, the International Olympic Truce Centre, future hosts of the Games, such as the Russian Federation, Brazil and the Republic of Korea, the United Nations and other Member States in supporting the implementation of future resolutions on the Olympic Truce,

Acknowledging the opportunities provided by the Games of the XXX Olympiad and the XIV Paralympic Summer Games, held in London, for education, understanding, peace, harmony and tolerance among and between peoples and civilizations, and the opportunities provided by the first Youth Winter Olympic Games, held in Innsbruck, Austria, in 2012, to inspire the youth of the world to embrace, embody and express the Olympic values, as reflected in resolution 66/5 of 17 October 2011 relating to the Olympic Truce,

Welcoming the success of the Games of the XXX Olympiad and the XIV Paralympic Summer Games in relation to the international outreach programmes that focused on inspiring all sectors of society to learn about and promote the values of the Olympic Truce, acknowledging the International Inspiration legacy programme of the United Kingdom, which has given twelve million children in twenty countries access to sport to promote dialogue, peace and development, and calling upon future hosts of the Olympic Games and the

⁴ Resolution 66/2, annex.

⁵ A/66/831, annex.

Paralympic Games and other Member States to include sport, as appropriate, in conflict-prevention activities and to ensure the effective implementation of the Olympic Truce during the Games,

Recalling article 31 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,⁶ outlining a child's right to play and leisure, and the outcome document of the twenty-seventh special session of the General Assembly on children, entitled "A world fit for children",⁷ stressing the promotion of physical, mental and emotional health through play and sports,

Recalling also article 30 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,⁸ outlining the right of persons with disabilities to take part on an equal basis with others in cultural life, recreation, leisure and sport,

Recognizing the important role played by the International Convention against Doping in Sport⁹ in harmonizing the actions taken by Governments in the fight against doping in sport, which are complementary to those undertaken by the sporting movement under the World Anti-Doping Code of the World Anti-Doping Agency,

Acknowledging the recommendations contained in the report of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group entitled "Harnessing the power of sport for development and peace: recommendations to Governments", encouraging Member States to implement the recommendations, and welcoming in this regard the efforts undertaken by the secretariat of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group, hosted by the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace,

Recognizing the need for indicators and benchmarks based on commonly agreed standards to assist Governments to enable the consolidation of sport in cross-cutting development strategies and the incorporation of sport and physical education in international, regional and national development policies and programmes, as laid out in the report of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group,

Recalling resolution 64/289 of 2 July 2010, by which the General Assembly established the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), and the opportunities it provides for the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women, including in and through sport, and welcoming the continued advancement of women in sports and sporting activities, in particular the support for their progressive high performance in sporting events, which provides opportunities for economic development through sports,

Highlighting the importance of continuing to reduce barriers to participation in sport events, particularly for participants from developing countries,

Emphasizing the critical role of productive public-private partnerships for funding sports administrations and institutional development and physical and social infrastructures,

⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

⁷ Resolution S-27/2, annex.

⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2515, No. 44910.

⁹ *Ibid.*, vol. 2419, No. 43649.

1. *Invites* Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system, including its peacekeeping missions, special political missions and integrated peacebuilding missions, sport-related organizations, federations and associations, athletes, the media, civil society, academia and the private sector to collaborate with the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace to promote greater awareness and action to foster peace and accelerate the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals through sport-based initiatives and promote the integration of sport for development and peace in the development agenda, by working along the following principles adapted from the United Nations Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace, contained in the report of the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session:¹

(a) Global framework for sport for development and peace: further develop a framework to strengthen a common vision, define priorities and further raise awareness to promote and mainstream policies on sport for development and peace that are easily replicable;

(b) Policy development: promote and support the integration and mainstreaming of sport for development and peace in development programmes and policies, including mechanisms for growth and wealth;

(c) Resource mobilization and programming: promote innovative funding mechanisms and multi-stakeholder arrangements at all levels, including the engagement of sport organizations, civil society, athletes and the private sector, to create effective programmes with sustainable impact;

(d) Evidence of impact: promote and facilitate common evaluation and monitoring tools, indicators and benchmarks based on commonly agreed standards;

2. *Encourages* Member States to provide institutional structures, appropriate quality standards, policies and competencies and promote academic research and expertise in the field to enable ongoing training, capacity-building and education of physical education teachers, coaches and community leaders in sport for development and peace programmes;

3. *Invites* Member States and international sport organizations to continue to assist developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, in their capacity-building efforts in sport and physical education, by providing national experiences and best practices, as well as financial, technical and logistic resources for the development of sport programmes;

4. *Encourages* the stakeholders referred to in paragraph 1 above to emphasize and advance the use of sport as a vehicle to foster development and strengthen education, including physical education, for children and young persons, prevent disease and promote health, including the prevention of drug abuse, realize gender equality and empower girls and women, foster the inclusion and well-being of persons with disabilities and facilitate social inclusion, conflict prevention and peacebuilding;

5. *Encourages* the stakeholders, and in particular the organizers of mass sport events, to use and leverage such events to promote and support sport for development and peace initiatives and to strengthen existing and build new partnerships, coordinate common strategies, policies and programmes and increase coherence and synergies, while raising awareness at the local, national, regional and global levels;

6. *Encourages* Member States that have not yet done so to designate a focal point for sport for development and peace within their governments and provide updates to the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace on institutional, policy and programme-related developments;

7. *Urges* Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying and acceding to the Convention on the Rights of the Child,⁶ the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities⁸ and the International Convention against Doping in Sport;⁹

8. *Notes* the efforts undertaken by the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly, Member States and civil society for the observance of the Olympic Truce, and encourages future hosts of the Olympic Games and the Paralympic Games and other Member States to support the effective implementation of the Truce;

9. *Appreciates* the leadership of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, supported by the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace, on issues relating to sport for development and peace within the United Nations system and beyond;

10. *Encourages* Member States, in particular those committed to promoting sport as a tool for development and peace, and other stakeholders, such as international sports federations, organizers of global mass sports events, sports clubs and leagues, foundations and the private sector, especially businesses involved in the sports sector, to provide voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for Sport for Development and Peace and to enter into innovative partnerships with the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace, which is funded exclusively through voluntary contributions, and the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group, in order to sustain the mandate of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace, ensure the continuous activities of the Office and provide project implementation funding for the Office and the United Nations system at large;

11. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts undertaken by the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group, which met for its second and third plenary sessions on 12 May 2011 and 2 October 2012, and the commencement of the substantive work of the thematic working groups on sport and peace and sport and gender, in addition to the working group on sport and child and youth development;

12. *Invites* Member States and other relevant stakeholders, as observers, to join and support the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group, so as to further strengthen its work on all envisaged themes, including the pending thematic working groups on sport and persons with disabilities, as well as sport and health;

13. *Encourages* Member States to join and participate in the Group of Friends of Sport for Development and Peace, an informal group of permanent missions to the United Nations in New York serving as a platform to promote dialogue and facilitate and encourage the integration of sport to support the achievement of the United Nations goals and objectives;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including on specific initiatives aimed at ensuring more effective implementation of the Olympic Truce and progress made by Member States and the United Nations system, including activities and the functioning of the United Nations Office on Sport for

Development and Peace and the Trust Fund for Sport for Development and Peace, as well as other relevant stakeholders, towards the implementation of the United Nations Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace and the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group policy recommendations, provide a review of the contribution of sport to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in the lead-up to 2015, and present an updated action plan on sport for development and peace;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-ninth session the item entitled “Sport for peace and development”.

*42nd plenary meeting
28 November 2012*