

Delegation from The Russian Federation

Position Paper for the Security Council

The topics for the United Nations (UN) Security Council (SC) are: Strengthening Peacebuilding to Mitigate Conflict; and The Impact of Climate-Related Disasters on International Peace and Security. Emphasizing the importance of the SC, especially for maintaining international peace and security, the Russian Federation is deeply conscious to collaborate on these goals of the UN. The Russian Federation therefore is calling upon all Member States to work together on these issues with a view to find common solutions, and thereby guarantee a peaceful coexistence among States, as well as political and social stability.

I. Strengthening Peacebuilding to Mitigate Conflict

All over the world wars are taking place. These claim approximately 100.000 victims every year and displace over one million people. With that in mind, peacekeeping and peacebuilding are important tasks relating to all Member States of the UN. Deeply disturbed by recent events in the Syrian Arab Republic and the Republic of Yemen, peacebuilding is a necessary means to rebuild security and stability. According to the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the UN, Vitaly I. Churkin, the elimination of the root causes of conflicts is a major task of peacebuilding. With respect to territorial integrity, peacebuilding is essential for preventing the extension of wars.

Recognizing that peacebuilding is a complex procedure, the Russian Federation recalls SC resolution 1645 (2005) and emphasizes the need for improving the interaction of the SC and other UN bodies. The Russian Federation stresses the importance of nation-building in countries with post-conflict status. Therefore, Russia is supporting the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) and an active participant of the PBC. For this purpose, the PBC plays an important role as a platform where its members can exchange experiences and find solutions together. The Russian Federation supports peacebuilding and Peacekeeping Operations (PKO) all over the world and will provide assistance further on. At this time, 80 military observers and policemen from the Russian Federation are participating in 8 of the UN PKOs. Moreover, also civil experts in peacebuilding are employed. Since 2008 the Russian Federation has been financing peacebuilding due to an annual contribution of \$2 mln and welcomes joint financing of the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF). Being aware of the importance of strengthening the rule of law, the Russian Federation also supports SC resolution 2447 (2018). Additionally, the Russian Federation supports the SC resolution 2282 (2016) which underlines a connection between development, peace and security and human rights. In that regard, the Russian Federation appreciates the collaboration between Member States, UN missions, national authorities, non-governmental organizations, financial facilitators and the civil society in affected countries.

The Russian Federation is willing to increase the participation in peacebuilding and peacekeeping activities. Therefore, it is necessary to increase the financing of the PBF and also the PKOs budget. Furthermore, the Russian Federation welcomes a rational UN reform to eliminate existing differences between Member States. Therefore, it is also important to continue searching for and establishing a compromise model of the SC to guarantee support of all UN Member States. Moreover, the Russian Federation sees a need in strengthening the interaction between the UN and regional organizations, in particular regarding to Chapter VIII of the UN Charter. For this purpose, it is necessary to develop a cooperation between the UN, the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). The Russian Federation is looking forward to exchanging expert

knowledge on this issue with a view to find common solutions and strengthen peacebuilding, and appreciates a joint work of all Member States.

II. The Impact of Climate-Related Disasters on International Peace and Security

The Russian Federation considers this issue as extremely important. The Russian Federation is fully aware of its leading role in the international climate process and notices with concern the negative impact of natural disasters such as hurricanes, floods and storms on Central America, Asia and other regions all over the world. Due to temperature rise during the summer season, the number of forest fires in the Siberian, Trans-Baikal and Far Eastern regions increases. Observing recent events, climate-related disasters are a threat to humanity. More than 60,000 people die every year by natural disasters.

Being aware of the negative impact of climate-related disasters, the Russian Federation founded a national platform called “Emergencies and Elimination of Consequences of Natural Disasters” (EMERCOM) in 1994. Thereby, a quick reaction to climate-related disasters can be guaranteed. On this foundation the government has enacted two federal laws “On Protection of Population and Territories from Natural and Man-Made Emergencies” and “On Emergency and Rescue Services and Status of Rescuers”. These actions caused the creation of the “National Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction of the Russian Federation”, where governmental agencies and NGOs work close together. Additionally, the Russian Federation is still working on developing an “International Strategy for Disaster Risk Reduction”. The Russian Federation highly encourages joint actions of governmental and non-governmental as well as local organizations. Therefore, the Russian Federation also supports the UN General Assembly (GA) Resolution 63/281 (2009) on “Climate Change and its possible security implications”.

Being aware of the connection of climate-change and climate-related disasters, the Russian Federation also supports the establishment of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) as an universal mechanism to handle global climate change. As one of the leaders in the international climate process, the Russian Federation supports the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Along with many other Member States of the UN, Russia is supporting and implementing the Paris Climate Agreement and plans to establish it as a legal framework for long-term climate action. In this light, Russia wants to refer to the country’s success on reducing the greenhouse-gas emissions and underlines the reduction of emission in the Russian energy sector during the last 20 years. Besides, the Russian Federation is still endorsing small island States in the Pacific Ocean, regarding to an effective prevention of natural disasters. The Russian Federation also wants to stress its voluntary participation in international arrangements on raising support for developing countries referring to the containment of climate change and its consequences, and will continue this.

With respect to the mandate and the resources of the SC, the Russian Federation recommends to assign the responsibility for this topic to specialized UN bodies, which are better equipped to deal with this issue. By this, higher efficiency can be guaranteed. The Russian Federation sees the need for an extensive approach to climate change, but is questioning the SC’s involvement in this issues. However, the Russian Federation is willing to collaborate on increasing collective efforts of specialized entities to solve these problems. Therefore, the Russian Federation calls upon all Member States to bear in mind the need of joint practical action, and is aiming to continue active participation in negotiations on these issues.