Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[without reference to a Main Committee (A/65/L.4 and Add.1)]

65/4. Sport as a means to promote education, health, development and peace

The General Assembly,


Taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Sport for development and peace: strengthening the partnerships”,¹ which reviews the programmes and initiatives implemented by States Members of the United Nations, United Nations funds, programmes and 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 sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals,³

Recognizing also the need to strengthen and further coordinate efforts, including multi-stakeholder partnerships, at all levels to maximize the potential of

¹ A/65/270.
² See resolution 60/1.
³ See resolution 65/1.
sport for contributing to the achievement of internationally agreed development
goals and national peacebuilding priorities,

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,

Acknowledging the opportunities provided by the XXI Olympic Winter Games
and the X Paralympic Winter Games, held in Vancouver, Canada, for education,
understanding, peace, harmony and tolerance among and between peoples and
civilizations, and the opportunities provided by the inaugural 2010 Youth Olympic
Games, held in Singapore, to inspire the youth of the world to embrace, embody
and express the Olympic values, as reflected in resolution 64/4 of 19 October 2009
relating to the Olympic Truce,

Acknowledging also the opportunities for development and social cohesion
provided by the 2010 International Federation of Association Football World Cup in
South Africa, as reflected in resolution 64/5 of 19 October 2009,

Recalling article 31 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child,4 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”,5 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,6 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 Sport7 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,

Acknowledging the recommendations contained in the final report of the Sport
for Development and Peace International Working Group entitled “Harnessing the
power of sport for development and peace: recommendations to Governments”,8 and
encouraging Member States to implement the recommendations,

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 final report of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working
Group,

Welcoming 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, to be known as UN Women, and the opportunities it provides for the

5 See resolution S-27/2, annex.
6 Resolution 61/106, annex I.
7 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Records of the General Conference,
8 Available from www.un.org/wcm/content/site/sport/sdpiwg_keydocs.
realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women, including in and through sport,

1. *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;

2. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts undertaken by the newly mandated Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group, which gathered for its inaugural plenary session on 5 May 2010 and the commencement of the substantive work of the first thematic working group on sport and child and youth development;

3. *Invites* Member States, the organizations of the United Nations system, including its peacekeeping missions and integrated peacebuilding missions, sport-related organizations, federations and associations, athletes, the media, civil society 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-first session, and reaffirmed in the report of the Secretary-General to the Assembly at its sixty-fifth session:

   (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;

   (c) Resource mobilization: promote innovative funding mechanisms and multi-stakeholder arrangements at all levels, including the engagement of sport organizations, civil society, athletes and the private sector;

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

4. *Encourages* Member States that have not yet done so to designate a focal point for sport for development and peace within their governments;

5. *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;

6. *Emphasizes and encourages* the use of sport as a vehicle to foster development and strengthen education for children and young persons; prevent disease and promote health, including the prevention of drug abuse; empower girls

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9 See A/61/373.
and women; foster the inclusion and well-being of persons with disabilities; and facilitate social inclusion, conflict prevention and peacebuilding;

7. Encourages the stakeholders referred to in paragraph 3 above, 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;

8. Invites Member States and international sport organizations 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;

9. Urges Member States that have not yet done so to consider signing, ratifying and accessing to the Convention on the Rights of the Child,⁴ the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities⁵ and the International Convention against Doping in Sport;⁷

10. Invites the international community to provide voluntary contributions to and to enter into innovative partnerships with the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace and the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group;

11. Invites Member States to join and support the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group, so as to enable it to continue its work on all envisaged themes, including sport and gender, sport and persons with disabilities, sport and health, and sport and peace;

12. Requests the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its sixty-seventh session on the implementation of the present resolution, including progress made by Member States towards implementation of the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group policy recommendations and on the functioning of the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace and the Trust Fund for Sport for Development and Peace, and to present an updated action plan on sport for development and peace.

32nd plenary meeting
18 October 2010