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### Sport for development and peace

## **Sport for development and peace: towards sport's enabling of sustainable development and peace**

### **Report of the Secretary-General**

#### *Summary*

The present report is submitted to the General Assembly pursuant to its resolution 69/6. As requested in that resolution, the report contains a discussion of specific initiatives undertaken by Member States and entities of the United Nations system to promote sport for development and peace since the issuance of the previous report on the subject in 2014, and contains an updated action plan on sport for development and peace.

Pursuant to resolution 67/296, the present report also includes a summary of the implementation of that resolution, elaborating, inter alia, on the evaluation of the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace.

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\* A/71/150.



## I. Introduction

1. The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/6, in which the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to: (a) report to the Assembly at its seventy-first session on the implementation of the 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; (b) provide a review of the contribution of sport to the promotion of the post-2015 development agenda; and (c) present an updated action plan on sport for development and peace.
2. Furthermore, the General Assembly, in its resolution 67/296, requested the Secretary-General to include in the present report a summary of the implementation of that resolution, elaborating, *inter alia*, on the evaluation of the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace.
3. Pursuant to those requests, the present report presents activities undertaken by States, the United Nations system and stakeholders since the issuance of the previous report of the Secretary-General on sport for development and peace ([A/69/330](#)) in 2014.

## II. Olympic Truce

4. The General Assembly, in its resolution 70/4 on building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal, urged Member States to observe the Olympic Truce individually and collectively, within the framework of the Charter of the United Nations, throughout the period from the seventh day before the start of the XXXI Olympic Summer Games until the seventh day following the end of the XV Paralympic Summer Games, to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
5. Despite the fact that the period covered in the present report does not include the period of the Olympic Truce, related activities regarding the 2016 Rio Olympic and Paralympic Games were initiated. Preparation of traditional United Nations initiatives for promoting the Olympic Truce included the Secretary-General's video and written messages, as well as the solemn appeal made by the President of the General Assembly on the subject ([A/70/983](#)). The ceremony on the theme "Celebrating the Olympic spirit" held at the United Nations Office at Geneva in April 2016 was an opportunity for the Secretary-General to personally recall the resolution on the Olympic Truce and to call upon States and other relevant parties to observe and respect the Olympic Truce. On the same occasion, the President of the International Olympic Committee underscored the significance of the Olympic Truce in advancing peace.
6. The United Nations Postal Administration, the International Olympic Committee and the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace collaborated on the issuance of a series of United Nations stamps entitled "Sport for peace", featuring the shared values of the United Nations and the Committee and

promoting the Olympic Truce, which were issued before the start of the 2016 Olympic Truce period.

### **III. Human Rights Council and sport**

7. Pursuant to the request of the Human Rights Council in its resolution 24/1 on promoting human rights through sport and the Olympic ideal, its Advisory Committee prepared a progress report on the study on the possibilities of using sport and the Olympic ideal to promote human rights (A/HRC/27/58), which was presented to the Council at its twenty-seventh session, in September 2014. Pursuant to the request of the Council in its resolution 27/8, the final report (A/HRC/30/50) was presented to the Council at its thirtieth session, in September 2015. The report included thematic areas such as education, discrimination and racism, sport events, partnerships on human rights and sport, and sport and development, including the incorporation of sport as a tool for development and peace in the United Nations, notably through the work of the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace. Best practices and recommendations were also provided with a view to encouraging and facilitating improvements in this context.

8. At its thirty-first session, in March 2016, the Human Rights Council adopted resolution 31/23 on promoting human rights through sport and the Olympic ideal”, based on previous editions of the resolution and with an increased emphasis on persons with disabilities and non-discrimination. The resolution included references to the Sustainable Development Goals and the decision of the Council to convene a panel discussion at its thirty-second session on the possibility of using sport and the Olympic ideal to promote human rights for all, including persons with disabilities. The panel discussion was held on 28 June 2016 with the participation of the President of the Human Rights Council, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and representatives from the Nippon Foundation Paralympic Support Center, the Rio 2016 Organizing Committee, the Russian Paralympic Committee, the International Olympic Committee and the Institute for Human Rights and Business. While acknowledging the role of sport, and sport events in particular, in advancing respect for human rights, the panel also covered challenges and necessary improvements regarding human rights violations in the context of sport events.

9. Pursuant to resolution 26/18, the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health presented his report on sport and healthy lifestyles as contributing factors to the right to health (A/HRC/32/33) in June 2016. The report was drafted in consultation with United Nations entities and sport organizations, such as the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace and the International Olympic Committee, and identified good practice approaches to sport and healthy lifestyles, as well as conclusions and recommendations, including the incorporation of sport and healthy lifestyles into national health programming.

### **IV. International Day of Sport for Development and Peace**

10. On 23 August 2013, the General Assembly, in its resolution 67/296, established 6 April as the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace to increase global awareness of the role of sport in promoting a peaceful society,

highlight the success of sport-based development projects and promote the use of sport and physical activity as a tool for development and peace. All States, the United Nations system and all other relevant stakeholders were invited to cooperate, observe and raise awareness of the International Day.

11. For the inaugural International Day, the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace promoted the power of sport to respect and promote dialogue, enhance life skills of children and youth, include everyone regardless of abilities, advance gender equality and improve physical and mental health. On the second International Day, commemorative events were dedicated to the theme “United action towards sustainable development for all through sport”, which was the focus of the high-level and interactive discussion co-hosted by the Office and the International Olympic Committee at United Nations Headquarters in April 2015. The third International Day was an opportunity to raise awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals, as showcased in the ceremony on the theme “Celebrating the Olympic spirit” on the occasion of the presence of the Olympic flame, the awarding of the Olympic Cup to the United Nations and the commemoration of the International Day in April 2016. All high-level events commemorating the International Day at the United Nations were held with the participation of the Secretary-General, the President of the International Olympic Committee and the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace.

12. The International Day has been promoted each year by the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace through communication campaigns since the Day’s establishment. In 2015, the Office launched a video contest in which it called upon organizations and projects active in the field of sport for development and peace to share videos on how they used sport to have a positive impact on communities. The Office evaluated submissions and selected the 10 best videos to be featured on the Office’s media and selected events. For the 2016 International Day, the Office’s campaign, “Let’s play for the Sustainable Development Goals”, encouraged organizations and individuals to share on social media a picture or a short video of their activity with Sustainable Development Goal icons. The successful campaign contributed to raising awareness of sport’s contribution to the Goals and of the International Day.

13. At the initiative of the Group of Friends of Sport for Development and Peace in New York, through its Co-Chairs Monaco and Tunisia, and in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace, the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat and the International Olympic Committee, a large banner was displayed at the United Nations Headquarters visitors’ entrance in April 2016, which featured the message “Let’s play for the Sustainable Development Goals” and values such as respect and fair play.

14. Other United Nations entities and stakeholders commemorated the International Day. Notably, the Department of Public Information supported initiatives by United Nations information centres, which organized outreach activities in observance of the International Day and to raise awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals, in partnership with Member States, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society. The International Olympic Committee published inspirational stories of athletes on social media platforms with a focus on peace and the Olympic Truce.

15. Initiatives by Member States included the launch by Australia of the Asia Sports Partnership and the Australian Football League programmes, the social media campaign “Why sport matters” and the sharing of infographics on sport for development and peace on social media. Austria encouraged funded sport projects to put sport at the service of development and peace. Azerbaijan organized a youth health festival and a Peace Day tournament. China supported educational campaigns in major media to publicize the unique role of sport in promoting development and peace. Italy mapped the activities commemorating the International Day and supported initiatives by organizations such as the Italian Swimming Federation and the Italian Canoe Kayak Federation. Japan delivered symposiums promoting the value of sport for enhancing peace and development. Monaco organized the Princess Charlène Rally, and the Permanent Mission of Monaco to the United Nations hosted the photography exhibition “Monaco: crossroad for sports” at United Nations Headquarters on the occasion of the 2016 International Day.

16. The review above shows the success and usefulness of the International Day as a remarkable occasion encouraging commemorations of development and peace achievements through sport, as well as further action, which is of utmost importance to maintaining and advancing sport for development and peace contributions.

## **V. Progress on sport for development and peace**

### **A. States members of the United Nations**

17. During the reporting period, pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/6, Member States continued to advance sport for development and peace initiatives, policies and strategies. On 28 April 2016, a note verbale from the Secretary-General was sent to all Member and non-member States requesting information on progress made since the previous reporting period. Information was received from Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, China, Djibouti, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Monaco, Mozambique, Myanmar and Peru. In his report entitled “Sport for development and peace: mainstreaming a versatile instrument” (A/67/282), the Secretary-General presented his two-year Action Plan, including four main lines of action: (a) global framework; (b) policy development; (c) resource mobilization and programming; and (d) evidence of impact. In the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Sport for development and peace: realizing the potential” (A/69/330), the validity of the Action Plan contained in the previous report was extended until the final establishment of the post-2015 development agenda. The present section reports contributions by Member States along the above-mentioned lines of action.

#### **1. Global framework for sport for development and peace**

18. The Group of Friends of Sport for Development and Peace in New York, co-chaired by the Permanent Representatives of Monaco and Tunisia to the United Nations and composed of 48 Member States, continued its activities for promoting sport for development and peace on the international agenda, fostering dialogue, sharing national experiences and proposing initiatives to its members and the United Nations in this context. Notable achievements by the Group, supported by the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace and the International Olympic Committee, included its work through informal consultations in the lead-

up to the adoption of General Assembly resolutions on sport for development and peace and the Olympic Truce and in the post-2015 process preceding the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (resolution 70/1), which was instrumental to the recognition of sport as an “important enabler of sustainable development” in the 2030 Agenda Declaration (*ibid.*, para. 37).

19. The Group of Friends of Sport for Development and Peace in Geneva, co-chaired by the Permanent Representatives of Costa Rica and Qatar to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva and composed of 30 Member States, continued its work on sport for development and peace, observed and supported by the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace, especially in the context of the Human Rights Council. Initiatives included the panel discussion on the possibility of using sport and the Olympic ideal to promote human rights (see sect. III), which the Group supported and in which it participated through a statement to the panel by Qatar on its behalf.

20. In terms of international treaties that contain provisions on sport, the number of States parties to the International Convention against Doping in Sport increased to 183; the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which includes the recommendation of promoting the participation of persons with disabilities in sporting activities (article 30), has 160 signatories; and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, article 31 of which states that States parties recognize the right of children to engage in play and recreational activities, has 196 States parties. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) General Conference adopted the revised International Charter for Physical Education, Physical Activity and Sport at its thirty-eighth session, in November 2015. The revised Charter is based on the original Charter adopted in 1978, which established access to sport and physical education as a fundamental right for all and introduced the concepts of physical activity, sport for development and peace, sustainability and safety. The UNESCO General Conference also supported the development of a common framework for the follow-up to the Charter and the Declaration of Berlin, adopted at the fifth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport.

21. Australia continued its advocacy of sport as an enabling development investment and its support for Asia and the Pacific in that context. Azerbaijan partnered with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the Association of Football Federations of Azerbaijan towards preventing violence in sport through such initiatives as the hosting of the Seventh Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and the 2015 European Games legacy programme “Active family, healthy community”. In Germany, the German Olympic Sports Confederation, the German Football Association, national ministries and local NGOs collaborated in joint sport for development and peace initiatives.

22. The yearly sustainability report of Italy communicates the country’s strategy on development perspectives, including action areas in line with the United Nations Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace. Japan included sport in its Development Cooperation Charter as one of the components supporting human and social development and established a network of sport federations, governmental organizations, NGOs, private companies and academic institutions to facilitate international cooperation through sport. Mozambique collaborated with international organizations such as international sport federations, the International Working Group

on Women and Sport and the Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport with a view to building a common ground in physical education and sport.

## 2. Policy development

23. The Australian Sports Diplomacy Strategy 2015-2018 included the objective of delivering effective sport for development and peace programmes for, inter alia, further integrating sport into development models and aid investment. Such integration was facilitated by the transition of sport for development and peace initiatives by the Government of Australia from the Australian Sports Commission to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in June 2015. Australia supports the work of the Commonwealth secretariat and the Commonwealth Advisory Body on Sport. The Commonwealth published an analysis of the potential contribution of sport to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and a guide on policy options for member Governments in this field.

24. Austria encouraged the implementation of the European Convention on Human Rights in sport and established a working group dedicated to human rights, particularly the right of children to play, involving various NGOs. The National Human Rights Action Plan of China (2012-2015) included required participation in physical activities at school, enhanced protection of children's right to health and supported research and development concerning sport for persons with disabilities.

25. Djibouti continued developing its national policy through the State Secretariat for Youth and Sports with the main objectives of promoting sport development; empowering, integrating and mobilizing youth; encouraging women's participation in sport; and developing a culture of peace. In addition, the country established its priority goals in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the reduction of unemployment, extreme poverty and gender inequalities.

26. Germany continued using sport for development and peace as a cross-cutting tool in its development policy for contributing to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly in the areas of education, health, inclusion, conflict prevention and peacebuilding. The first cross-sectoral, evidence-based National Physical Activity Plan of Ireland was published in January 2016 following the identification by the World Health Organization (WHO) of physical inactivity as a leading risk factor for global mortality, and includes actions on sport, children and youth, education, health and persons with disabilities.

27. Italy, through its National Olympic Committee and national sport federations, included development and peace components in its legal framework, such as principles against violence, discrimination and racism. The Government continues to support the implementation of policies and programmes aimed at developing peace, youth, respect for gender and health through sport. In response to violence at sport competitions, Italy modified its State legislation and approved a new law concerning the admission of foreign children in sport organizations for their better integration. Similarly, Azerbaijan revised its national legislation on violence in sport in 2015.

28. Mozambique developed a code of ethics and conduct in sports (2016), subsystem of education and training in sport (2016), development plan on women and sport (2016), regulation on sport labour (2014) and regulation on anti-doping control in sport (2015). The national sport plan and programmes of Myanmar are aimed at contributing to, inter alia, peace, education, health and economic development.

29. Peru developed its national sport policy with a view to creating a common vision of the country's national sport system. Under that framework, Peru incorporated good-quality physical education in all schools and established a strategy with defined roles for and contributions by all bodies involved. In addition, Peru developed its Law of Sport Promotion and Development and concluded the constitution of its National Paralympic Committee, which was accredited by the Peruvian Institute of Sport before the International Paralympic Committee.

### **3. Resource mobilization and programming**

30. Australia committed financial resources for Asia and the Pacific through its sport for development and peace programmes, including the Pacific Sports Partnerships programme and the Asia Sports Partnership small grants fund. Sport for development and peace programmes are delivered by Australian and Asia-Pacific organizations on thematic areas such as physical activity, inclusion of persons with disabilities in sport, youth engagement and gender equality (e.g. Kau Mai Tonga initiative for reducing non-communicable diseases and empowering women and girls; Smash Down Barriers table tennis programme for persons with disabilities and gender-balanced participation). Australia provided financial support to the Commonwealth Youth Programme fund.

31. Austria provided resources to implement the Olympic project on values education and a daily sport hour at schools (Making Children Move programme), including material and teaching assistance to schools. In 2016, the Ministry of National Defence and Sport of Austria funded projects using sport as a means for development cooperation in relevant fields such as poverty reduction, peace and protection of natural resources.

32. China supported the use of sport to promote education, sanitation and hygiene, gender equality, ethnic equality, protection of the rights of persons with disabilities and environmental protection. For instance, opportunities for participation in sport for ethnic minorities and in rural areas were enhanced through the National Traditional Games of Ethnic Minorities, the Sport in the Rural Area programme and the National Farmers' Games.

33. Djibouti implemented a national fund for youth and sport to enforce its National Policy on Youth and Sport, including sport infrastructure and awareness-raising activities involving young people. In addition, Djibouti supported the annual Africa Peace Walk, the creation of the National Youth Games, the Abaa Walk commemorating the peace treaty of Abaa, and the interregional sport programme of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development for promoting friendship among young people.

34. The programme of Germany on sport for development and peace included the facilitation of multi-stakeholder processes, project measures and support to policy developments in partner countries in South America, Africa, the Middle East and Asia. Ireland provided a project grant to the Special Olympics Europe Eurasia Foundation in 2015 aimed at strengthening the capacity of Special Olympics Malawi to support the development of persons with intellectual disabilities through sport.

35. The Italian National Olympic Committee supported sport for development and peace projects on migrant integration, the fight against racism, gender equality, child development, sport and health, and equal opportunities for sport practice.

In 2014, Japan launched the Sport for Tomorrow programme for international cooperation through sport, the creation of an international sport academy and support for anti-doping; activities under the programme include the provision of sport facilities and equipment through official development assistance from Japan and initiatives for mainstreaming para-sport. In addition, Japan hosted a youth leadership camp in March 2016 and rehabilitated a sport centre in Bosnia and Herzegovina under the Grant Assistance for Cultural Grass-roots Projects scheme supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Monaco supported sport-based initiatives such as programmes for promoting interaction with young people living with disabilities, training on anti-doping for school students, and fundraising runs on the occasion of Universal Children's Day.

36. Through its general regulation that establishes criteria for funding sport organizations, Mozambique established a platform providing funding to national and international partners such as national sport federations. In addition, the country continued to implement its national plan for the management of national sport infrastructure and established numerous agreements with countries and companies. Other initiatives in Mozambique included national sport festivals, national traditional games festivals, National Walking Solidarity Day and national programmes such as the national sport programme for persons with disabilities.

37. In collaboration with the National Olympic Committee, the Government of Myanmar organized multi-sport competitions at schools for the achievement of development, peace, education and health goals through sport and physical activity. The Peruvian Institute of Sport supports relevant stakeholders such as national sport federations, the Peruvian Olympic Committee and the Peruvian Paralympic Committee with a grants programme and partnerships; for instance, resources are allocated to training programmes for youth leaders with the potential to generate positive change in their communities ("Líderes impulsando el deporte" programme).

#### **4. Evidence of impact**

38. Australia reported evidence of improved confidence and social connectivity of participants in sport for development and peace programmes and initiated funding of research for evaluating those outcomes in persons with disabilities. Evidence also showed that building staff and volunteers' capacity improved economic opportunities for them and their families. Significant evidence was also collected on the thematic areas of youth, where physical activity among young people enhanced healthy behaviours and academic performance (e.g. Just Play programme, 2014 Beyond Sport Award, 2016 UEFA Foundation for Children Award); gender, with 49 per cent female participation (e.g. 2015 Beyond Sport Award and 2015 Peace and Sport Award for the Australia-supported Fiji Volleyball Federation); disability, with the contribution of sport to attitudinal change towards persons with disabilities (e.g. Smash Down Barriers table tennis programme); and health.

39. In Germany, the success of sport for development and peace projects is monitored and evaluated by the German Sport University and the International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education with a view to transferring knowledge between policy and practice.

40. Mozambique, through the National Directorate of Sports and the National Institute of Sports, initiated the design of monitoring and evaluation tools to collect

and analyse data regarding national federations, athletes' achievements and sport infrastructure.

## **B. United Nations system**

### **1. United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace**

41. During the reporting period, the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Sport for Development and Peace and the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace continued to act as the gateway to the United Nations system with regard to sport as a tool for achieving the goals of the Organization.<sup>1</sup>

42. The activities and operations of the Office are funded through voluntary financial contributions to the Trust Fund for Sport for Development and Peace from both Governments and private institutions. During the reporting period, financial contributions were received annually from Germany, as the main donor through its Federal Foreign Office and the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ), the Republic of Korea and the Russian Federation, as well as from the International Olympic Committee, Korean Air, Gwangju Universiade and 361 Degrees.

43. To further support and deliver its activities, the Office works in partnership with key sport for development and peace players such as the International Paralympic Committee, the Badminton World Federation, the International Table Tennis Federation and the World Taekwondo Federation.

44. At United Nations Headquarters, the Office's role as the reference entity for sport-related activity was marked by preparations for the Secretary-General's visit to the official opening of the International Olympic Committee Sport for Hope Centre in Port-au-Prince in 2014 and his intervention in high-level events in commemoration of the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace in 2015 and 2016.

45. In its support to Member States, the Office provided technical support to the Group of Friends of Sport for Development and Peace, as well as secretariat services to the Sport for Development and Peace International Working Group. The Office continued the collaboration as host of the Working Group secretariat until December 2015.

46. The Office continued to manage its website ([www.un.org/sport](http://www.un.org/sport)), which transitioned to a new platform. The new site serves as the online hub presenting the involvement of the United Nations in sport for development and peace and is complemented by social media platforms, including Facebook, Twitter, Flickr, Instagram and YouTube.

47. Funds raised during the 2008 Sport for a Better World charity dinner continued to support sport for development and peace projects addressing the five priority areas of development of Africa, peace, gender equality, persons with disabilities and youth; notably, implementing organizations included the Agitos Foundation of the International Paralympic Committee, the Dar al-Kalima University College for the Diyar Consortium, Jambo Bukoba, Project Air International and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East. The Republic of

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<sup>1</sup> The annual reports of the Office for 2014 and 2015, which provide more details on each activity outlined in the present section, are available from [www.un.org/sport/content/resources/publications](http://www.un.org/sport/content/resources/publications).

Korea allocated funds for programme activities on sport and persons with disabilities, supported by the Office and implemented by the International Table Tennis Federation in Nepal through the Table Tennis for NepALL project, which delivered opportunities for persons with disabilities to participate in sport and rehabilitated sport facilities affected by the 2015 earthquake.

48. The Special Adviser continued to provide messages of support to organizations and projects in the field of sport for development and peace. Monitoring of recipient organizations and initiatives proved the contribution of that form of endorsement to enhancing their impact and visibility.

49. The Office's Youth Leadership Programme continued to support young leaders by providing them with training on how sport could be used to positively effect change in their communities. The Special Adviser promoted the Programme as an example of best practice for developing young people and role models. During the reporting period, 12 camps were held in different cities, reaching a total of 644 youth leaders from over 100 participating countries who were educated through the Programme since its inception. Hosts and facilitators, including sport organizations, development agencies, NGOs, universities and corporations, was essential to the successful delivery of the youth leadership camps.

## **2. United Nations and related entities**

50. The Department of Economic and Social Affairs issued the 2015 World Youth Report, on youth civic engagement, which included a section on youth participation in sport for development and peace, with a focus on young people with disabilities and young women. The report found that participation in sport contributed to youth development, and noted the contribution of sport events to the rights of persons with disabilities. The Department supported the first World Indigenous Games, held in Palmas, Brazil, in 2015, which was supported by a message from the Secretary-General and served as an example of how sport can unite people and promote cultures, peace and respect for human rights.

51. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) used sport for raising awareness towards the fight against hunger with an annual run in commemoration of World Food Day (16 October). FAO initiated preparations for the next Zero Hunger Run on World Food Day in 2016, which will recall Member States' commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals and their pledge to end hunger by 2030.

52. The Department of Public Information of the Secretariat coordinated with the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace to strengthen inter-agency exchange on sport-related activities and disseminated multilingual content on sport for development and peace. The Department supported a run in New York City to promote sport and the seventieth anniversary of the United Nations, as well as activities of United Nations information centres, such as translations (e.g. of the Secretary-General's message to the first World Indigenous Games into Portuguese by the centre in Rio de Janeiro) or subtitling (e.g. in Japanese for the video on Acakoro Football by the centre in Tokyo). In addition, the Department supported the United Nations Academic Impact initiative in its promotion of physical well-being, team spirit and the values of the United Nations, and the mandate of the Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth, including his participation in sport events (e.g. Palestine, 2015) and social media content on the

World Programme of Action for Youth. In December 2015, the United Nations Information Service in Geneva dedicated its annual seminar series to the theme of sport and the Sustainable Development Goals, supported by the Office.

53. The International Labour Organization (ILO) participated in a multi-stakeholder initiative on “mega-sporting events” and human rights in Montreux, Switzerland, in November 2015 and the subsequently established steering committee; provided technical assistance for developing increased cooperation between United Nations entities and international sport federations, in preparation for a forum on the topic held in Geneva in January 2016; participated in consultations with universities regarding policy and training programmes using skills acquired in sport events to enhance youth leadership, involving the International Research Network in Sport Tourism; and undertook discussions with the World Players’ Union (FiFPro) on challenges concerning footballers’ contracts and the possibility of setting standards on decent work in sport. ILO signed a memorandum of understanding with the Rio 2016 Organizing Committee covering relevant areas such as occupational safety and health, non-discrimination and child labour.

54. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) supported sport-related programmes and initiatives in Egypt, Georgia, Kyrgyzstan, Senegal, Tajikistan and Ukraine. Unethical recruitment of footballers, lack of activities and employment opportunities for young people, and human trafficking were the main challenges that IOM tackled through sport. For instance, the provision of volleyball courts and the organization of volleyball matches in the Tajik-Afghan border was an instrumental platform for dialogue and trust building between Afghan and Tajik communities. The project “Prevention of human trafficking through social work and community mobilization” was another exemplary initiative that enabled the foundation of a football stadium in Ukraine and subsequently increased youth engagement in sport.

55. In addition to activities of the Human Rights Council reported in section III, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) joined a multi-stakeholder process to develop more effective strategies to prevent, mitigate and remedy abuses of human rights and labour standards throughout mega-sporting events; initiated collaboration with actors involved in the 2018 International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) World Cup to ensure non-discrimination policies; and submitted a report to the General Assembly on the phenomenon of racism, discrimination and other related intolerance in sport ([A/69/340](#)). On the theme of sport events and human rights, OHCHR identified limited coordination and continuity between events to share good practice and lessons learned.

56. The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa supported the use of sport as a vehicle to influence social policy, integration and the achievement of sustainable development objectives in Africa, an approach included in the African Sport Architecture of the African Union.

57. The Stop Tuberculosis initiative established a partnership with FIFA to address tuberculosis through awareness campaigns and high-level advocacy in the 2016 FIFA Women’s Under-20 World Cup in Papua New Guinea. On World Tuberculosis Day, on 24 March, the Stop Tuberculosis initiative supported sport-based initiatives such as football matches in Iraq played with footballs displaying information on tuberculosis and a football match in Geneva where messages on tuberculosis were also displayed. In addition, Stop Tuberculosis staff participated in the 2016 Geneva Marathon, where they addressed questions on tuberculosis.

58. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) used sport as a channel to promote environmental awareness and to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. In the lead-up to the 2014 FIFA World Cup in Brazil, UNEP provided sustainable production and consumption workshops to engage visitors and services in eco-efficiency practices; the Green Passport initiative was launched in 2014 with an invitation to the tourism sector to commit to more sustainable practices, an initiative also adopted for the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Since 2015, UNEP has been represented in the International Olympic Committee Sustainability and Legacy Commission, to which UNEP provides advice. UNEP also worked with the International Motorcycling Federation on sustainability and environmental measures (e.g. Ride Green programme).

59. In addition to its contributions reported in subsection A.1 above, UNESCO supported revisions of national physical education policies in line with its Quality Physical Education Guidelines in Fiji, Mexico, South Africa and Zambia in partnership with the European Commission, the UNESCO International Bureau of Education, the International Council of Sport Science and Physical Education, the International Olympic Committee, Nike, UNDP, UNICEF and WHO; produced the Values Education through Sport Toolkit for teachers with the support of key partners such as the Committee and the World Anti-Doping Agency; supported anti-doping projects in education, capacity-building and policy through grants from the UNESCO Fund for the Elimination of Doping in Sport to States parties to the International Convention against Doping in Sport; provided technical assistance to the Ministry of Sports of Brazil; and cooperated with Juventus Football Club to offer opportunities for former child soldiers in the Central African Republic and Mali. In addition, UNESCO supported regional initiatives in the follow-up to the fifth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport such as the regional observatory of sport policy for the Latin America and the Caribbean region. At the initiative of the International University Sports Federation, the thirty-eighth UNESCO General Conference proclaimed 20 September the International Day of University Sport.

60. The United Nations Federal Credit Union and the newly established UNFCU Foundation implemented the Kilimanjaro Initiative, dedicated to assisting young people in Africa and the United States of America. Through the organization of ascents to Mount Kilimanjaro, including by young people using sport as a tool for development and peace, the financial institution raised awareness of social issues affecting young people and collected funds for community-based projects. On some occasions, the activity was delivered in partnership with United Nations entities such as UNDP and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women).

61. The United Nations Population Fund contributed to improving youth development through young people's participation in decision-making and access to information and services on sexual and reproductive health, with a focus on the development of comprehensive policies, plans and programmes for young people (Mauritania, Mongolia); mass sensitization on sexual and reproductive health (Georgia, Senegal); young people with disabilities (Ghana); young people in conflict and post-conflict areas (Burundi, Iraq); and prevention of teenage pregnancy through young sport leaders (Dominican Republic).

62. The United Nations Global Compact's Business for Peace programme supported companies in implementing responsible practices aligned with the Global Compact's 10 principles in conflict-affected areas. Regarding principle 10, against corruption, the Global Compact collaborated with a dedicated working group, contributed to anti-corruption resources, such as the guide *Fighting Corruption in Sport Sponsorship and Hospitality*, and initiated discussions with the International Olympic Committee and Transparency International on corruption, human rights and possibilities to update the guide.

63. UNICEF continued using sport in its advocacy, programmatic and policy areas. Health, nutrition, education, gender equality, protection, inclusion of children with disabilities and water sanitation and hygiene were the main development outcomes sought by UNICEF country offices through sport. The global initiative Team UNICEF gathered key stakeholders to leverage the benefit of UNICEF work on sport, including UNICEF Ambassadors, athletes, sport organizations, civil society and the media. UNICEF established partnerships with Special Olympics, the International Cricket Council, Futbol Club Barcelona, Manchester United, Olympiacos Football Club and the Oceania Football Confederation. In the context of the 2016 Rio Olympic and Paralympic Games, UNICEF partnered with the International Olympic Committee to promote the mobile phone application Proteja Brasil (Protect Brazil) for reporting violence against children and adolescents, which was originally developed for the 2014 FIFA World Cup.

64. The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Hiroshima office delivered its leadership and communication training programme for the Afghanistan women's football team in Japan in 2015, with the collaboration of the women's development project of the United States Agency for International Development. The programme provided participants with leadership skills and best practice and enabled them to outline the role of sport in post-conflict recovery.

65. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) conducted a study on the manipulation of sport competitions in partnership with the International Olympic Committee, produced a resource guide of good practices in the investigation of match fixing with support from the International Centre for Sport Security and transformed the handbook "A strategy for safeguarding against corruption in major public events" into a training course for stakeholders. UNODC also delivered training on combating crimes in sport at workshops organized by the International Olympic Committee and the International Criminal Police Organization in Brazil in May 2016, and participated in activities of the Sport Integrity Global Alliance initiative of the International Centre for Sport Security, such as the Anti-Corruption Summit held in London in May 2016. Youth centres and community-based organizations received UNODC support for building resilience towards crime and to promote healthy behaviour through sport and life skills under the framework of the Doha Declaration and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

66. UN-Women supported the incorporation of sport into existing activities and campaigns, especially during the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (25 November-10 December 2015). Initiatives included the promotion of the HeForShe campaign in the 2016 Copa America; the UN-Women Football Cup in Uruguay, complemented by workshops on leadership, health and violence; Goodwill Ambassadors in Asia; sport materials distributed to young people in South Sudan; and sport days in Egypt under the Safe Cities project. UN-Women partnered with

the Georgian Rugby Union in the lead-up to the 2015 Rugby World Cup, the World Muaythai Council and the International Federation of Muaythai Amateur, the Tonga Rugby Union, the Asian Football Development Project and the Jordan Football Association, Valencia Club de Fútbol and the International Olympic Committee, which supported a joint programme to empower young women and girls in Rio de Janeiro and the Commission on the Status of Women in the organization of side events. The UN-Women Executive Director became a member of the Women in Sport Commission of the International Olympic Committee and was invited to participate in the Olympic Torch Relay Rio 2016.

67. Publications by the World Tourism Organization on the contribution of sport and tourism to humanitarian, development and peacebuilding work served as relevant resources in this context. Beyond those provisions, it planned to hold the International Conference on Tourism and Sports in Viet Nam in September 2016.

68. The World Food Programme (WFP) promoted the message that food security, as well as access to physical activity and sport, is a vehicle for education, health, development and peace. WFP Global Ambassadors against Hunger included sport personalities such as José Mourinho, Paul Tergat and Kaká, and the WFP 805 Million Names campaign featured footballer Zlatan Ibrahimović tattooed with the names of people suffering from hunger. In addition, awareness-raising activities on global food insecurity were held at the 2015 Rugby World Cup in partnership with World Rugby, and a fundraising campaign was launched in support of school feeding and emergency response. WFP staff participated as Olympic Torch bearers at successive Olympic Games and will do so in the Olympic Torch Relay Rio 2016.

69. WHO initiated the development of a technical package and toolkit for sport and physical activity. It provided country support to increase physical activity levels, including in Turkey, where WHO contributed to the review of the Healthy Nutrition and Active Life Programme, and Kenya, with a consultation on the use of the physical activity toolkit for drafting the national physical activity plan. Host countries of sport events received support from the WHO mass gatherings team regarding preparedness, operations and transfer of legacy in this context. At the inter-agency level, WHO contributed to the revision of the UNESCO Charter and to preparations for the sixth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials Responsible for Physical Education and Sport. The WHO Commission on Ending Childhood Obesity, supported by the International Olympic Committee, presented its report to the World Health Assembly in 2016.

70. The World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) continued to promote intellectual property in sport as a tool for economic, social and cultural development with a seminar on the strategic use of intellectual property with the sport industry in Singapore in 2015, the Regional Conference on Intellectual Property and Sports in Lithuania in 2016, a session on intellectual property and sport at the high-level ministerial meeting on intellectual property for an emerging Africa in Senegal in 2015, its participation in the Working Group on Synergies between International Sports Federations and International Organizations, and the development of information tools on sport, such as a toolkit for guiding national strategies to support the sport industry. WIPO partners in that regard included FIFA, the International Centre for Sport Security, the International Olympic Committee, the

Sports Rights Owners Coalition and the World Federation of the Sporting Goods Industry.

71. For progress achieved by the United Nations system in advancing development and peace through sport, the International Olympic Committee awarded the Olympic Cup to the United Nations in 2015; the award was officially accepted by the Secretary-General on behalf of the United Nations in April 2016. The Committee's significant contributions in this context included its support to the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Youth Refugees and Sport, an emergency fund in response to the 2015 refugee crisis and the inclusion of a Refugee Olympic Team in the 2016 Olympic Games.

## **VI. Review of sport's contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals**

72. During the reporting period coinciding with the era of the Millennium Development Goals, Member States and the United Nations system continued their efforts in contributing to the achievement of those Goals through sport. Reported progress in this context, as presented in the sections above, proved sport to be a successful tool in contributing to those Goals. The increasing attention to and use of sport for development and peace by Governments, civil society and other relevant stakeholders led to a growing contribution from sport to development and peace objectives at the international, national and subnational levels. Policies and programmes related to sport for development and peace around the world, driven by the outstanding efforts and commitment of key players in this field, consolidated the role of sport as a highly significant contributor to the Millennium Development Goals. Indeed, a varied and wide range of initiatives successfully addressing one or several of those Goals through well-designed, executed and evaluated programming could be observed.

73. The 2015 horizon for the Millennium Development Goals gave way to the post-2015 development agenda process leading to the adoption in September 2015 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in which Heads of State and Government and High Representatives declared sport to be an important enabler of sustainable development. They also recognized "the growing contribution of sport to the realization of development and peace in its promotion of tolerance and respect and the contributions it makes to the empowerment of women and of young people, individuals and communities as well as to health, education and social inclusion objectives" (resolution 70/1, para. 37). That recognition in the universal 2030 Agenda, which will drive global action over the next 15 years, reaffirmed the transversal character of sport for advancing the social, economic and environmental dimensions of development and its power to contribute significantly to all Sustainable Development Goals. In the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the Sustainable Development Goals, States and United Nations entities revised their approaches to sport for development and peace with a view to aligning them with the 2030 Agenda and initiating action towards its implementation. Member State efforts and support to mainstreaming sport for development and peace, with the Sustainable Development Goals at the core of their missions, sport for development and peace projects, reaching the communities most in need and vulnerable groups, sport events showcasing the power of sport to unite

and inspire people, and sport for development and peace advocacy by renowned global leaders are only some of the countless successful initiatives that represent invaluable steps towards the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals. Notwithstanding the fact that a more systematic evaluation of sport for development and peace activities would allow for stronger evidence of sport's contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals, reported progress on the global framework, policy development, resource mobilization and evidence of impact lent support to the promotion of the 2030 Agenda in the first months of the Sustainable Development Goals era. Beyond those initial steps, policies and programmes across States and United Nations entities reviewed in the present report showed the potential of sport for development and peace to further enable sustainable development and peace by addressing all Sustainable Development Goals.

74. From that multidimensional perspective and with a view to outlining the role of sport in the 2030 Agenda, the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace produced information on the contribution of sport to each of the Sustainable Development Goals based on past achievements, lessons learned and best practices in the sport for development and peace field. Successful initiatives and achieved outcomes in this context served as the basis for formulating and publishing a first overview of sport's contribution and support to the achievement of each of the 17 Goals in the section entitled "Sport and the Sustainable Development Goals" on the Office's website.<sup>2</sup> The Office is currently developing a more detailed outline of sport's potential in relation to the Goals, based on consultations with a wide-ranging group of relevant stakeholders in sport for development and peace.

## VII. United Nations Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace

75. The first United Nations Action Plan on Sport for Development and Peace was submitted in the report of the Secretary-General on sport for development and peace issued in 2006 (A/61/373), with a validity of three years. The General Assembly, in its resolution 63/135, requested the Secretary-General to present a new action plan, which was included in his report issued in 2010 (A/65/270). Pursuant to the request of the Assembly in resolution 65/4, the updated Action Plan was presented in the report of the Secretary-General issued in 2012 (A/67/282), and its validity was extended in his report issued in 2014 (A/69/330). That last report stated that the Action Plan should be reviewed at the final establishment of the post-2015 development agenda. Further to that and pursuant to the request of the Assembly in resolution 69/6, the updated Action Plan is presented below.

76. Following the conclusion of the post-2015 development agenda process and the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, this Action Plan intends to serve the sport for development and peace community in its contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals, placing sport in its role as an important enabler of sustainable development. It combines principles from previous editions of the Action Plan with new elements reflecting key developments in sport and related fields. In line with the reporting cycle on sport for development and peace, the Action Plan is intended to cover two years but to be applicable in the longer term. With a view to providing

<sup>2</sup> [www.un.org/sport/content/why-sport/sport-and-sustainable-development-goals](http://www.un.org/sport/content/why-sport/sport-and-sustainable-development-goals).

a global road map relevant to all stakeholders, this updated Action Plan adopts a universal perspective in defining four common lines of action for further joint efforts towards maximizing the contribution of sport to sustainable development and peace. The main purpose is to encourage all parties, including States, the United Nations system, civil society and businesses, to achieve greater implementation using sport as a tool for sustainable development and peace.

### **1. Global framework for sport for development and peace**

*Challenge/need:* (a) need for comprehensive stakeholder coordination and contribution towards the global framework for sport for development and peace, as well as towards the achievement of universally agreed development goals through sport, in particular the Sustainable Development Goals; (b) need for consistent information and best practice sharing in the field of sport for development and peace; (c) need for coherent sport for development and peace practice in connection with relevant global frameworks, in particular the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and a global partnership for the Sustainable Development Goals; (d) need for leaders and role models to encourage, facilitate and advocate joint efforts and action in sport for development and peace.

*Objective:* (a) improve cooperation and coordination to create a common vision of the role of sport for development and peace, particularly relating to the 2030 Agenda, and to contribute to the achievement of universally agreed development goals through sport, in particular the Sustainable Development Goals; (b) encourage and support communication and information sharing among sport for development and peace stakeholders; (c) support the alignment of sport for development and peace practice with global frameworks, in particular the 2030 Agenda, identifying and applying mechanisms for alignment and consistency between stakeholders' activities; (d) support and develop leaders and role models who encourage and facilitate action in sport for development and peace.

### **2. Policy development**

*Challenge/need:* (a) need for sport for development and peace strategies to be incorporated into international, national and subnational development plans and policies with enhanced cooperation and coordination among stakeholders; (b) need for aligning international, national and subnational policy frameworks concerning sport for development and peace, as well as translating them into action, taking into consideration principles and guidelines of good governance.

*Objective:* (a) support the systematic integration and mainstreaming of sport for development and peace into the development sector and into international, national and subnational development plans and policies; (b) facilitate alignment between relevant policy frameworks as well as coherence between frameworks and implementation.

### **3. Resource mobilization, programming and implementation**

*Challenge/need:* (a) need for sustainable investment, resource mobilization and funding streams, alongside creative partnerships, for achieving development and peace objectives through sport; (b) negative effects associated with sport contexts, particularly sport events, present challenges to be addressed; (c) need to identify and address key thematic areas in sport for development and peace, as well as

cross-cutting issues such as human rights, gender, disability, integrity, transparency and health.

*Objective:* (a) enhance and secure sustainable funding mechanisms and investment and resource allocation to sport for development and peace, including multi-stakeholder arrangements and different sectors at all levels; (b) identify and tackle negative effects associated with sport contexts from a collaborative approach among parties involved; (c) integrate relevant thematic areas and cross-cutting issues in sport for development and peace programmes, including the allocation of dedicated resources.

#### **4. Evidence of impact and follow-up**

*Challenge/need:* (a) need for systematic monitoring, evaluation and comprehensive measurement of progress and impact with regard to sport as a tool for sustainable development and peace; (b) need for consolidation of the evidence base on the efficacy and impact of sport for development and peace policies and programmes; (c) need for common standards and methods for the evidence base concerning sport for development and peace.

*Objective:* (a) support the provision and dissemination of research, monitoring and evaluation, and measurement tools with regard to sport as a tool for development and peace; (b) encourage platforms and networks for the delivery and sharing of evidence on sport for development and peace policies and programmes that encourage academic, empirical and practical research leading to enhanced action and sport's contribution to development and peace; (c) support consensus among relevant stakeholders on common standards and methods for the evidence base concerning sport for development and peace.

77. As the recommended lines of action above are intended to align with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, progress towards them should be reviewed from an integrated approach that is also in line with the follow-up and review processes of the 2030 Agenda. Further and more specific action by all actors involved in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and this Action Plan in particular may be advisable in order to further facilitate and ensure the desired outcomes.