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Question of: Tackling the Issue of Corruption in Aid

Main Submitted by: DR Congo

Co-Submitted by: Japan

The General Assembly,

Emphasizing that 140 countries signed the United Nations Convention Against Corruption,

Fully aware that USD 132 billion were contributed as foreign aid in 2015,

Emphasizing that corruption undermines economic growth and poverty reduction,

Noting with regret the lack of transparency in both donor and recipient countries,

Calls for the establishment of the UN Office for Coordination of Transactions in Aid (UNOCTA) which will be tasked with:

- a. Coordinating and overseeing best practice in financial and physical transactions undertaken by UN bodies conducting both humanitarian and developmental aid,
 - b. Investigating corruption and embezzlement of UN funds and resources going towards aid programs,
 - c. Offering amnesty and monetary incentives to whistleblowers of any such corruption, misplacement, or embezzlement if it sees fit, requesting full cooperation of member states through the existence and enforcement of legislation,
 - d. Publishing an annual report on the problem of corruption in aid, the efforts being made to reduce its impact and the effectiveness of such efforts, and specific ways to abolish corruption in countries suffering from corruption;
2. Encourages UNOCTA to establish field offices in member states receiving large amounts of UN aid and, for officers from these offices to be granted every courtesy and assistance by member states and organizations;
3. Suggests that UNOCTA have the powers of:
- a. Requesting proof of aid fund or resource transactions if deemed necessary, from member states, organizations, other entities that have been in possession of earmarked UN aid funds or resources,
 - b. Temporarily withholding aid fund transfers and resources from the UN to any entity that refuses to cooperate with this demand and those they deem to be deliberately hindering the work of the aforementioned field officers, with consideration of humanitarian consequences;
4. Advising all member states to administer foreign aid proportional to the extent of necessity determined by the country receiving the aid into each sector and reaffirmed by the World Bank, in order to ensure the

maximum amount of development overall through providing substantial sums of bottom-up foreign aid to local, small-scale projects, in addition to conventional methods of transferring aid;

5. Further calls for all UN bodies and member states conducting aid programs to adhere to guidelines set out by UNOCTA stating:

- a. approved channels of financial transactions, with consideration of limitations in less developed financial systems,
- b. anti-embezzlement and anti-corruption procedures;

6. Suggests that member states establish codes of conduct in government hiring, as part of anti-corruption procedures through the means of but not limited to:

- a. Looking at an individual's history and past records in dealing with aid and other funds,
- b. Biannually reviewing the individual's record with handling aid funds,
- c. If found to be abusing power and accepting bribes, prompting an investigation by relevant authorities;

7. Encourages the UN to fund a joint task force, whose mandate would include:

- a. Developing a database and payments system to facilitate the transfer of aid funds,
- b. Incorporating blockchain and other relevant advances in transfer payment technology in this database and payments system,
- c. Considering and working towards the application of the database and payments system to the transfer of physical aid;

8. Recommends that developmental aid payments by UN bodies to a member state's central bank or treasury are made contingent on the following, to be determined by the IMF and if necessary attained with IMF funds and assistance:

- a. A minimum level of technical sophistication and transparency,
- b. The presence of anti-corruption and anti-embezzlement measures;

9. Further recommends member states, organizations, or entities involved in aid programs to establish dispersal of UN aid funds and resources with contracts, with assistance and consultation available from UNOCTA, which include:

- a. Requirements and guidelines relating to transparency and effectiveness of these aid programs, to be determined by UNOCTA,
- b. Anti-corruption and anti-embezzlement incentives whereby additional funds and resources are to be released if the member state, organization, or entity meets these requirements;

10. Asks UNOCTA and member states to support NGOs that promote integrity and combat corruption by:

- a. Raising awareness of corruption and its costs through educational programs such as leaflets and the use of television,
- b. Mobilizing citizen support for a clean government through the means of but not limited to social media campaigns,
- c. Documenting and reporting cases of corruption;

11. Strongly encourages the Security Council to authorize the use of sanctions on individuals who UNOCTA deems to have deliberately misplaced or embezzled UN aid funds, misappropriated any UN aid, or have been complicit in either, for member states to prosecute said individuals, and for these sanctions to include but not be limited to:

- a. Freezing of assets,
- b. Bans on cash transfers,
- c. Travel restrictions.