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Culture of peace

Bahrain, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of): draft resolution

International Day of Human Fraternity

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,¹ in particular the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion,

Recalling its resolution [36/55](#) of 25 November 1981, by which it proclaimed the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief,

Recalling also that in its resolution [67/104](#) of 17 December 2012 the General Assembly proclaimed the period 2013–2022 as the International Decade for the Rapprochement of Cultures,

Recognizing the importance of the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace,² which serve as the universal mandate for the international community, particularly the United Nations system, for the promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence that benefits humanity, in particular future generations, and recalling in this regard its resolution [72/130](#) of 8 December 2017, by which it declared 16 May the international Day of Living Together in Peace,

Expressing deep concern at those acts that advocate religious hatred and thereby undermine the spirit of tolerance and respect for diversity, especially at a time when the world confronts the unprecedented crisis caused by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, which requires a global response based on unity, solidarity and renewed multilateral cooperation,

Recognizing the valuable contribution of people of all religions or beliefs to humanity and the contribution that dialogue among all religious groups can make towards an improved awareness and understanding of the common values shared by all humankind,

¹ Resolution [217 A \(III\)](#).

² Resolutions [53/243](#) A and B.



Underlining the importance of raising awareness about different cultures and religions or beliefs and of education in the promotion of tolerance, which involves the acceptance by the public of and its respect for religious and cultural diversity, including with regard to religious expression, and underlining further the fact that education, in particular at school, should contribute in a meaningful way to promoting tolerance and the elimination of discrimination based on religion or belief,

Encouraging activities aimed at promoting interreligious and intercultural dialogue in order to enhance peace and social stability, respect for diversity and mutual respect and to create, at the global level, and also at the regional, national and local levels, an environment conducive to peace and mutual understanding,

Acknowledging that tolerance, pluralistic tradition, mutual respect and the diversity of religions and beliefs promote human fraternity,

Taking note of all international, regional, national and local initiatives, as appropriate, as well as efforts by religious leaders, to promote interreligious and intercultural dialogue, and in this regard taking note also of the meeting between Pope Francis and the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar, Ahmad al-Tayyib, on 4 February 2019 in Abu Dhabi, which resulted in the signing of the document entitled “Human fraternity for world peace and living together”,

1. *Decides* to proclaim 4 February as the International Day of Human Fraternity, to be observed each year beginning in 2021;

2. *Invites* all Member States, relevant organizations of the United Nations system, other international organizations and civil society, including non-governmental organizations and the private sector, to observe the International Day of Human Fraternity annually on 4 February in a manner that each considers most appropriate, with the cost covered exclusively by voluntary contributions;

3. *Invites* all Member States to further promote the culture of peace to help to ensure peace and sustainable development, including through the celebration of the international, regional and national days in this regard and by mobilizing the efforts of the international community to promote peace, tolerance, inclusion, understanding and solidarity.
