

Delegation of The United Mexican States Position Paper for the General Assembly

The topics before the United Nations (UN) General Assembly (GA) are: (I) *Nuclear Disarmament and International Security*, (II) *Ensuring Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable, and Modern Energy for All* and (III) *Combating Human Trafficking*. The United Mexican States are deeply committed to the primary goals of the UN Charter, including maintaining international peace, security and sustainable Development as pointed out in the 2030 Agenda. The United Mexican States are dedicated in finding sustainable, long-term solutions to the challenges and difficult changes of all three topics.

I. Nuclear Disarmament and International Security

An investigation by the Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) found radioactive substances in Mexican soils and water. The areas on the US border in the north of the country are particularly affected. The central source of the contamination are atomic bomb tests and nuclear power plants near the Mexican border in New Mexico carried out by the USA. Mexico itself has no nuclear weapons and only two nuclear power plants to generate energy. As serious health consequences are feared, according to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 16 and 17, this situation can not be overlooked. As the USA and the Russian Federation terminated the Intermediate Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF-Treaty) in 2019, the international community faces new emerging threats in building and maintaining peace and security. For this reason the United Mexican States are strongly engaged in the process of establishing a new stronger nuclear weapon disarmament treaty to reach a nuclear weapon free community and to prevent a Third World (Nuclear) War.

In the beginning of 2019, around 13,900 nuclear weapons were available worldwide and spread across nine countries. With the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco 1967), Mexico signed the first treaty of its kind covering a populated area of the world. Based on this role model now around 40% of the world's population live in a Nuclear-weapon-free zone. The United Mexican States draw the attention to the most important UN Resolutions such as UNGA Resolution A/RES/1(I) (1946) „*Establishment of a Commission to Deal with the Problems Raised by the Discovery of Atomic Energy*“ and UNGA Resolution A/RES/1378 (1959) that calls on all states to establish measures to achieve general and complete disarmament. Recently, in 2015, Mexico signed the UNGA Resolution A/RES/70/40 on the total elimination of nuclear weapons. The United Mexican States also highly recognize the UNGA Resolution A/RES/72/70 2017 „*Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty*“ to urge the necessary states parties to ratify Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT 1996). Therefore Mexico was one of the sponsors for the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW 2017) Today, 80 member states signed TPNW which prohibits the development, production, testing, acquisition, storage, transport, deployment and use of nuclear weapons, as well as the threat thereof. Since then, 80 member states signed the treaty and Mexico has already ratified it in 2018.

Russia and the USA have by far the largest nuclear arsenals, each with over 6,000 nuclear warheads. The United Mexican States deeply regret the end of the INF-Treaty but looks forward to bring the nuclear power nations back together to work out a new advanced treaty based on the INF model which also includes China and Iran and to find *fair* solutions in the reduction of nuclear weapons this time.

II. Ensuring Access to Affordable, Reliable, Sustainable, and Modern Energy for All

When it comes to access to electricity, The Energy Progress Report (by UNSD) points out that electrifying the most remote areas of the world remains the greatest challenge. In order to supply the poorest and hardest-to-reach households, off-grid solutions such as solar lights, solar home systems and mini grids are crucial. Mexico's energy generation is still up to 70% dependent on crude oil. The coverage of the power supply is 97%, nearly 100% in urban areas and around 95% in rural areas. By 2030, it is estimated that electricity consumption will increase by 5.7 to 8.2% annually. According to this expectations, it is necessary to keep ensuring access to energy for all.

Mexico is one of the best locations in the world to use sustainable energies. 16.92% of the electrical energy is currently obtained from clean energy. The largest share is acquired from hydropower, followed by wind power, geothermal energy, solar energy and biomass. The legal requirements in Mexico form a good basis for the use of sustainable and renewable energies. We want to secure energy supply at competitive prices. The share of renewable energies is to be increased by 2030. With

the General Climate Change Act and the Energy Transition Act, the United Mexican States are committed to implementing UNGA Resolution A/RES/72/224 (2018) „*Ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all*“ based on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDG Goal 7). As The United Mexican States signed the Paris Agreement in 2016 adopted by the 21st Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), we highly recognize the urgent need of sustainable and renewable energies to achieve the SDGs by 2030. We emphasize ECOSOC Resolution E/ESCAP/RES/73/8 (2017) „*Strengthening regional cooperation for sustainable energy development in Asia and the Pacific*“ and believe that only with regional cooperation it is possible to reach SDG7 most effectively. The United Mexican States want to develop financing and cooperating options for accessible energies. We have to invest more, move away from electricity subsidies and instead give aid for the purchase and construction of plants for sustainable and reliable electricity generation. Sustainable energy as an important measure against climate change, to create tens of thousands of jobs, for healthier cities and the overdue development of rural areas that have been left behind for decades.

III. Combating Human Trafficking

After the smuggling of drugs and weapons, human trafficking is the third most important field of activity for criminal organizations worldwide. Human trafficking in particular is considered to be relatively low-risk and profitable compared to other criminal activities. Mexico has been the country of origin, transit and destination for human trafficking for decades. The National Human Rights Commission estimates the number of victims in the country at 50,000 to 500,000. It assumes that around 85% of the victims are women and girls and 26% of the victims are minors. About 10,000 women are forced into prostitution in Mexico every year and the women earn 2,000 to 4,000\$ for the „pimps“ per week. Mexican women, girls, and boys are subjected to sexual servitude within the USA and Mexico, lured by false job offers from poor rural regions to urban, border, and tourist areas. Most of the organizations are highly globalized and not longer just a national threat, but more an international issue. For this reason the United Mexican States are highly dedicated in facing this issue and its consequences to find international solutions.

The United Mexican States support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and specifically see the need in prevention of human trafficking to reach the SDGs 5,8 and 16. The United Mexican States recognize The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR 1948) that forms the basis for all member states to establish and protect the human rights as natural standards. Furthermore we support the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (1979) and the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) which both state out the special necessity and urgency of protection towards women and children as being particularly affected by human trafficking worldwide. The United Mexican States ratified the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Convention 2003). The Convention includes a "Protocol Against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air" and a "Protocol to Suppress, Prevent, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children". We have publicly endorsed the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's (UNODC) Blue Heart Campaign against Human Trafficking (2009), becoming the first country in Latin America to do so. The campaign supported countries in implementing three UN drug protocols. In an effort to address the demand for forced labor as another reason for human trafficking, the Secretary of Labor and Social Welfare developed a series of workshops and trainings (2010) to prevent child labor and trafficking for forced labor. It included media materials that explain how labor recruiting agents can deceive individuals in order to recruit them for forced labor. We think that human trafficking is a global issue which finds its expansures to a transnational crime in globalization. For this reason we highly appreciate UNGA Resolution A/RES/72/185 (2018) „*Globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights*“. Furthermore we think it is indispensable to continue improving the coordination to combat human trafficking. This is why the United Mexican States recognize UNGA Resolution A/RES/72/195 (2018) „*Improving the coordination of efforts against trafficking in persons*“. To work towards this resolution our police offices maintain close ties with transnational organizations such as The International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) in order to pursue the criminal groups more effectively and structured to make life in society safer.

Because of the transnational nature of most human trafficking, it is imperative for the United Mexican States that governments work together to tackle the crime. To face this issue we think it is necessary to develop a more coordinated transnational response since the effects of the large scale trans-border police operations underline the value of Interpol in helping police in source, transit, and destination countries work together in tackling the criminal networks behind human trafficking.