Documentation of the work of the **Human Rights Council (HRC)** NMUN simulation*

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Peace reimagined

NMUN•NY 2023
Conference B
10 – 14 April 2023

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Human Rights Council

Committee Staff

Director	Emma Bott

Agenda

1. Realizing the Right to Adequate Housing
2. Combatting the Intolerance and Discrimination against Persons Based on Religion or Belief

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote (For-Against-Abstain)
HRC/1/1	Realizing the Right to Adequate Housing	Adopted without a vote
HRC/1/2	Realizing the Right to Adequate Housing	22-2-4
HRC/1/3	Realizing the Right to Adequate Housing	21-2-6
HRC/2/1	Combatting the Intolerance and Discrimination against Persons Based on Religion or Belief	Adopted without a vote

Summary Report

The Human Rights Council held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

I.   Realizing the Right to Adequate Housing
II.   Combatting the Intolerance and Discrimination against Persons Based on Religion or Belief

The session was attended by representatives of 27 Member States.

On Monday, the committee adopted the agenda of I, II, beginning discussion on the topic of "Realizing the Right to Adequate Housing." By Wednesday morning, the Dais received a total of six proposals, and delegations worked collaboratively to merge these proposals into three, covering a wide range of sub-topics including encouraging Member States to establish their own National Housing Strategy, highlighting the need for the New Urban Agenda, prioritizing social inclusion, environmental sustainability, and economic prosperity, and recommending the growth in urban-to-rural housing communities. The committee had an atmosphere of collaboration.

On Thursday, three draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais with no amendments. The committee adopted three resolutions on topic I. One was adopted without a vote while the remaining two were adopted by a recorded vote. These resolutions represent a wide range of issues on the Universal Periodic Review process, the advisory committee, sustainable housing, urban to rural housing, and vulnerable and marginalized groups.

The committee then turned their attention to topic II where one draft resolution was approved, focusing educational programs, victim support groups, and investigations. The committee adopted one resolution on topic II without a vote.

The Human Rights Council,

Acknowledging the concerns over Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and refugees lacking safe and secure housing due to the housing crisis,

Promoting the fact that IDPs and refugees need access to safe and secure shelter before becoming incorporated into new education and social programs per the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948),

Considering working towards providing economically and environmentally effective housing for IDPs and refugees through the sustainable development of unoccupied spaces and portable shelters into temporary living spaces,

Noting the intersection of all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and adequate housing guidelines, especially SDG 1 (no poverty), SDG 2 (zero hunger), SDG 3 (good health and well-being), SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities), and SDG 17 (partnerships for the goals),

Mindful of the importance of implementing basic accommodations and providing humanitarian aid to obtain adequate housing for IDPs and refugees through the support of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) as stressed in the *Global Action Plan* (2019-2023) developed by the World Health Organization (WHO),

Observing the detrimental mental and physical impacts inadequate housing has on refugees and IDPs as recognized by the *Comprehensive Mental Health Action Plan (2013-2030)* endorsed by the World Health Organization,

Reaffirming Human Rights Council resolution 49/17 on "Situation of human rights in Ukraine stemming from the Russian aggression", which calls for non-discrimination in guaranteed adequate housing,

Realizing the need to investigate the benefits of a comprehensive information exchange on IDPs and refugees through collective global databases such as the Global Internal Displacement Database,

Calling attention to the General Assembly resolution 60/251 "Human Rights Council" which adopts the Universal Periodic Review and the importance of its process in bridging the gap between the criteria of shelter deprivation defined by the United Nations Human Settlement Programme (UN-Habitat) and adequate housing,

1. *Promotes* Member States developing relationships and collaborating with NGOs to provide temporary housing for refugees and IDPs through unoccupied buildings and empty spaces as well as upholding SDG 17 by:

a. Locating and obtaining unoccupied buildings and empty spaces based on local availability such as:

    i. Buildings left empty from COVID-19;

    ii. Shipping containers;

b. Developing unoccupied buildings and empty spaces into temporary housing through assistance provided by NGOs such as:

    i. Habitat for Humanity, which addresses housing needs exacerbated by disasters or times of crisis as well as having expertise in technical information and program design;

    ii. ShelterBox, which provides emergency relief aid including materials to patch up existing damaged buildings;

    iii. Secours Populaire Francais (SPF), which aids in fighting poverty and providing emergency shelter in times of need;

    iv. Global Housing Foundation (GHF's), which addresses the global housing crisis by providing affordable and sustainable housing solution to the people who is in need;

    v. International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP), who provide aid and support to refugees who have been forced to flee home due to conflict and other form of violence;

    vi. Refugee Protection International (RPI), who assist survivors with emergency shelter materials, upgrading housing and damaged shelters destined to refugees;

c. Upgrading existing infrastructure to improve access to basic needs and commodities to ensure:

    i. Newly upgraded facilities are provided to ensure safe and secure shelter to those in need;

    ii. The infrastructure being developed provides access to water, electricity, and proper sanitation;

2. *Recommends* Member States compile a report based upon shelter deprivation indicators within their own nation to be given to the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights of Migrants which can then, within their own mandate, use the reports in international dialogue and policy formation to implement the SDGs by:

a. Directing attention to the enhancement and inclusivity of sustainable urbanization, management, planning, as well as integrated settlement throughout Member States;

b. Noting the prevalence of inadequate housing within Member States and the impact inadequate housing has on IDPs and refugees;

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Urging the commitment to increase the number of cities and settlements that adopt policies and plans towards the inclusion and support of IDPs;

3. *Encourages* Member States to collaborate with NGOs that provide long-term access to mental health services for refugees and IDPs affected by inadequate housing through:

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Acknowledging the effects that human rights violations experienced while living in inadequate housing has on migrants and refugees as referenced by the Special Rapporteur on Human Rights of Migrants in the report on the *Enjoyment of the Rights to Health and Adequate Housing by Migrants* (A/HRC/14/30);

Promoting active participation in the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Mental Health and Psychological Support Program (MHPSS), which builds the capacity of local health staff and communities and supports the management of mental, neurological and substance use conditions in health facilities;

Encourages collaboration with auxiliaries and NGOs such as:
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The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, who supports and provides action in over 192 states;

The Family and Community Charitable NGO and, in particular, its program created to serve children at risk for vulnerable families, that provides education, social and psychological services, rehabilitation working efforts and partnerships with law enforcement;

Martuni Women's Community Council NGO, which contributes to the formation of the participatory behavior of the population in the development of communities and promoting effective solutions of economic, social and cultural problems of communities, paying special attention to vulnerable groups;

The EU4 Health Annual Work Programme, which is funded by the European Union that focuses on crisis preparedness, health promotion and disease prevention, and the healthcare workforce.

The Human Rights Council,

Reaffirming the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) (1948) Article 25, which states that adequate housing is a human right, and defines adequate housing as access to secure tenure, education, healthcare, and employment,

Cognizant of the goals of the General assembly resolution 70/1 "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in particular Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1 (no poverty), SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation for all), SDG 7 (affordable and clean energy), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), SDG 10 (reducing inequalities), and SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities),

Noting the 2020 report *Housing Amid COVID-19* from the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), that focuses on the rise in the cost of constructing housing since the setbacks of the COVID-19 pandemic,

Notes the collaborative international efforts and displays of diplomacy of the 2020-2021 Inter-Agency Response Plan (IARP),

Acknowledging General Assembly resolution 76/133 on "Inclusive policies and programs to address homelessness including in the aftermath of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19)", which states that all people, regardless of gender or race, are entitled to adequate housing,

Understanding that employment opportunities within marginalized communities are imperative for sustainable economic expansion,

Recognizing the United Nations Human Settlements Programme's (UN Habitat) work on the Urban-Rural Linkages program, connecting rural and urban communities, which is integral to developing economic and social opportunities for vulnerable individuals,

Concurring with the Office of The High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) definition of adequate housing which consists of tenure security, service availability, materials and infrastructure, affordability, accessibility, habitability, location, and cultural adequacy,

Acknowledging the Human Rights Council Resolution 51/7 on the "Right to Development" which includes a commitment to the promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development,

Reaffirming the components of adequate housing in the *International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* (ICESCR) (1966) which includes the right to continuous improvement of living conditions in Articles 11 and 17 that people should be protected from illegal or arbitrary interference with their home,

Stressing the importance of sustainable transportation to integrate markets and economies and facilitate international trade as mentioned in the *UN Sustainable Transport, Sustainable Development* report,

Recognizing that the right to adequate housing is interdependent, indivisible, and interrelated to other human rights such as health, education, and employment, as outlined by UN Habitat,

Bearing in mind the guidelines set in place by General Assembly Resolution 76/408 on the "Discrimination in the context of housing" which states that lack of housing disproportionately affects marginalized communities such as migrants, minorities, single parents, and indigenous peoples,

Deeply concerned about the lack of adequate housing and livable conditions for rural communities, given that about 79% of the world's poor live in rural areas, according to the 2019 SDG Report from the United Nations on SDG 1,

Acknowledging non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as Habitat for Humanity, Working Group to End Homelessness, and the European Housing Forum which aids in improving housing conditions by increasing affordable housing in the wake of any economic crisis,

Noting that rural women and girls are disproportionately affected by poverty and exclusion and that rural women make up over a quarter of the world's total population, according to the 62nd session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women report (E/CN.6/2018/3),

Deeply concerned with economic, commercial, and financial blockades which hinder the trade of construction equipment and financial support, preventing the provision of adequate housing for people in developing nations,

Aware of the existence of the European Rural Agenda, adopted by the European Parliament in 2018, which encourages rural development and improving the lives of rural residents so that they have more housing structures to inhabit,

Considering the Global Development Initiative which tackles resource allocation and strengthens global development between member states to alleviate poverty focusing on highlighting the importance of multilateralism in social security frameworks to achieve the right to adequate housing,

1. *Calls upon* Member States to focus on reintegrating marginalized groups by establishing a National Housing Strategy which is grounded in international human rights standards, and outlines concrete and measurable goals, including reducing the number of people experiencing homelessness that:

   a. Advises governments to revise and update existing housing policies to ensure they align with international human rights and are conducive to realizing the right to adequate housing;

   b. Urges governments to build the capacity of government agencies and civil society organizations to effectively implement the National Housing Strategy and establish monitoring mechanisms to track progress;

   c. Implements mechanisms of affordable housing through low-cost materials such as compressed earth-bricks, bamboo, reclaimed wood, and concrete sheets;

   d. Encourages governments to engage in construction projects led by community organizations whilst also providing them with support through the provision of training and materials to allow for the empowerment of marginalized communities and by doing so minimizing costs;

   e. Commends the use of prefabricated housing styles that are sustainable pertaining to the environmental needs of conditions of Member States;

2. *Promotes* the connection of rural and urban communities across countries to ensure all areas have access to proper infrastructure wherein Member States should try to develop transportation efforts such as roadways and railways to aid in alleviating pressure on overcrowded municipalities and incentivize citizens to move to areas where more housing is available by:

   a. Committing to working with Departments of Transportation to develop sustainable transportation plans that:

      i. Fosters the ability of rural communities to seek employment within urban municipalities so that they can provide for their families and afford more adequate housing;

      ii. Creates an avenue for urban resources to be transported to rural areas, including business opportunities, raw materials for housing, and experts in housing to expand the real estate market;

   b. Encouraging Member States to prioritize transit-oriented development in partnership with domestic and international NGOs by creating a working group of experts to assess the needed infrastructure in the international community to revitalize municipalities and stimulate their economies;

3. *Expresses its support for* Members States to research and locate vacant housing surrounding their largest cities to provide transport around them and provide the citizens the opportunity to occupy them by:

   a. Recommending the working group to develop a report on infrastructural needs of development;

   b. Using NGOs to create a database to log and track the amount of housing needed and provided by:

      i. Employing UN-Habitat to create a strategy focusing on financial and housing transparency while addressing the supply and demand of state-provided housing;

      ii. Collaborating with UN NGO The Working Group to End Homelessness (WGEH) in solution-based projects to fight homelessness internationally;

4. *Encourages* Member States to assess their homeless demographics by creating an Expert Working Group that:

   a. Works to survey and determine where populations of people experiencing homelessness are located and what factors led to their homelessness;

   b. Takes into consideration that each Member State has its own populations of people experiencing homelessness with unique needs and must create housing where necessary;

5. *Endorses* Member States to implement innovative and adaptable financial mechanisms to generate funding for the housing projects by:

   a. Suggesting the stimulation of coordination between the private sector through:

      i. Encouraging state governments to offer tax breaks and loans to incentivize private developers to work on housing projects;

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ii.   Promoting multi-stake holder partnerships between government and private actors on housing projects;

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b.   Encouraging methods of public financing such as sovereign bonds, pension equity funds, and local government bonds;

c.   Facilitating collaboration with multilateral, non-state stakeholders and Member States that:

      i.   Promotes collaboration with NGOs to conduct periodic economic analysis of states funding strategies;

      ii.   Utilizes funding granted by the Direct Relief Foundation to finance housing program projects;

d.   Encouraging local government to reassess existing tax mechanisms to better represent different funding categories tailored to each Member States' needs and reallocate funds in ways to best assist all;

6. *Emphasizes* the implementation of the eight Global Development Initiative priorities of poverty alleviation, food security, pandemic response and vaccines, financing for development, climate change, green development, industrialization, digital economy, and connectivity in the digital era by:

a.   Fostering international cooperation on development by building consensus to promote housing development and bring it to the forefront of the agenda;

b.   Examining the social and economic difficulties holding back development by promoting greater synergy for higher efficiency;

c.   Suggesting the implementation of funding mechanisms to increase the output of the United Nations Peace and Development Fund;

d.   Establishing fast tracks for housing development by offering cooperation in eight priority areas and feasible pathways for accelerated implementation in the SDGs;

e.   Inviting think tanks and academic institutions to give insights and intellectual support for the cause of global development;

7. *Urges* Member States to develop government housing programs that are inclusionary by:

a.   Encouraging Member States to allocate at least 10% of urban housing stock for social housing by 2030 to be available for rural citizens relocating to cities, marginalized individuals, or displaced individuals;

b.   Implementing a community-centric focus of housing that brings together those from different socio-economic backgrounds;

8. *Encourages* Member States to follow the model of the *2020-2021 Inter-Agency Response Plan* (IARP) aiming to decrease displacement and overcome obstacles towards adequate housing for those in refugee-like situations by:

a.   Emulating the IARP's success through collaborating with UN agencies, international NGOs, national NGOs, government entities, and international organizations;

b.   Emulating the IARPs broad range of support measures, including cash assistance programs for rent and utilities;

9. *Welcomes* information and communication technology infrastructure from developed nations who are willing to contribute resources to better connect individuals in rural areas that:

    a. Uses high-speed internet to expand information and networking connectedness;

    b. Utilizes partnerships and investing in stakeholders to develop smart city projects to create easy and efficient living situations;

10. *Recommends* assigning a Special Rapporteur to assess the need for new hospitals, schools, and other services and social goods to achieve adequate living conditions and create an economic environment where residents can afford housing that:

    a. Uses incentives to drive the creation of hospitals, schools, and other businesses to provide the necessary resources for strong communities;

    b. Utilizes the field data provided by UN Habitat for Humanity and European Housing Forum to form a database that records quantitative housing demand and supply;

    c. Strategically focuses on financial and housing transparency while addressing the supply and demand of housing;

11. *Suggests* the creation of an international database/forum where NGOs, intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and Member States can voluntarily participate in data aggregation regarding the situation of the adequate housing of each Member State that:

    a. Advocates for the review of the database by Member States to pull qualitative and quantitative data from critical situations on adequate housing within individual regions;

    b. Establishes annual meetings to discuss statistics based on recollected data published in the database pertaining to environmental and natural causes within the regions upon Member States;

    c. Invites the United Nations World Data Forum (UNWDF) to mobilize and cooperate within these operations;

12. *Advises* the creation of an annual International Forum, modeled on the NGOs, European Housing Forum and Housing Europe, for the purpose of sharing ideas and innovations in adequate housing initiatives during discussion of sustainable housing development, and invites Member States' representatives skilled in sustainable urbanization to the Forum, to develop innovative housing solutions to withstand environmental degradation;

13. *Further recommends* developed nations and developing nations to make trade agreements that benefit workers sourcing and supplying raw materials for housing to protect workers from exploitative situations including inadequate housing conditions where:

    a. Member States may consider working with the World Trade Organization to ensure labor standards are met and suitable pay is given to laborers;

    b. Member States could follow the framework of the International Labour Organization to cooperate between governments and employers' and workers' organizations in fostering social and economic progress;

14. *Calling attention* to the economic stimulation of developing nations to allow workers sourcing and supplying materials to afford more adequate housing for themselves and their families by:

a. Upholding a higher standard of pay and employment, workers will be able to transform these economic benefits into opportunities to access adequate living conditions;

b. Encouraging Member States involved to reach agreements that allow for all parties to mutually benefit;

c. Directing surplus funds and resources gained could go directly towards improving the lives and situations of those providing the labor.

The Human Rights Council,

Recognizing the fundamental right of every citizen to adequate housing as elaborated in Article 25 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UDHR) and acknowledging the challenges faced by each nation in ensuring access to affordable and quality housing for all,

Reiterating to Member States that, as addressed in Article 25 of the UDHR, adequate housing not only means having physical shelter but also secure tenure, availability of services, affordability, habitability, accessibility, location, and cultural adequacy,

Recognizing that the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), a continuation of General Assembly resolution 60/251 on "Human Rights Council", is a periodic review, conducted by a body consisting of all Member States, of the human rights record of all cooperating Member States and is a function of the Human Rights Council,

Recalling that the Advisory Committee of the Human Rights Council (the Advisory Committee) has the mandate to provide the Council upon request with implementation-oriented, thematic studies and research-based advice on issues pertaining to the mandate of the Council,

Recalling Fact Sheet No. 21 (Rev. 1, 2014) from the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), which articulates 7 components necessary to adequate housing, namely security of tenure, the availability of clean water, sanitation, energy sources, electricity, affordability, habitability, accessibility, location, and cultural adequacy,

Observing that according to the OHCHR, 1.8 billion people worldwide live in homelessness, informal settlements, and gross inadequate housing,

Recalling Human Rights Council (HRC) resolution 17/119, on "Follow-up to the Human Rights Council resolution 16/21 with regard to the universal periodic review" which sets guidelines for the UPR process, including the national reports submitted by all Member States being reviewed,

Bearing in mind the report of the Special Rapporteur "Towards a Just Transformation: Climate Change and the Right to Housing" (HRC /52/28) which contains a thematic report on the topic of the climate crisis and adequate housing conducted by the Special Rapporteur on adequate housing,

Expressing Concern about the lack of thematic reports prepared or produced by the Advisory Committee on any issues regarding inadequate housing,

Emphasizing the role that achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11 (sustainable cities and communities) plays in creating pathways to achieving SDG 2 (zero hunger), SDG 3 (good health and well-being), SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), and SDG 13 (climate action), which encourage the achievement of reduced inequalities for all individuals and sustainable housing and communities that are adequate,

Encourage the acceptance of the universal framework from the General Assembly resolution 70/1 on "Transforming our world: 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" in addressing inadequate housing and its contributing factors,

Bearing in mind a lack of stable housing and the need for state-owned housing initiatives as it promotes healthy living,

Taking note of further economic factors such as the privatization of the real estate sector, rising unemployment rates, and high inflation rates as stated in the report of the Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context (HRC/34/51),

Taking into consideration the preexisting climatic, geographical, socio-economic, religious, and political conditions that affect adequate housing, each of which the global community needs to address with different means and tools as in General Assembly resolution 70/1 on "Transforming our world: 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",

Deeply conscious of the importance of increasing investments in affordable housing and generating job opportunities as shown in the acceptance of General Assembly resolution 70/1 (2015) on "Transforming our world: 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" and through the partnership with NGOs like the Global Impact Investing Network (GIIN),

Recognizing the importance of the General Assembly resolution 71/256 (2017) on the "New Urban Agenda" as a framework for achieving sustainable urban development and promoting actions for housing,

Recognizing the importance of proactively reducing climate risks and hazards in order to mitigate the impact of natural disasters and crises,

Recognizing that according to the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), 68% of the world population is projected to live in urban areas by 2050 and concerned with causes and effects of rapid urbanization,

Bearing in mind the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)'s continuing work with governments previously in addressing the challenge of housing affordability for member states that can't afford it on their own,

Expressing concern over the worsening global situation regarding adequate housing, which leaves 1.6 billion people with inadequate housing situations according to the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in 2021,

1. *Revises* the standardized guidelines for national reports submitted as part of the UPR process to mandate that all Member States produce a section in their respective reports regarding:

    a. The current status of their record on adequate housing, as it will be defined by the Advisory Committee;

    b. Areas that have a potential for future risk due to conflict zones, climate change, natural disasters, or other factors;

2. *Amends* the current UPR Working Group guidelines to include a mandate that:

a. Asks the UPR Working Group troika to request from the Member State under review a comprehensive national report section dedicated to their record on adequate housing and to make recommendations on adequate housing;

b. Calls upon the Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing to reaffirm the parameters for adequate housing and make suggestions to the Member State under review;

c. Calls upon other stakeholders, including other independent human rights experts and NGOs, to testify specifically regarding the record of the Member State being reviewed on the right to adequate housing and make suggestions to the Member State under review;

d. Holds an educational summit every 4 years consisting of all UN General Assembly Member States and Observers, NGOs, Special Rapporteur, and representatives of marginalized groups, which will articulate the status of inadequate housing on a global scale, to be broadcasted live and posted online for the convenience of the global citizenry;

3. *Strives* to improve the accessibility of the UPR Working Group proceedings and reports by documenting and consolidating all clerk activities, reports, testimonies, and any other Member State activities by:

a. Streaming and posting recorded live streams on the HRC website;

b. Posting all written or typed documents that are reviewed or coalesced for, or as a consequence of, the UPR Working Group cycle onto the HRC website;

4. *Decides* that the Advisory Committee will prepare and submit additional thematic reports on issues pertaining to inadequate housing, including but not limited to:

a. Guaranteeing adequate housing in the face of natural disasters;

b. Discussing how inadequate housing uniquely affects women, indigenous and racialized populations;

c. Defining the parameters of the commitment to adequate housing through:

i. Researching the factors contributing to an adequate standard of housing, including but not limited to those listed in Section 8 of CESCR General Comment No. 4: The Right to Adequate Housing to establish a universal and substantiated human rights definition of adequate housing;

ii. Encouraging the Advisory Committee to, in addition to the aforementioned research, keep in mind the definitional components of adequate housing as articulated by the OHCHR for all Member States to adopt;

5. *Suggests* that, based on the revised definition established by the Advisory Committee as part of their research initiative, the General Assembly revitalize the World Population Conference to bring together Member States to discuss topics with emphasis on the implementation of adequate housing;

6. *Encourages* the Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing to produce a social media model that effectively disseminates and makes accessible information about the issue of inadequate housing;

7. *Invites* Member States to implement policies and utilize their own available resources to achieve the SDGs within a universal framework to induce more sustainable living as it promotes adequate housing;

8. *Recognizes* the importance of establishing a universal framework motivated by SDGs to address inadequate housing through different aspects contributing to the issue including:

    a. Clean water and sanitation within a realistic distance for greater accessibility:

        i. Enforcing a source of clean drinkable water within five miles of any location;

        ii. Providing free and accessible sanitation supplies in every community;

    b. Establishing health services and sources:

        i. Allowing free to low-cost essential medical visits for all;

        ii. Providing free menstrual products;

    c. Creating accessible sources to acquire food:

        i. Increasing agricultural utilization of crops in cities and rural areas;

        ii. Allowing a greater range of demographics to obtain food stamps;

        iii. Implementing more soup kitchen locations is a way to receive free food locally;

    d. Encourages the heightened development of housing projects in proximal distance to resources crucial to human development, as well as the upbringing of said development organized by a collaboration of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and external experts, diminishing the output of carbon emissions and greenhouse gasses, in relation to SDG 13, efficiently reinforcing climate action in our communities;

    e. Recognizing the need for readily available shopping centers, distribution outlets, and public areas in relation to adequate housing;

9. *Encourages* Member States to locate funding to assist the implementation of sustainable infrastructure projects in contributing to adequate housing by:

    a. Diversifying job opportunities outside of the cities;

    b. Supporting businesses outside of city limits that provide a livable wage;

    c. Recommending the expansion of social service opportunities outside of cities;

    d. Incentivizing the use of effective building materials that withstand elements and provide security and clean living space;

    e. Establishing a framework for ethical housing policy by:

        i. Encouraging increased advocacy for marginalized individuals within city limits;

        ii. Urging Member States to explore amendments to discriminatory housing policies;

      f.   Establishing clean water and sewage systems in order to achieve SDG 6;

10. *Urges* Member States to build infrastructures that meet the needs of local communities to achieve SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities) by:

    a.   Enabling the sourcing of local materials to build innovative housing that best adapt to territorial and climate constraints;

    b.   Implementing a circular economic approach by renovating abandoned buildings in areas with low-income populations to save money and materials;

    c.   Using renewable energies to grant the population access to basic needs: electricity, heating, and, clean water;

    d.   Investing in computing technologies and artificial intelligence to foster progress contributing to the SDGs, including the enhancement of housing conditions;

    e.   Growing in urban-to-rural housing communities, and, securing multifaceted amenities for all residents of any and every member state under the supervision of NGOs;

    f.   Equalizing housing circumstances for all citizens, without regard to the influence of any prominent cities, such as capital or agrarian cities, by utilizing a worldwide prioritization based on UN-Habitat data to create peer groups to interpret the need for adequate housing despite the economic status of any member state, in addition to their contribution;

11. *Encourages* non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to partner with affected Member States to create job opportunities and build community through urban planning by:

    a.   Continuing work in achieving SDG 2, 3, and 6 (clean water and sanitation);

    b.   Providing avenues for economic growth in affected Member States;

    c.   Allowing affected communities not only to rebuild but to continue to develop;

12. *Encourages* Member States to adhere to the guidelines outlined in UN-Habitats' New Urban Agenda by:

    a.   Establishing a National Action Plan to address their specific housing challenges;

    b.   Implementing the practices of providing inclusive, affordable, adequate, and sustainable housing for all through:

        i.   Using innovative financing mechanisms;

        ii.   The strengthening of land tenure security;

        iii.   The improvement of housing conditions in informal settlements;

        iv.   The integration of housing policies into broader urban planning frameworks;

        v.   Prioritizing the specific needs and preferences of marginalized groups;

        vi.   Enhancing the resilience of cities to repercussions of climate change;

13. *Suggests* Member States develop a Risk Reduction Strategy to specifically identify regions continuously affected by extreme climate events in order to ensure the proper infrastructure is available by:

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Initiating a course of action through identification and categorization of underrepresented regions worldwide, a state of clarification on adequate housing can be further determined, allowing for better reform, aiding member states unable to establish a sense of self-sustainability; such a strategy would implement aid in their favor;
Scrutinizing the differentiating climate-based geographical regions present globally, such reform can be sorted as such in efforts to increase direct pertinence to any given member state and focus awareness alongside SDG 13;

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Suggests Member States promote a universal, rule-based, and inclusive equitable multilateral trading system, which can play a critical role in ensuring nations have access to the necessary resources in order to build a shelter;
Suggests that Member States contribute a percentage of their GDP consisting of money or an equivalent value in resources, technology, and labor relevant to the establishment of adequate housing to a new fund managed by a collaboration of the UN-Habitat, experts, and NGOs that will help to reach the goal of realizing adequate housing that:
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Establishes that the GDP percentage be determined by the expert committee consisting of UN-Habitat, NGOs, and individual experts after exact calculations yearly or in extenuating circumstances;
Proposes that the monetary value of the resources, technology, and labor is determined by the global market price;
Ensures fair and just opportunities for all Member States of one peer group involved with randomization in regard to prioritized funds, which will be implemented in order to combat the permanent designation of hierarchy;
Recommends implementing an annual report where every stream of income like money, resources, and human capital and every expense is recognized;
Further requests that those countries where adequate housing was built up successfully give their expertise to new projects in similar situations;

Recommends that Member States consider implementing reforms to their financial policies, preventing further inflation and economic instability as it is a crucial aspect of adequate housing by:
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Encouraging central banks to adopt their key interest rates in order to prevent a further increase in inflation and reduce the amount of money in the macroeconomic system;
Implementing education programs in regard to financing will promote economic expertise and boost individual confidence in the capabilities;

Recommends Member States consider issuing government financial products, providing liquidity to create new housing facilities, and granting job opportunities through:
<ol type="a">
Building state-owned sustainable and affordable housing while ensuring that rent is orientated proportionally to the individual's income;
Providing a diverse job market by allocating funds to technologies, project management, and construction;

c. Mitigating the risk of default by tailoring the financial products.

Code: HRC/2/1
Committee: Human Rights Council
Topic: Combating Intolerance and Discrimination Against Persons Based on Religion or Belief

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The Human Rights Council,

Recognizing that the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), a continuation of General Assembly resolution 60/251, "The Human Rights Council", is a periodic review, conducted by a body consisting of all Member States, of the human rights record of all cooperating Member States and is a function of the Human Rights Council,

Recognizing the importance of protecting religious freedoms within member states as well as ensuring the protections of member states sovereignty regarding religious freedoms,

Fully aware that victims of discrimination or intolerance based on religion or belief are prone to suffer physical and mental health consequences which affects their lives within society,

Deeply alarmed with the ongoing issue of acts of aggression and intolerance against minority demographics on the premise of religious beliefs across the world and stressed the importance of following Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 10 (reduced inequalities) and SDG 16 (peace, justice, and strong institutions) of General Assembly resolution 70/1 "Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development",

Cognizant that the freedom of religion or belief is guaranteed by Article 18 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948), Article 18 of the *International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (1966) and the *Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief* (1981),

Recognizing the fact that in most cases, religious violence is intertwined with ethnic identities or economic differences, as discussed in Human Rights Council (HRC) resolution 16/18 on "Combatting intolerance, negative stereotyping and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against, person based on religion or belief",

Emphasizing the importance of utilizing HRC resolution 49/86 on "Combating intolerance, negative stereotyping, and stigmatization of, and discrimination, incitement to violence and violence against, persons based on religion or belief", which asks Member States to make an action plan that educates, promotes, and recognizes discrimination based on religion and beliefs,

Recalling Human Rights Council resolution 17/119, which sets guidelines for the UPR process, including the national reports submitted by all Member States being reviewed,

Expressing concern about the lack of thematic reports prepared or produced by the Advisory Committee on any issues regarding freedom of religion and belief,

Urges states to take effective measures to take and prevent hate speech and hold perpetrators to account,

Affirming General Assembly resolution 73/296 on "International Day Commemorating Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Violence Based on Religion or Belief" which established an International Day Commemorating the Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief,

Reiterating the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief, who states that hate speech must be confronted to prevent armed conflict, atrocity crimes, terrorism, harassment against women and other serious violations of human rights, promoting peaceful, inclusive, and just societies,

Upholding the *Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief* (1981) (EAFID), which states that all people have the right to freedom of thought, conscience, and religion, which includes the right to abstain from practicing religion altogether and calls Member States to take preventive measures to guarantee the right of religious freedom,

Observing that according to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), there are increasing numbers of attacks and acts rooted in hatred for religions and beliefs and there is a need to combat the numerous factors that incite and drive such violence,

Having studied that the number of hate speech and hate crime have been increasing because of the influence of the expanding use of the Internet,

1. *Revises* the standardized guidelines for national reports submitted as part of the UPR process to mandate that all Member States produce a section in their respective reports regarding the current status of their record on religious freedom, as it will be defined by the Advisory Committee;

2. *Amends* the current UPR Working group guidelines to include a mandate that:

   a. Asks the UPR Working Group troika to request from the Member State under review a comprehensive national report section dedicated to their record on freedom of religion and belief and tolerance and making recommendations on these matters;

   b. Calls upon the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief to reaffirm the parameters for religious tolerance and make suggestions to the Member State under review;

   c. Calls upon other stakeholders, including other independent human rights experts and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), to testify specifically regarding the record of the Member State being reviewed on the right to freedom of religion and belief and make suggestions to the Member State under review;

   d. Hold an educational summit, the Leading Mindfulness and Gratefulness Summit (LMGS), every 4 years consisting of all UN General Assembly Member States and Observers, NGOs, Special Rapporteurs, and representatives of marginalized groups, which will articulate the status of freedom of religion and belief on a global scale, to be broadcasted live and posted online for the convenience of the global citizenry;

3. *Decides* that the Advisory Committee will prepare and submit additional thematic reports on issues pertaining to freedom of religion and belief, including but not limited to:

   a. Guaranteeing religious freedom and belief in the face of political turmoil;

   b. Emphasizing how religious intolerance especially effects marginalized groups and minority populations and that they need special consideration;

4. *Recommends* designing a program to expand the Center of Assistance to Victims of Religious Intolerance towards an international scope that would be strategically located in Member States cities with high rates of violent acts, with the aim to:

      a. Provide victims with special measures to deal with the consequences of the violence, including psychological assistance to aggressors, and perpetrators of violation;

      b. Exemplify the program as a diffusion into other regions of the world, including the presence of other continental areas;

5. *Encourages* Member States to be fully inclusive of religious values within their own nation, as well as being respectful of other Member States sovereignty through:

      a. Recommending member states to fully respect the chosen religions of their citizens by:

            i. Respecting the religious practices of their citizens and their place of practice;

            ii. Inviting Member States to condemn the destruction of religious sites in times of conflict;

      b. Encouraging Member States to avoid becoming involved in other Member States religious values and should respect the sovereignty of all Member States;

6. *Condemns* actions that are deemed as intolerable or discriminatory based on religion or belief and stresses the protection of the right to freedom of thought and religion as well as working with NGOs like the European Network Against Racism to achieve this goal;

7. *Urges* all Member States to investigate instances of intolerance or discrimination committed against people because of their religion or other beliefs, with the reliance of international law and treaties, including social media companies unwilling to comply with the suppression and/or elimination of racial/religious slurs, hate speech, propaganda and displays of physical violence;

8. *Emphasizes* the need for the Special Rapporteur to establish a working group to conduct studies to advance the promotion and protection of religious freedoms and other beliefs to examine the relationship between religious violence, people's ethnic economic backgrounds and identities;

9. *Reaffirms* the precedent set by the EAFID which states "No one shall be subject to discrimination by any state, institution, group of persons or persons on the grounds of religion or other belief," by:

      a. Encouraging Member States to advocate for their own religious freedom rights and laws publicly;

      b. Recommending Member States to denounce hate speech that is aimed at any religious group;

      c. Encouraging national advocacy for minority religious denominations;

      d. Condemning religious violence on all levels;

10. *Recommends* that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) 2015 Global Citizenship Initiative (GCED) be updated by:

a. Including a specific education theme under the GCED umbrella that is:

    i. Entitled "Preventing Religious or Belief-based Intolerances through Education";

    ii. An inclusive approach to foster the understanding of different religions or beliefs to counter intolerance;

b. Including a social media awareness campaign to bring awareness to specific discrimination and intolerance issues that occur in Member States;

c. Further recommending education focusing on coexisting respectfully with people who have different opinions.