

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN TO THE UNITED NATIONS NEW YORK

Explanation of Position by Liechtenstein on the draft resolution entitled "International cooperation to ensure global access to medicines, vaccines and medical equipment to face COVID-19" (A/74/L.56)

Liechtenstein welcomes the consensual adoption of draft resolution led by Mexico on "International cooperation to ensure global access to medicines, vaccines and medical equipment to face COVID-19" (A/74/L.56). As one of the co-authors of the first General Assembly resolution addressing COVID-19 (A/RES/74/270), Liechtenstein has been clear in its desire to see complementary texts to follow. This draft resolution focuses on a particularly important aspect of our global response, and Liechtenstein is pleased to co-sponsor the text.

Liechtenstein thanks Mexico for consulting on this text in a spirit of compromise, including by reaching out early and accommodating comments on previous versions of the text. While there are other revisions Liechtenstein would have liked to see in the text, it is evident that the final version submitted strikes a good balance, as evidenced by the large number of co-sponsors. Liechtenstein will be happy to engage on other substantive issues related to COVID-19 that require attention by the General Assembly, including the specific impacts of the pandemic with regard to gender and human rights.

Liechtenstein wishes to state for the record once again its ongoing concern that the General Assembly is not yet fully operational and working in accordance with its own Rules of Procedure, despite the fact that this would be technically feasible. Liechtenstein hopes that the General Assembly will soon be provided with the possibility of voting on draft resolutions, as foreseen under its Rules of Procedure. Having such procedures in place will in fact help us in our endeavor to forge consensus on draft resolutions debated in the membership to which we remain fully committed. Liechtenstein therefore expects that this situation will soon be rectified, in a process involving all Member States.

21 April 2020