



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
30 June 2026

Original: English

Oral revision received on 03/07/2026 @17:30

Human Rights Council

Sixty-second session

15 June–7 July 2026

Agenda item 3

**Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil,
political, economic, social and cultural rights,
including the right to development**

**Burkina Faso,* Gambia, Kenya, Malawi, Morocco* and United Republic of
Tanzania*: draft resolution**

62/... Human rights and neglected tropical diseases

The Human Rights Council,

Recalling the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and recalling the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities,

Reaffirming also the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, without discrimination, and emphasizing that all human rights are universal, indivisible, interrelated, interdependent and mutually reinforcing,

Noting with deep concern that, for billions of people throughout the world, the full and equal right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health remains out of reach,

Recognizing that action to combat neglected tropical diseases is core to the vision of universal health coverage and contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular Goal 3,

Noting that neglected tropical diseases are a medically diverse set of preventable and treatable diseases and disease groups that continue to affect more than 1 billion people globally, disproportionately impacting those living in poverty, in remote rural areas, informal settlements, humanitarian settings, underserved communities and other situations of vulnerability,

Emphasizing that neglected tropical diseases both reflect and reinforce patterns of inequality, discrimination and social exclusion, disproportionately affecting women and girls, through lack of access to safe water, sanitation, adequate housing, education and information, and that this makes neglected tropical diseases not only a public health challenge, but also a significant human rights concern,

* State not a member of the Human Rights Council.



Welcoming the work currently being undertaken to combat neglected tropical diseases in all regions, and recognizing the support provided by bodies of the United Nations system, including the World Health Organization, other multilateral organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, donors, philanthropic organizations, academic institutions and civil society, as well as the important role played by care workers and community health workers within primary healthcare systems,

Underlining the importance of the contribution of Governments and other relevant stakeholders, including through investment in research and development, in ensuring the availability, accessibility and acceptability of quality-assured essential medicines and other health products for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of neglected tropical diseases,

Underscoring that the unacceptably high global burden of neglected tropical diseases is a health, development and human rights challenge and that a human rights analysis of neglected tropical diseases and the integration of a human rights-based approach into responses at all levels could contribute positively to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 3, on ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages, and related target 3.3 of the Goals, on ending the epidemic of neglected tropical diseases, among others, by 2030,

Reaffirming that States have the primary responsibility to ensure the full realization of the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, and welcoming cooperation with international organizations, civil society and other relevant stakeholders, including through the adoption and implementation of health policies and programmes grounded in the human rights principles of equality, non-discrimination, participation, accountability and inclusion, to address the underlying social determinants of health,

Recognizing that addressing poverty and the underlying social determinants of health, including access to education, decent housing, clean water and sanitation in underserved communities, and ensuring access to information and effective and meaningful participation, can facilitate the prevention and control of neglected tropical diseases and help to combat stigma and discrimination,

Acknowledging that women and girls affected by neglected tropical diseases may face disproportionate health and other social and economic impacts and may be particularly vulnerable to stigma, discrimination and violence,

Underlining the importance of disaggregated data collection and analysis in identifying and addressing the disproportionate impacts of neglected tropical diseases on women and girls,

Recognizing that climate change may alter the transmission and geographical spread of certain neglected tropical diseases, with implications for the enjoyment of human rights, including the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, and that such impacts may disproportionately affect persons living in poverty and other situations of vulnerability,

Underlining that neglected tropical diseases disproportionately affect persons living in remote, underserved and mobile communities, including in border regions, and that cross-border collaboration is essential for effective disease control and elimination and for ensuring the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, without discrimination,

Expressing deep concern that conflict, occupation and natural disasters can disrupt health, care and support systems, displace communities and create environments where neglected tropical diseases thrive,

Expressing concern that insufficient investment in adequate, affordable and accessible quality health, care and support systems, particularly in underserved and marginalized communities, can undermine efforts to prevent, control and eliminate neglected tropical diseases and impede the enjoyment of the right to the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health,

Expressing concern also that neglected tropical diseases can significantly impact household finances through out-of-pocket healthcare expenditures and loss of income and may contribute to perpetuating cycles of poverty,

Reiterating that intensified advocacy and sustained funding are required to prevent, control, eliminate and eradicate neglected tropical diseases and sustain progress, especially in respect of those approaching elimination,

1. *Expresses grave concern* at the unacceptably high global burden of neglected tropical diseases, which continue to cause preventable suffering, disability, disfigurement and, in some cases, death, disproportionately affecting persons living in poverty and situations of vulnerability;

2. *Welcomes* the work of States, United Nations entities, including the World Health Organization, and other relevant stakeholders to control, eliminate and eradicate neglected tropical diseases, including through the implementation of the World Health Organization road map for neglected tropical diseases 2021–2030;

3. *Urges* States to strengthen their efforts and commitment to address neglected tropical diseases, including by integrating neglected tropical disease prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care into universal health coverage and primary healthcare systems, strengthening resilient public health systems as a foundation for the prevention, early detection and treatment of, and care for, neglected tropical diseases, adopting human rights-based and people-centred approaches to health policy and service delivery and ensuring inclusive, available, accessible, acceptable and quality health services without discrimination, in order to achieve target 3.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals;

4. *Calls upon* States to strengthen the resilience of health systems and support the continuity of neglected tropical disease programmes during emergencies, including health emergencies, humanitarian crises and situations of armed conflict, consistent with their obligations under international human rights law, including the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, by integrating neglected tropical disease services into preparedness, prevention, response and recovery plans, safeguarding access to essential health services and medicines and mitigating the risk of service disruption;

5. *Also calls upon* States to ensure that neglected tropical disease-related impairments do not result in discrimination, exclusion or denial of human rights, including on grounds of disability, and to strengthen disability-inclusive approaches in responses to neglected tropical diseases, including the integration of rehabilitation, mental health and psychosocial support services into neglected tropical disease programmes, in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

6. *Further calls upon* States to address the multiple forms of stigmatization and discrimination stemming from harmful stereotypes, misinformation and misunderstandings and the institutional, economic, social, cultural and environmental barriers that hinder universal access to health services and essential medicines and medical products for persons affected by neglected tropical diseases, to ensure the meaningful participation of persons and communities affected by neglected tropical diseases in the design, implementation and evaluation of health programmes and policies and to ensure accountability and access to remedy, as appropriate;

7. *Calls upon* the Human Rights Council and its mechanisms, within their existing mandates, to consider and address the human rights implications of neglected tropical diseases and their impact on the enjoyment of human rights by affected populations;

8. *Encourages* States to adopt approaches to disaggregated data collection and analysis, as well as preparedness, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care, for neglected tropical diseases, recognizing that women and girls may face disproportionate health, social and economic impacts from certain neglected tropical diseases and barriers to accessing health services;

9. *Calls upon* States, with the support of international partners, where appropriate, to address the underlying social determinants of neglected tropical diseases,

including through improved access to safe drinking water, sanitation, adequate housing, health information and health education, including hygiene and hygiene awareness in affected communities;

10. *Encourages* States to consider the implications of climate change and environmental degradation as key risk factors for the transmission and geographical spread of vector-borne neglected tropical diseases and to strengthen surveillance, preparedness and prevention, while scaling up international cooperation for climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts accordingly, with particular attention to protecting the right to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health by persons in vulnerable situations and communities disproportionately affected by neglected tropical diseases;

11. *Also encourages* States, particularly those sharing borders in regions where neglected tropical diseases are endemic, to strengthen cross-border cooperation in surveillance, preparedness and prevention, to ensure coordinated interventions to support the prevention, control, elimination and eradication of neglected tropical diseases and to promote equitable and inclusive access to prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care for affected populations, including those living in remote, mobile or otherwise underserved communities;

12. *Calls upon* relevant United Nations entities, including the World Health Organization, international and regional financial institutions, development partners, philanthropic organizations, the private sector and other relevant stakeholders to significantly scale up predictable, sustained and adequately resourced technical, financial and capacity-building support for neglected tropical disease prevention, diagnosis, treatment, care, surveillance and research, in accordance with the priorities and needs of States;

13. *Recognizes* the important role of community health workers, care workers and front-line health personnel in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of, and care for, neglected tropical diseases, and encourages States to support and strengthen community-based health systems;

14. *Requests* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare a comprehensive report on the human rights dimensions of neglected tropical diseases, to be made available in accessible formats, in consultation with States, relevant United Nations entities, including the World Health Organization, other international organizations and other relevant stakeholders, including civil society, philanthropic foundations and the private sector, and to submit the report to the Human Rights Council at its sixty-sixth session, and requests that the Office, in that study:

(a) Identify the human rights dimensions of neglected tropical diseases within the existing international human rights framework;

(b) Provide an overview of measures that States can adopt to ensure that persons affected by neglected tropical diseases are not subjected to poverty, gender inequality, discrimination, including violence, marginalization and social exclusion;

(c) Examine how the Human Rights Council and its relevant mechanisms may contribute, within their existing mandates, to addressing the human rights dimensions of neglected tropical diseases and the human rights of persons affected by neglected tropical diseases to ensure the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 3;

(d) Recommend concrete steps that could be taken across the United Nations system to better support States in strengthening the integration of human rights considerations into their national, regional and global responses to neglected tropical diseases.