

United Nations

E/2008/INF/2/Add.1



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Resolutions

2008/2

Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 62/208 of 19 December 2007 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,

Reaffirming the importance of the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development, through which the General Assembly establishes key system-wide policy orientations for the development cooperation and country-level modalities of the United Nations system,

Recalling the role of the Economic and Social Council in providing coordination and guidance to the United Nations system to ensure that policy orientations set out by the General Assembly are implemented on a system-wide basis in accordance with Assembly resolutions 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, 61/16 of 20 November 2006, 62/208 and other relevant resolutions,

Management process for the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the management process for the implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208 on the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system,¹ and the efforts of the Secretary-General to strengthen the results-orientation of that report, in line with paragraph 141 of General Assembly resolution 62/208;

2. *Notes* the response of the United Nations system in implementing General Assembly resolution 62/208 at the agency and inter-agency levels, as specified in the above-mentioned report.

impact, coherence, effectiveness and efficiency and costs and benefits of coordination through the resident coordinator system, with specific attention to the regional and country levels;

14. *Requests* the heads of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies and other United Nations organizations to include in the annual reports to their governing bodies any proposed measures to enhance their respective organization's participation in financial, technical and organizational support to the resident coordinator system;

15. *Underscores* that the resident coordinator, supported by the United Nations country team, should report to national authorities on progress made against results agreed in the United Nations Development Assistance Framework;

16. *Encourages* the United Nations Development Group, within the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and in close cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme, to further develop approaches to measure and report on the costs and benefits of coordination, and further encourages the Secretary-General to consolidate this information, to the extent possible, and present it to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive sessions of 2009 and 2010;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in his response to paragraph 94 of General Assembly resolution 62/208, to bear in mind the various coordination functions of the resident coordinators;

Comprehensive statistical analysis of the financing of operational activities for development of the United Nations system for 2006

18. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive statistical analysis of the financing of operational activities for development of the United Nations system for 2006,⁴ and recognizes the progress made to broaden and improve the reporting in line with paragraph 28 of General Assembly resolution 62/208;

19. *Encourages* the organizations of the United Nations development system to participate fully in this exercise;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General, making use of existing capacities within the Secretariat and, if necessary, voluntary contributions, to continue efforts:

(a) To continue to broaden and improve the coverage, timeliness, reliability, quality and comparability of system-wide financial data, definitions and classifications for the financial reporting of operational activities for development of the United Nations system, in a coherent way;

(b) To build a comprehensive, sustainable and consistent financial data and reporting system for the operational activities for development of all the relevant organizations and entities of the United Nations system;

(c) To invite Member States to contribute to the support of the work mentioned above;

⁴ A/63/71-E/2008/46.

Simplification and harmonization of the United Nations development system

21. *Takes note* of the actions taken by the executive boards and governing bodies of the United Nations funds and programmes and specialized agencies in the area of simplification and harmonization of the United Nations development system;

22. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make every effort to ensure that the information provided in response to paragraph 112 of General Assembly resolution 62/208 is presented at future sessions of the Economic and Social Council in the form of a report;

23. *Requests* the executive heads of the funds, programmes and specialized agencies to report in a timely manner to the executive boards and governing bodies on progress regarding simplification and harmonization to support the assessment by the executive boards and governing bodies in this area.

*34th plenary meeting
18 July 2008*

2008/3

Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society,⁵

Recalling also that access to information and sharing and creation of knowledge contributes significantly to strengthening economic, social and cultural development, thus helping all countries to reach the internationally agreed development goals and objectives, including the Millennium Development Goals, considering that this process can be enhanced by removing barriers to universal, ubiquitous, equitable and affordable access to information, and underlining the importance of removing barriers to bridging the digital divide, particularly those that hinder the full achievement of the economic, social and cultural development of countries and the welfare of their people, in particular in developing countries,

Recognizing the efforts by all stakeholders to implement the outcomes of the two phases of the World Summit on the Information Society, and recognizing also

programmes and of all the relevant stakeholders in implementing the goals,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/29 of 27 July 2007,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels,⁶

Evolving challenges and opportunities

1. *Notes* that the digital divide is changing in some respects and that while in general the divide may be shrinking, a new form of digital divide is emerging in terms of difference in quality and speed of access to information and communications technologies;

2. *Also notes* the continuing relevance of assisting developing countries in their efforts to overcome the digital divide, particularly with regard to both access and capacity;

3. *Further notes* that the disparity continues between developed and rels

World Summit on the Information Society at its first phase, held in Geneva from 10 to 12 December,⁷ and endorsed by the General Assembly;⁸

22. *Takes note* of the efforts undertaken by the regional commissions in respect of the coordination of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, including in developing e-strategies, capacity-building and measuring of information and communications technologies;

23. *Acknowledges* the efforts of all action line facilitators, especially the International Telecommunication Union and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization in their role as lead facilitators;

24. *Notes* that the architecture for the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, as defined in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society,⁹ is rather complex and has also imposed limitations in respect of the participation of all stakeholders, in particular those from developing countries;

25. *Takes note* of the letter from the Secretary-General of the United Nations addressed to relevant organizations responsible for essential tasks associated with the Internet in which he requested them to report on the steps they had taken towards achieving enhanced cooperation in accordance with paragraph 71 of the Tunis Agenda and looks forward to the report to be prepared by the Secretary-General, which may contain recommendations on how the process should be pursued, and notes that all stakeholders, in their respective roles, will be included in this process;

26. *Reaffirms* the relevance of decisions on Internet governance in their entirety, as outlined in the Tunis Agenda;

27. *Recommends* that the Internet Governance Forum, as a multi-stakeholder discussion forum, retain its focus on public policy issues related to Internet governance;

28. *Encourages* collaboration among all stakeholders, including international organizations, consistent with their mandate and existing budgetary resources, in regard to the multilingualization of the Internet;

29. *Recommends* that the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technologies for Development consider the creation of benchmarks and indicators, including impact indicators, for further consideration and decision by the Statistical Commission, in order to track progress towards the attainment of the specific goals and targets set out in the outcome documents of the World Summit on the Information Society, particularly section B of the Plan of Action adopted in Geneva;

30. *Also recommends* that action line facilitators, in cooperation with all stakeholders, establish milestones, deadlines and calendars for their action lines, taking into account the outcome documents of the Summit;

⁷ See A/C.2/59/3, annex.

⁸ See General Assembly resolution 59/220.

⁹ See chap. I, sect. B, of the report of the Tunis phase of the World Summit on the Information Society, held in Tunis from 16 to 18 November 2005, as contained in document A/60/687.

direct relevance to the aims and purposes of the United Nations qualified them to make a significant contribution to the work of the Economic and Social Council,

Mindful of the importance of an efficient and effective quadrennial reporting and review system to ensure the smooth functioning of a dynamic and productive consultative arrangement as set out in its resolution 1996/31,

Emphasizing that the quadrennial reporting exercise mandated under resolution 1996/31 constitutes the only formal monitoring mechanism established to enable the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to confirm the continued existence and activity of a non-governmental organization and to determine that the organization conforms at all times to the principles governing the establishment and nature of its consultative relationship,

Recalling, in particular, paragraphs 55, 57 (c) and 61 (c) of its resolution 1996/31, which set out the responsibility of non-governmental organizations in general or special consultative status to submit quadrennial reports and the basis for the suspension or withdrawal of such consultative status for those organizations that fail to make any positive or effective contribution to the work of the United Nations,

Expressing serious concern at the unsatisfactory submission of quadrennial reports,

1. *Decides* that the procedure for the submission of quadrennial reports for a non-governmental organization in general or special consultative status shall be as follows:

(a) Six months prior to the due date for the report, the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat shall write to the non-governmental organization concerned to remind it of the reporting requirement, the expected date of the submission of the report and the penalties for non-reporting, as stipulated in the present resolution in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31;

(b) One month after the due date for the report, the Non-Governmental Organizations Section shall send a notice to the non-governmental organization concerned reminding it of the reporting requirement and of the penalties for non-reporting, and requesting that the report be submitted by the first day of the following January;

(c) If the outstanding report is not received by the first day of the following January, the Non-Governmental Organizations Section shall send a final letter to the non-governmental organization concerned, requesting that the report be submitted by the first day of the following May and warning that non-receipt of the report by that date shall result in the suspension of consultative status, and shall copy the letter to the Permanent Mission to the United Nations of the country where the non-governmental organization has its headquarters;

(d) If no report is received by the first day of the following May, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations shall, at its resumed session, compile a list of all non-governmental organizations with outstanding reports and recommend to the Economic and Social Council the immediate suspension of their consultative status for a period of one year;

(e) Following a decision by the Economic and Social Council to suspend the consultative status of any non-governmental organization with an outstanding report, the Non-Governmental Organizations Section shall write to the non-governmental organization concerned advising it of the suspension, requesting the submission of the outstanding report by the first day of May of the following

2008/6

The need to harmonize and improve United Nations informatics systems for optimal utilization and accessibility by all States

The Economic and Social Council,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation in the field of informatics¹⁰ and the initiatives of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics,

Recognizing the interest of Member States in taking full advantage of

stabilizing the e-mail services for delegates and for upgrading web-based services, such as the CandiWeb elections and candidatures site, as well as many Mission websites implementing the CandiWeb elections and candidatures website, a cooperative effort of the Secretariat and the diplomatic community coordinated by the Working Group;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to extend full cooperation to the Working Group and to give priority to implementing its recommendations and guidance, particularly with regard to the establishment of a Member State web portal to consolidate and simplify the secure access by authorized representatives of Member States to relevant information;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2009 on action taken in follow-up to the present resolution, including the findings of the Working Group and an assessment of its work and mandate.

*38th plenary meeting
22 July 2008*

2008/7

Restructuring of the conference structure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

“The General Assembly,

“Noting the adoption by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific at its sixty-fourth session, held in Bangkok from 24 to 30 April 2008, of resolution 64/1 on the restructuring of the conference structure of the Commission,¹²

“1. Endorses Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific resolution 64/1 on the restructuring of the conference structure of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific,¹² as set out in annex I to the present resolution;

“2. Also endorses the annexes to resolution 64/1, on the conference structure of the Commission, on issues to be addressed by the committees subsidiary to the Commission, and on the terms of reference of the Advisory

“*Commending* the initiatives of the Executive Secretary in facilitating an effective process of consultation among members and associate members on a comprehensive and thorough review of the conference structure of the Commission,

“*Underlining* the fact that an effective conference structure requires a strengthened evaluation system, added transparency and enhanced communication with the member States,

“1. *Decides* to revise its conference structure, with immediate effect, to conform to the pattern outlined in annex I to the present resolution;

“2. *Requests*

“Annex II

“Conference structure of the Commission

“I. The Commission

“1. The Commission shall meet annually, with each session comprising a senior officials segment followed by a ministerial segment, for up to a maximum of seven working days to discuss and decide on important issues pertaining to inclusive and sustainable economic and social development in the region, decide on the recommendations of its subsidiary bodies and of the Executive Secretary, review and endorse the proposed strategic framework and programme of work, and take any other decisions required, in conformity with its terms of reference.

“2. The sessions of the Special Body d,mg6r econit De(op)-6(m)uss ank s

“7. The eight committees shall meet biennially, with four committees meeting each year, for a maximum duration of five days for each session.

“8. Within their respective areas of purview, the committees shall:

“(a) Review and analyse regional trends;

“(b) Identify priorities and emerging issues and consult on regional approaches, taking into consideration subregional aspects;

“(c) Promote regional dialogue, including its subregional synergies, and an exchange of experiences on policies and programmes;

“(d) Consider common regional positions as inputs to global processes and promote regional follow-up to their outcomes;

“(e) Propose issues for consideration by the Commission as possible resolutions;

“(f) Monitor the implementation of Commission resolutions;

“(g) Promote a collaborative approach to addressing the development challenges of the region, where appropriate, between Governments and civil society, the private sector and United Nations and other international institutions at the regional and subregional levels.

“9. Further, within their respective areas of purview, the committees shall provide the secretariat, including its regional institutions, with guidance in reviewing the proposed strategic framework and programme of work.

- “• The Asian Highway, Trans-Asian Railway and other initiatives promoted by the Commission for planning international intermodal transport linkages
 - “• Measures to improve road safety and the efficiency of transport operations and logistics
 - “• Support for the accession and implementation of international transport agreements
- “4. Committee on Environment and Development:
- “• Integration of environmental sustainability in development policy
 - “• Policies and strategies for the use of sustainable planning and the use of water resources
 - “• Regional cooperation for enhanced energy security and the sustainable use of energy resources
- “5. Committee on Information and Communications Technology:
- “• Integration of information and communications technology-related issues in development policies, plans and programmes
 - “• Transfer and application of information and communications technology at the regional and subregional levels
 - “• Development of human and institutional capacity in the use of information and communications technology
 - “• Information and communications technology applications for disaster risk reduction
- “6. Committee on Disaster Risk Reduction:
- “• Policy options and strategies on multi-hazard disaster risk reduction and mitigation
 - “• Regional cooperation mechanisms for disaster risk management, including space and other technical support systems
 - “• Multi-hazard assessment, preparedness, early warning and response to disaster risks
- “7. Committee on Social Development:
- “• Implementation of internationally agreed commitments, including those agreed at the United Nations on social development, population, ageing, disability, youth and disadvantaged groups, gender equality and health
 - “• Policy options, strategies and good practices in social policy and protection
 - “• Social policies and financing aimed at building inclusive societies
- “8. Committee on Statistics:
- “• Tracking key socio-economic and environmental trends in the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific region, especially progress towards the Millennium Development Goals

- “• Identifying data requirements for economic, social and environmental analysis in accordance with internationally agreed standards and good practices
- “• Capacity-building for national statistical offices in the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific region to produce, disseminate and analyse data in accordance with internationally agreed standards and good practices

“Annex IV

“Terms of reference of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission

“The Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission shall have the following functions:

“(a) Maintain close cooperation and consultation between the members and the secretariat of the Commission;

“(b) Advise and assist the Executive Secretary in drawing up proposals for the strategic framework and programme of work, consistent with the guidance provided by the Commission;

“(c) Receive on a regular basis information on the administrative and financial functioning of the Commission, and assist and advise the Executive Secretary in monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the programme of work of the Commission;

“(d) Review the draft calendar of meetings prior to its submission to the Commission at its annual session;

“(e) Advise the Executive Secretary on the provisional agenda for sessions of the Commission and committees subsidiary to the Commission, bearing in mind the need to ensure a results-oriented and focused agenda that is aligned with the development priorities of member States, as well as chapter II of its rules of procedure;

“(f) Advise the Executive Secretary on the identification of emerging economic and social issues and other relevant issues for incorporation into the provisional agendas of the Commission sessions;

“(g) Assist the secretariat in the formulation of the annotated provisional agenda for each session of the Commission before it is finalized;

“(h) Carry out any other tasks to be entrusted to it by the Commission.”

*38th plenary meeting
22 July 2008*

2008/8
Admission of the Sudan as a memb

3. *Endorses* the decision of the Commission to hold its thirty-third session in Brazil in 2010.

*38th plenary meeting
22 July 2008*

**2008/10
Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti**

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2004/52 of 23 July 2004, 2005/46 of 27 July 2005, 2006/10 of 26 July 2006 and 2007/13 of 25 July 2007 and its decision 2004/332 of 11 November 2004,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti¹⁸ and the recommendations contained therein;
2. *Also takes note* of the political and economic evolution of the situation and welcomes the support provided by the international community to this process;
- 3.

8. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Secretary-General for the support provided to the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti and requests him to continue to support the Group's activities adequately from within existing resources;

9. *Requests* the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, in accomplishing its mandate, to continue to cooperate with the Secretary-General and his Special Representative in Haiti, the head of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti, the United Nations Development Group, relevant United Nations funds and programmes and the specialized agencies, the Bretton Woods institutions, regional organizations and institutions including the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Organization of American States, the Caribbean Community and the Inter-American Development Bank, and other major stakeholders;

10. *Also requests* the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti to submit a report on its work, with recommendations, as appropriate, to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2009.

Council resolution 1325 (2000) of 31 October 2000, on women and peace and security,

Noting the resumption of bilateral negotiations within the Middle East peace process on its agreed basis, and expressing the need for the speedy achievement of a final and comprehensive peace settlement between the Palestinian and Israeli sides,

Reaffirming the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding, and stressing the importance of their equal participation and involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security and the need to increase their role in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution,

Concerned about the grave situation of Palestinian women resulting from the severe impact of ongoing illegal Israeli practices, including settlement activities and the unlawful construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, the continued imposition of closures and restrictions on the movement of persons and goods and the many severe consequences arising from Israeli military operations in and sieges of civilian areas, in particular in the Gaza Strip, which have impacted detrimentally their social and economic conditions and deepened the humanitarian crisis faced by them and their families,

Stressing the importance of providing assistance, especially emergency assistance, to alleviate the dire socio-economic and humanitarian situation being faced by Palestinian women and their families,

Taking note of the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights of 31 August 2005²⁵ regarding Palestinian women giving birth at checkpoints, and expressing grave concern at the increasing difficulties faced by pregnant Palestinian women owing to a lack of appropriate and timely antenatal, delivery and post-natal care due to the obstruction of access to proper medical care,

Recalling the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice on the *Legal Consequences of the Construction of a Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory*,²⁶ and recalling also General Assembly resolution ES-10/15 of 20 July 2004,

Recalling also the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,²⁷ the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights²⁷ and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,²⁸ and affirming that these human rights instruments must be respected in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Expressing its condemnation of all acts of violence, including all acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction, especially the excessive use of force against Palestinian civilians, many of them women and children, resulting in injury and loss of human life,

²⁵ A/60/324.

²⁶ See A/ES-10/273 and Corr.1.

²⁷ General Assembly resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.

²⁸ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1577, No. 27531.

session, a report, including information provided by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, on the progress made in the implementation of the present resolution.

40th plenary meeting

23 July 2008

2008/12

Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its tenth session

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 59/209 of 20 December 2004 on a smooth transition strategy for countries graduating from the list of least developed countries,

Recalling also its resolutions 2007/34 and 2007/35 of 27 July 2007,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its tenth session;³²

2. *Requests* the Committee, at its eleventh session, to examine and make recommendations on the themes chosen by the Economic and Social Council for the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2009;

3. *Takes note* of the proposals made by the Committee regarding its future work programme, in particular regarding the monitoring of the development progress of Cape Verde;³³

4. *Requests* the Committee to monitor the development progress of countries graduating from the list of least developed countries and to include its findings in its annual report to the Economic and Social Council;

5. *Invites* the Chairperson and, as necessary, other members of the Committee to continue the practice of reporting orally on the work of the Committee.

41st plenary meeting

23 July 2008

³² *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2008, Supplement No. 13 (E/2008/33).*

³³ *Ibid.*, chap. I, para. 9.

2008/13
Protection against products harmful to health and the environment

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its decision 2007/264 of 27 July 2007, in which the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States and relevant intergovernmental entities, to evaluate the continued usefulness for the Member States of the Consolidated List of Products Whose Consumption and/or Sale have been Banned, Withdrawn, Severely Restricted or Not Approved by Governments and to report to the Council at its substantive session of 2008, and taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on products harmful to health and the environment,³⁴

1. *Invites* the United Nations Environment Programme to continue updating the chemicals volume of the Consolidated List of Products Whose Consumption and/or Sale have been Banned, Withdrawn, Severely Restricted or Not Approved by Governments and to report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session in 2010;

2. *Invites* the World Health Organization to continue updating the pharmaceuticals volume of the Consolidated List and to report to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session in 2010.

their activities with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,⁴⁰

Having heard the statement by the representative of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples,⁴¹

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 1514 (XV) of 14 December 1960 and 1541 (XV) of 15 December 1960, the resolutions of the Special Committee and other relevant resolutions and decisions, including, in particular, Economic and Social Council resolution 2007/25 of 26 July 2007,

Bearing in mind the relevant provisions of the final documents of the successive Conferences of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned Countries and of the resolution 7000.Td69.27(al CountTj/T3o50025 Tc i1 Tdu 10./Tc01u(t)-1(at)-7(2)TJ0.2)2(e)2(nt o)-0

other organizations of the United Nations system to implement the relevant

resolutions and decisions of the General Assembly and the Special Committee, on specific Territories, so that they may benefit from the related activities of those agencies and organizations;

16. *Recommends* that all Governments intensify their efforts within the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system of which they are members to accord priority to the question of providing assistance to the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories;

17. *Draws the attention* of the Special Committee to the present resolution and to the discussion held on the subject at the substantive session of 2008 of the Economic and Social Council;

18. *Recalls* the adoption by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean of its resolution 574 (XXVII) of 16 May 1998,⁴³ in which the Commission called for the necessary mechanisms for its associate members, including the Non-Self-Governing Territories, to participate, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, in the special sessions of the Assembly convened to review and assess the implementation of the plans of Tc 0.11 ofrc-5(t)-65hose
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cooperation through enhanced dialogue among national tax authorities and greater coordination of the work of the concerned multilateral bodies and relevant regional organizations, giving special attention to the needs of developing countries and countries with economies in transition,⁴⁴

Recalling the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of and follow-up to commitments and agreements made at the International Conference on Financing for Development⁴⁵ and the recommendations contained therein,

Recognizing the need for an inclusive, participatory and broad-based dialogue on international cooperation in tax matters,

Noting the activities developing within the concerned multilateral bodies and relevant subregional and regional organizations,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters on its third session⁴⁶ and the significant progress of the Committee's work;

2. *Also takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters,⁴⁷ taking into account the issues raised by the Committee at its second and third sessions;

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6. *Further notes* the establishment of the trust fund by the Secretary-General to supplement regular budget resources, and urges all Member States and relevant organizations to contribute generously to the fund;

7. *Invites* the Committee to work with the Secretariat on organizing training workshops, in collaboration with concerned multilateral bodies, and regional, subregional and relevant international organizations, for developing countries and countries with economies in transition as part of the work required to carry out its mandate, which includes making recommendations on capacity-building and providing technical assistance, provided that funding is available from the trust fund;

8. *Decides* that the fourth session of the Committee shall be convened in Geneva from 20 to 24 October 2008;

9. *Approves* the provisional agenda for the fourth session of the Committee as contained in its report on its third session.⁵⁰

*42nd plenary meeting
24 July 2008*

2008/17 Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling the outcomes of the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995,⁵¹ and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled "World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world", held in Geneva from 26 June to 1 July 2000,⁵²

Reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration of 8 September 2000,⁵³ the United Nations Declaration on the New Partnership for Africa's Development of 16 September 2002,⁵⁴ General Assembly resolution 57/7 of 4 November 2002 on the final review and appraisal of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s and support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development,⁵⁵

Noting the conclusions of the African Union Extraordinary Summit on Employment and Poverty Alleviation in Africa, held in Ouagadougou on 8 and 9 September 2004,

⁵⁰ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 25 (E/2007/45)*,

international environment for Africa's growth and development, including measures to promote a policy environment conducive to private sector development and entrepreneurship;

6. *Further emphasizes* that democracy, respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to development, transparent and accountable governance and administration in all sectors of society and effective participation by civil society, non-governmental organizations and the private sector are among the indispensable foundations for the realization of social and people-centred sustainable development;

7. *Emphasizes* that the rising poverty levels and social exclusion faced by most African countries require a comprehensive approach to the development and implementation of social and economic policies, inter alia, to reduce poverty, to promote economic activity, growth and sustainable development, to ensure employment creation and decent work for all, and to enhance social inclusion, political stability, democracy and good governance and the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, so as to ensure the achievement of Africa's social and economic objectives;

8. *Recognizes* that while social development is primarily the responsibility of Governments, international cooperation and assistance are essential for the full achievement of that goal;

9. *Also recognizes* the contribution made by Member States to the implementation of the New Partnership in that the rnd

the forty-seventh session of the Commission for Social Development, in

dual challenge of creating new productive jobs and improving the quality of existing ones,

Recognizing also that the decent-work agenda of the International Labour Organization is an important instrument for achieving the objective of full and productive employment and decent work for all through the promotion and realization of the fundamental principles and rights at work, creation of greater and equal opportunities for women and men to secure decent employment and income, and enhancement of the coverage and effectiveness of social protection for all and the strengthening of social dialogue,

1. *Reaffirms* the central importance of full and productive employment and decent work to poverty eradication and social integration;

2. *Also reaffirms* that the goals of full and productive employment and decent work are crucial to poverty eradication and should be made a central objective of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, as part of the efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

3. *Calls upon* Governments as a matter of priority to continue efforts towards ratifying, where Member States have not done so, and fully implementing the International Labour Organization conventions concerning respect for fundamental principles and rights at work, namely, freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to organize and bargain collectively, and the elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour, as well as the effective elimination of child labour and discrimination in respect of employment and occupation, and to consider also the ratification and full implementation of other International Labour Organization conventions concerning the employment rights of women, youth, persons with disabilities, migrants and indigenous peoples;

4. *Affirms* its strong support for fair globalization and the need to translate growth into eradication of poverty and commitment to strategies and policies that aim to promote full, freely chosen and productive employment and decent work for all and that these should constitute a fundamental component of relevant national and international policies as well as national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, and reaffirms that employment creation and decent work should be incorporated into macroeconomic policies, taking fully into account the impact and social dimension of globalization, the benefits and costs of which are often unevenly shared and distributed;

5. *Reaffirms* that there is an urgent need to create an environment at the national and international levels that is conducive to the attainment of full and productive employment and decent work for all as a foundation for sustainable development and that an environment that supports investment, growth and entrepreneurship is essential to the creation of new job opportunities, and also reaffirms that opportunities for men and women to obtain productive work in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity are essential to ensuring the eradication of hunger and poverty, the improvement of economic and social well-being for all, the achievement of sustained economic growth and sustainable development of all nations and a fully inclusive and equitable globalization;

6.

support labour-market participation; invites the International Labour Organization to strengthen its social protection strategies, and policies on extending social security coverage; and also urges Governments, while taking account of national circumstances, to focus on the needs of those living in, or vulnerable to, poverty and give particular consideration to universal access to basic social security systems;

15. *Invites* the International Labour Organization to continue to assist States, as appropriate and upon request, in the strengthening of their social protection strategies and policies on extending social security coverage;

16. *Calls upon* the public sector to continue to play its important role in developing an environment that enables the effective generation of full and productive employment and decent work for all, while acknowledging its role as an employer;

17. *Also calls upon* the private sector to continue to exercise its vital role in generating new investments, employment and financing for development and in advancing efforts towards full employment and decent work;

18. *Encourages* Governments to continue to pursue the creation of a conducive environment for

24. *Urges* the development and implementation of integrated policies and strategies that promote opportunities for youth, including those living in rural areas, to prepare for, access and retain full and productive employment and decent work, and for mainstreaming youth employment into national development strategies, as well as encourage young people's entrepreneurship, inter alia, through entrepreneurship education; at the same time, also urges that Governments should promote access to work through integrated policies that enable the creation of new and quality jobs for young people and facilitate access to those jobs; and stresses the importance of the Youth Employment Network as a peer exchange mechanism at the national, regional and international levels;

25. *Stresses* the importance of creating an enabling environment for social dialogue by ensuring effective representation and participation of workers' organizations in order to contribute to the development of policies for achieving broad-based social progress, in particular for promoting full and productive employment and decent work for all;

26. *Also stresses* that non-discrimination against older persons, especially in the labour market, is crucial;

27. *Acknowledges* the important nexus between international migration and social development, and stresses the importance of effectively enforcing labour laws applicable to migrant workers and members of their families, including, inter alia, any related to remuneration, conditions of health, safety at work and the right of freedom of association, and reaffirms that migrants, regardless of their immigration status, should be accorded the protection of all human rights;

28. *Recognizes* the importance of the International Labour Organization Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work;

29. *Reaffirms* the critical role of both formal and non-formal education in the achievement of full employment and decent work for all, in particular basic education and training for eradicating illiteracy; and in this regard, also reaffirms the need to intensify efforts to implement effectively the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade and to integrate substantially those efforts in the Education for All process and other activities of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, as well as other literacy initiatives within the framework of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals;

30. *Also reaffirms* that priority needs to be given to providing training and skills enhancement to increase the employability of the workforce and its adaptability to changing labour markets and that comprehensive policies need to be designed to provide access to education, vocational education and technical training, capacity-building, upgrading skills and acquisition of new knowledge and lifelong learning, and to raise the quality of education with the help of the international community, as appropriate;

31. *Emphasizes* that promoting decent work aims at the overall improvement of living and working conditions for all and encourages efforts, as appropriate to the country context, to address the challenge to gradually formalizing economic

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in order to achieve a more coherent and pragmatic United Nations approach to development at the national level on a voluntary basis;

38. *Decides* to keep full and productive employment and decent work for all under review and requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the Commission for Social Development at its forty-seventh session and to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session as part of the report on the outcome of the implementation of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the Assembly.

*42nd plenary meeting
24 July 2008*

2008/19

Future organization and methods of work of the Commission for Social Development

The Economic and Social Council,

opportunities for, the full enjoyment of all human rights by, and the well-being of persons with disabilities,

Noting with grave concern that persons with disabilities are subject to multiple or aggravated forms of discrimination, and recognizing the critical need to address the negative impact of poverty affecting the majority of persons with disabilities, who continue to be excluded from the benefits of development, such as education and access to gainful and productive employment and decent work as well as appropriate health care and accessible social services,

1. *Welcomes* the work of the Special Rapporteur on Disability of the Commission for Social Development, and takes note of her report on the monitoring of the implementation of the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities;⁷³

2. *Decides*

increased sensitivity, knowledge and skills in respect of understanding how to address issues related to persons with disabilities in their respective mandates and work;

5. *Requests* relevant United Nations entities, including the agencies, funds and programmes, as well as regional and international financial institutions, to include issues related to persons with disabilities, including the perspective of persons with disabilities, when planning country offices in accordance with their mandates;

6. *Urges* States, relevant United Nations entities, including the agencies, funds and programmes, regional and international financial and development institutions, civil society and the private sector, to give priority to the promotion of full and productive employment and decent work for persons with disabilities, as a key factor in ensuring that persons with disabilities benefit from development on an equal basis with others, and fully enjoy all human rights, including the right to work, and the opportunity to gain a living by work freely chosen or accepted, including by providing access to education and training, access to microcredit schemes and entrepreneurial opportunities, fostering a labour market and work environment that is open, inclusive and accessible to persons with disabilities, and promoting inclusive employment and human resources policies and reasonable accommodation in the workplace;

7. *Also urges* States, relevant United Nations entities, including the agencies, funds and programmes, regional and international financial and development institutions, civil society and the private sector to promote the participation of persons with disabilities on an equal basis with others in decision-making and their involvement in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of strategies, plans and programmes pertaining to them;

8. *Stresses* the need to enhance the accountability of all actors, including at the highest levels of decision-making, in the work of mainstreaming disability in the development agenda, including in the assessment of the impact of development efforts on the situation of persons with disabilities;

9. *Recognizes* the strategic importance of complementing efforts towards the mainstreaming of the issues related to persons with disabilities, including the perspective of persons with disabilities, inter alia, while considering the allocation of resources;

10. *Encourages* all States, concerned intergovernmental organizations and international organizations, civil society, in particular organizations of persons with disabilities, and the private sector, to engage in cooperative arrangements that aim at providing the necessary technical and expert assistance to enhance capacities in mainstreaming issues related to persons with disabilities, including the perspective of persons with disabilities, in development efforts, and in this regard encourages the United Nations Secretariat and other relevant bodies to find improved ways to enhance international technical cooperation;

11. *Encourages* States to mainstream disability in poverty eradication policies and strategies to ensure their accessibility, and in this regard encourages the international community to provide support and assistance;

12. *Urges* all States, international and regional organizations and civil society, in particular organizations of persons with disabilities, to ensure that international cooperation, including international development programmes, is inclusive of and accessible to persons with disabilities;

13. *Urges* States, relevant entities of the United Nations system, including the agencies, funds and programmes, and invites international and regional development organizations and financial institutions, to take concrete measures to incorporate issues related to persons with disabilities, including the perspective of persons with disabilities, and accessibility requirements into development cooperation and development finance activities;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the implementation of the present resolution for submission to the Commission for Social Development at its forty-eighth session.

*42nd plenary meeting
24 July 2008*

2008/22

Preparations for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

“The General Assembly,

“Recalling its resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001 on the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, and its resolution 62/173 of 18 December 2007 on the follow-up to the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in which it, inter alia, accepted with gratitude the offer of the Government of Brazil to act as host to the Twelfth Congress,

“Considering that, pursuant to its resolutions 415 (V) of 1 December

“5. *Approves* the following provisional agenda for the Twelfth Congress, finalized by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its seventeenth session:

- “1. Opening of the Congress.
- “2. Organizational matters.
- “3. Children, youth and crime.
- “4. Provision of technical assistance to facilitate the ratification and implementation of the international instruments related to the prevention and suppression of terrorism.
- “5. Making the United Nations guidelines on crime prevention work.
- “6. Criminal justice responses to the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons: links to transnational organized crime.
- “7. International cooperation to address money-laundering based on existing and relevant United Nations and other instruments.
- “8. Recent developments in the use of science and technology by offenders and by competent authorities in fighting crime, including the case of cybercrime.
- “9. Strengthening international cooperation in fighting crime-related problems: practical approaches.
- “10. Crime prevention and criminal justice responses to violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families.
- “11. Adoption of the report of the Congress.

“6. *Decides* that the following issues shall be considered in workshops within the framework of the Twelfth Congress:

- “(a) International criminal justice ~~and~~ Enl796 TdnTd96 Td[]-1749(“77TJ0.04-amewor2mTd[c7TJ0.0

Expressing the need, where appropriate, to strengthen and fully implement mechanisms for the return or restitution of cultural property after it has been stolen or trafficked and for its protection and preservation,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on protection against trafficking in cultural property;⁹⁰

2. *Welcomes* national, regional and international initiatives for the protection of cultural property, in particular the work of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and its Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in Case of Illicit Appropriation;

3. *Reiterates its request* that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in close cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, convene an open-ended intergovernmental expert group meeting, with interpretation in all the official languages of the United Nations, to submit to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eighteenth session relevant recommendations on protection against trafficking in cultural property, including ways of making more effective the model treaty for the prevention of crimes that infringe on the cultural heritage of peoples in the form of movable property,⁸³ and invites Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions for those purposes in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

4. *Encourages* Member States asserting State ownership of cultural property to consider means of issuing statements of such ownership with a view to facilitating the enforcement of property claims in other States;

5. *Urges* Member States and relevant institutions, as appropriate, to strengthen and fully implement mechanisms to strengthen international cooperation, including mutual legal assistance, in order to combat trafficking in cultural property, including trafficking committed through the use of the Internet, and to facilitate the recovery, return or restitution of cultural property;

6. *Urges* Member States to protect cultural property and prevent trafficking in such property by introducing appropriate legislation, including, in particular, procedures for the seizure, return or restitution of cultural property, promoting education, launching awareness-raising campaigns, mapping and carrying out inventories of cultural property, providing adequate security measures, developing the capacities and human resources of monitoring institutions such as the police, customs services and the tourism sector, involving the media and disseminating information on the theft and pillaging of cultural property;

7. *Also urges* Member States to take effective measures to prevent the transfer of illicitly acquired or illegally obtained cultural property, especially through auctions, including through the Internet, and to effect its return or restitution to its rightful owners;

8. *Further urges* Member States to continue to strengthen international cooperation and mutual assistance for the prevention and prosecution of crime

ratify and implement the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property⁸⁴ and other relevant international instruments;

9. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to develop its relations with the cooperative network established among the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Council of Museums, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law and the World Customs Organization in the areas of trafficking in cultural property and its return or restitution;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its nineteenth session on the implementation of

Considering that the fight against crime can effectively reach its objectives through a combination of national policies on criminal justice and crime prevention to address the causes of crime and violence, bearing in mind that allocating resources to crime prevention can greatly reduce the financial and social costs of crime,

Recognizing the importance of the engagement between civil society and law enforcement authorities in the planning and implementation of crime prevention activities,

Recalling the commitments made by the international community in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,⁹¹ in particular regarding the fight against crime and the objective of making the right to development a reality for everyone,

1. *Encourages* Member States to adopt and strengthen, as appropriate, effective urban crime prevention responses, with a view to achieving an appropriate balance with criminal justice actions;

2. *Also encourages* Member States to integrate crime prevention considerations into all relevant social and economic policies and programmes in order to effectively address the conditions in which crime and violence can emerge;

3. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to explicitly address the crime prevention component in its programme of work and reporting, where relevant, including good practices that integrate crime prevention and criminal justice;

4. *Invites* Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to support technical assistance activities in this area, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.

*42nd plenary meeting
24 July 2008*

2008/25

International cooperation in preventing and combating illicit international trafficking in forest products, including timber, wildlife and other forest biological resources

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2001/12 of 24 J0.0

Recalling General Assembly resolution 62/98 of 17 December 2007, by which the Assembly adopted the non-legally binding instrument on all types of forests, contained in the annex to that resolution,

Recalling also resolution 16/1 adopted by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its sixteenth session,⁹⁴

Noting with concern that illicit international trafficking in forest products, including timber, wildlife and other forest biological resources, constitutes a major source of concern because such activities have an adverse environmental, social and economic impact on many countries,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the meeting of the Open-ended Expert Group on International Cooperation in Preventing and Combating Illicit International Trafficking in Forest Products, including Timber, Wildlife and Other Forest Biological Resources, held in Jakarta from 26 to 28 March 2008;⁹⁵

2. *Encourages* Member States to continue to provide the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime with information on measures taken pursuant to Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice resolution 16/1,⁹⁴ taking into consideration the emphasis that the Open-ended Expert Group, in its report, placed on, inter alia, the need for holistic and comprehensive national multisectoral approaches to preventing and combating illicit international trafficking in forest products, including timber, wildlife and other forest biological resources, as well as for international coordination and cooperation in support of such approaches, including through technical assistance activities to build the capacity of relevant national officials and institutions;

3. *Requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to make available the text of the present resolution and the report of the Open-ended Expert Group to the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime⁹⁶ at its fourth session;

4. *Also requests* the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to report on the implementation of the present resolution and to provide a brief summary of the mandates and the work of other relevant organizations in this area to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eighteenth session.

*42nd plenary meeting
24 July 2008*

⁹⁴ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 10* (E/2007/30/Rev.1), chap. I, sect. D.

⁹⁵ E/CN.15/2008/20.

⁹⁶ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

2008/26

Promoting sustainability and integrality in alternative development as an important part of drug control strategy in States where illicit crops are grown to produce drugs

The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1954,⁹⁷ that Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol,⁹⁸ the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971⁹⁹ and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,¹⁰⁰

Recalling the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,¹⁰¹

3. *Agrees* on the relevance of enhancing alternative development and

Annex
Best practices and lessons learned in sustainable alternative livelihood
development of Thailand

1. First and foremost, alternative development, which in the context of the Thai

7. It is necessary to achieve a balance between a bottom-up and a top-down approach. Strong and committed leadership is required to ensure that development policies and activities are based on a true understanding of the needs and concerns of the target communities at the grass-roots level. Clear and constant communication is critical, especially at the beginning, for knowledge and experiences to be transferred not only from development practitioners but also to them.

8. Viable livelihoods should be available to all members of the community: the young and the elderly; the fit and the infirm; and men and women alike. Having a variety of income-generating activities may serve as a safety net against shocks and crises (as in the case of the dual-product approach) [Livelihoods (56) (2007) 31] (note that the following is a general statement) [64]

2008/27

**Provision of international assistance to the most affected States
neighbouring Afghanistan**

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2001/16 of 24 July 2001, 2002/21 of 24 July 2002, 2003/34 and 2003/35 of 22 July 2003 and 2005/27 of 22 July 2005 and other relevant resolutions on international assistance to States affected by the transit of illicit drugs,

Taking note with concern of the report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime entitled “Afghanistan: opium survey 2007”, in which the Office emphasized that, in 2007, Afghanistan had produced 8,200 tons of opium, representing 93 per cent of global production,

Noting the progress that Afghanistan has made in implementing the National Drug Control Strategy of the Government of Afghanistan,¹¹² including the fact that

Bearing in mind that the constantly changing tactics of drug traffickers and the introduction of new varieties of illicit drugs increase the challenges and harm that they cause in Afghanistan, in the States neighbouring Afghanistan and in other parts of the world,

1. *Reaffirms* its commitment, in accordance with the principle of shared responsibility, to counter the world drug problem in all its manifestations, in a coordinated manner, in particular by providing technical assistance and support to the transit States most affected by drug trafficking;

2. *Calls upon* the Government of Afghanistan to intensify, with the support of the international community, its efforts to continue implementing, in particular, the eight pillars¹¹⁶ of the National Drug Control Strategy,¹¹² to identify and dismantle laboratories illicitly manufacturing heroin and morphine and to trace and curb the illicit supply of precursors;

3. *Commends* regional initiatives to strengthen international and regional cooperation aimed at countering the threat posed by the illicit production of drugs in Afghanistan and trafficking in drugs originating in that country;

4. *Encourages* cross-border cooperation among Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan;

5. *Calls upon* all Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide the technical assistance and support needed for strengthening the initiatives and efforts of Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan to fight drug trafficking, thereby also reducing the deleterious impact of illicit drugs in all parts of the world, and invites Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions for those purposes in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

6. *Encourages* the States neighbouring Afghanistan to enhance coordination through existing regional mechanisms for strengthening border cooperation and information exchange;

7. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to provide technical assistance and support needed for strengthening the efforts of States neighbouring Afghanistan to fight drug trafficking, and invites Member States and other donors to provide extrabudgetary contributions for those purposes in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations;

8. *Welcomes* the trilateral ministerial meeting held in Vienna in June 2007, with the assistance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, which brought together high-level officials from Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan, and supports the decision to hold another trilateral meeting in the Islamic Republic of Iran in 2008;

9. *Emphasizes* the importance of taking measures to reduce demand and the adverse consequences of drug abuse in conjunction with measures to reduce supply in order to effectively counter the menace posed by illicit drugs to the entire international community;

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Reaffirming the commitments to the global partnership for development set out in the United Nations Millennium Declaration, the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development¹²⁰ and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development (“Johannesburg Plan of Implementation”),¹²¹

1. *Requests* the funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system, as appropriate within their mandates, to make further progress towards more comprehensive, coherent and multidimensional approaches in the formulation of their policies, programmes and operations supporting the eradication of poverty and hunger;

2. *Also requests* the funds, programmes and agencies of the United Nations system, as appropriate within their mandates, to strengthen their efforts to provide policy support to developing countries and assist them upon request in building their capacity to analyse the impact of a broad range of policy areas on the eradication of

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sustainable development within the United Nations system and to serve as a forum for consideration of issues related to

their mandates, as appropriate, to contribute to the annual ministerial review and to the Development Cooperation Forum, in the context of their respective annual workplans, taking into account their specificities;

9. *Stresses* the important contribution of civil society in the implementation

efforts for socio-economic recovery and reforms in the public administration, security and defence sectors;

6. *Invites* the partners of Guinea-Bissau to provide predictable and adequate

resolution ES-10/15, and stressing the need to comply with the obligations mentioned therein,

Expressing grave concern at the extensive destruction by Israel, the occupying Power, of properties, agricultural land and orchards in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, including, in particular, in connection with its construction of the wall, contrary to international law, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem,

Expressing deep concern about continuing Israeli military operations and the continuing Israeli policy of closures and severe restrictions on the movement of persons and goods, including humanitarian personnel and food, medical, fuel and other essential supplies, via the imposition of crossing closures, checkpoints and a permit regime throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the consequent negative impact on the socio-economic situation of the Palestinian people, which remains that of dire humanitarian crisis, in particular in the Gaza Strip,

Gravely concerned by various reports of the United Nations and the specialized agencies regarding the inordinate rates of unemployment, widespread poverty and severe humanitarian hardships, including food insecurity and rising health-related problems, including high levels of malnutrition, among the Palestinian people, especially children, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem,

Expressing grave concern at the increasing number of deaths and injuries of civilians, including children and women,

Emphasizing the importance of the safety and well-being of all civilians, and calling for the cessation of all acts of violence, including all acts of terror, provocation, incitement and destruction, and all firing of rockets,

Conscious of the urgent need for the reconstruction and development of the economic and social infrastructure of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as the urgent need to address the dire humanitarian crisis facing the Palestinian people,

Commending the important work being done by the United Nations, theu0.017 Tc 0.r{Gravee by.0

1. *Calls for* the lifting of the severe restrictions imposed on the Palestinian people, including those arising from ongoing Israeli military operations, and for other urgent measures to be taken to alleviate the desperate humanitarian situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, especially in the Gaza Strip;

2. *Stresses* the need to preserve the national unity and the territorial integrity of the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and to guarantee the freedom of movement of persons and goods throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as to and from the outside world;

3. *Demands* that Israel comply with the Protocol on Economic Relations between the Government of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization signed in Paris on 29 April 1994;¹³¹

4. *Calls upon* Israel to restore and replace civilian properties, vital infrastructure, agricultural lands and governmental institutions that have been damaged or destroyed as a result of its military operations in the Occupied Palestinian Territory;

5. *Reiterates the call* for the full implementation of the Agreement on Movement and Access of 15 November 2005, particularly the urgent and uninterrupted reopening of Rafah and Karni crossings, which is crucial to ensuring the passage of foodstuffs and essential supplies, including fuel, as well as the unhindered access of the United Nations agencies to and within the Occupied Palestinian Territory, and expresses deep concern at any actions that threaten the integrity of the border crossings and the distribution of fuel;

6. *Calls upon* all parties to respect the rules of international humanitarian law and to refrain from violence against the civilian population in accordance with the Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War, of 12 August 1949;¹²⁶

7. *Reaffirms* the inalienable right of the Palestinian people and the Arab population of the occupied Syrian Golan to all their natural and economic resources, and calls upon Israel, the occupying Power, not to exploit, endanger or cause loss or depletion of these resources;

8. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cease its destruction of homes and properties, economic institutions and agricultural lands and orchards in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as in the occupied Syrian Golan;

9. *Also calls upon* Israel, the occupying Power, to cease the dumping of all kinds of waste materials in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in the occupied Syrian Golan, which gravely threaten their natural resources, namely, the water and land resources, and pose an environmental hazard and health threat to the civilian populations, and calls for the further implementation of critical environmental projects, including the sewage treatment plant in the Gaza Strip;

¹³¹ See A/49/180-S/1994/727, annex, entitled "Agreement on the Gaza Strip and the Jericho Area", annex IV.

10. *Reaffirms* that Israeli settlements in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the occupied Syrian Golan, are illegal and constitute a major obstacle to economic and social development, and calls for the full implementation of the relevant Security Council resolutions and compliance by Israel, the occupying Power, with international law, including the Fourth Geneva Convention;¹²⁶

11. *Also reaffirms* that Israel's ongoing construction of the wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem, is contrary to international law and is isolating East Jerusalem, fragmenting the West Bank and seriously debilitating the economic and social development of the Palestinian people, and calls in this regard for full compliance with the legal obligations mentioned in the advisory opinion rendered on 9 July 2004 by the International Court of Justice¹²⁹ and in General Assembly resolution ES-10/15;

12. *Calls upon* Israel to comply with the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention, and to facilitate the visits of Syrian citizens of the occupied Syrian Golan whose family members reside in their mother homeland, the Syrian Arab Republic, via the Qunaitra entrance;

13. *Emphasizes* the importance of the work of United Nations organizations and agencies and of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority;

14. *Expresses its hope* that the resumed peace process will speedily advance to pave the way for the establishment of the independent Palestinian State and the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive peace settlement in accordance with relevant United Nations resolutions, and stressing in this regard the importance of the Madrid Conference, the Arab Peace Initiative and the principle of land for peace;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session, through the Economic and Social Council, a report on the implementation of the present resolution and to continue to include in the report of the United Nations Special Coordinator an update on the living conditions of the Palestinian people, in collaboration with relevant United Nations agencies;

16. *Decides* to include the item entitled "Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan" in the agenda of its substantive session of 2009.

*44th plenary meeting
25 July 2008*

public administration training, improving performance in the public sector, financial management, public-private interaction, social development, developing infrastructure and protecting the environment, governmental legal and regulatory capacity, and the management and implementation of development programmes;¹³⁸

4. *Invites* Member States to continue to monitor the progress made towards the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, and to prepare an inventory of good administrative policies implemented to support the Goals, including the necessary capacities, institutional development aspects and strategic visions concerning a modern civil service, and emphasizes that the United Nations system, particularly the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat and other concerned United Nations bodies, should support such efforts and the sharing of best practices and lessons learned;

5. *Stresses* that capacity-building for public administration is of utmost importance for all transitioning economies, the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, post-conflict rehabilitation and reconstruction, and disaster/crisis management and preparedness, that capacity-building processes in those areas share a number of important common features and experiences concerning the interaction of societal, systemic, organizational and individual levels of action, and that Member States should share these experiences in a more systematic and comprehensive way;

6. *Emphasizes* that in capacity-building for post-conflict recovery and reconstruction, the continuity of administration and public services, the coherence of the public sector and a multi-stakeholder approach are important prerequisites, and that in capacity-building for post-disaster and crisis situations, the United Nations system, particularly the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and other United Nations bodies, should support efforts to distil and share lessons learned and best practices;

7. *Requests* the Secretariat to enhance its support for capacity-building,¹³⁹ including in the public sector, ensuring that available resources are adequate and existing resource levels are maintained;

8. *Also requests* the Secretariat to continually focus on the United Nations Public Service Awards, the United Nations Online Network in Public Administration and Finance, the Innovators Network, the *World Public Sector Reports* and the Global Forum on Reinventing Government, and further requests the Secretariat to continue its useful role in facilitating the implementation of the action lines contained in the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society;¹⁴⁰

9. *Notes* the latest phase of the work done by the Committee of Experts on basic United Nations terminology in governance and public administration through a review of proposed definitions;

¹³⁸ See A/50/525-E/1995/122.

¹³⁹ See General Assembly resolution 60/1, para. 22 (f).

¹⁴⁰ See A/60/687.

non-governmental organizations in respect of addressing the problem of trafficking in persons, especially women and children,

Highlighting that strengthened international cooperation and coordination are needed to combat the activities of transnational criminal organizations and others that profit from the trafficking in persons, to protect and assist all victims, with full respect for their human rights, and to ensure the exercise of due diligence with respect to prevention and investigation and punishment of perpetrators,

Underlining the need to continue to work towards a comprehensive and coordinated approach to the problem of trafficking in persons through the appropriate national, regional and international mechanisms,

Recognizing that addressing the problem of trafficking in persons requires a comprehensive approach, including addressing social and economic factors that make persons more vulnerable to trafficking, such as poverty, lack of opportunity, discrimination and marginalization, as well as strengthening the rule of law, combating corruption and discouraging and reducing demand that fosters all forms of exploitation of persons, especially women and children, and that thus promotes trafficking,

1. *Urges* all States, individually and through international cooperation, as well as the United Nations system, to increase, in a coherent, comprehensive and coordinated manner, efforts to counter trafficking in persons;

2. *Urges* all States that have not yet done so to consider ratifying or

in preventing and combating trafficking in persons and protecting victims of such trafficking”;

7. *Calls for* full implementation of relevant instruments for the prevention and combating of trafficking in persons, and protection of victims of trafficking;

8. *Reiterates the invitation* to Member States to consider the advisability of establishing a United Nations strategy or plan of action on preventing trafficking in persons, prosecuting traffickers and protecting and assisting victims of trafficking;

9. *Welcomes* the work carried out under the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN.GIFT) and encourages the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to cooperate with relevant international organizations outside of the United Nations system, utilizing extrabudgetary resources, and to invite such organizations to participate, when appropriate, in the meetings of the Inter-Agency Cooperation Group against Trafficking in Persons and to keep Member States informed of the schedule of and the progress made by the Cooperation Group;

10. *Invites* Member States to provide voluntary contributions to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in order to facilitate optimum implementation of coordination functions;

11. *Highlights* the role of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols in ensuring the full and effective implementation of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress

Reaffirming also the commitment made at the 2005 World Summit to actively promote the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes in all political, economic and social spheres and to further undertake to strengthen the capabilities of the United Nations system in the area of gender,

Acknowledging that enhancing women's opportunities, potential and activities requires a dual focus, namely, programmes aimed at meeting the basic and specific needs of women for capacity-building, organizational development and empowerment, together with gender mainstreaming together with a gender perspective

(i) Promote a United Nations system-wide common understanding of a results-based management framework with benchmarks and indicators for measuring progress in the application of the gender mainstreaming strategy to achieve gender equality;

(j) Include clear gender equality results and gender-sensitive indicators in their strategic frameworks;

(k) Assess the gaps in gender mainstreaming and unify methodologies for evaluation after the implementation of gender mainstreaming policies and programmes within the United Nations system;

(l) Strengthen collaboration between United Nations country teams on gender equality programmes, including through joint activities and the strengthening of the capacity of gender theme groups to support such activities;

(m) Mainstream a gender perspective and pursue gender equality in their

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2009 a detailed report on progress made in the implementation of the present resolution, including updated information on the implementation of paragraph 4 of Council resolution 2006/36.

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2008/35 United Nations Institute for Training and Research

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolutions 51/188 of 16 December 1996, 52/206 of 18 December 1997, 53/195 of 15 December 1998, 54/229 of 22 December 1999, 55/208 of 20 December 2000, 56/208 of 21 December 2001, 57/268 of 20 December 2002, 58/223 of 23 December 2003, 59/252 of 22 December 2004, 60/213 of 22 December 2005 and 62/210 of 19 December 2007 and its decision 61/542 of 20 December 2006,

Welcoming the decision to streamline the reporting arrangements of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/210,

Recalling in particular paragraph 9 of General Assembly resolution 62/210,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,¹⁵²

Noting that the Institute is self-funded to date, not receiving any kind of subsidies from the United Nations regular budget, and delivers, free of charge, training courses to diplomats and delegates accredited to United Nations Headquarters in New York and to the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi,

Stressing that core diplomatic training offered by the Institute is a service accessible to diplomats of the entire membership of the United Nations and strengthens capacities of diplomats to perform their multilateral duties,

Noting the solid overall financial situation of the Institute, with a projected increase of funding of at least 26 per cent between the previous and current bienniums, and expressing its appreciation to the Governments and private institutions that have made or pledged financial and other contributions to the Institute,

Noting also that, despite the growing need for training and capacity development, voluntary contributions remain at a low level, putting at risk the training courses that the Institute delivers to diplomats and delegates accredited to United Nations Headquarters in New York and to the United Nations Offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi,

Reiterating that training and capacity-development activities should be accorded a more visible and larger role in support of the management of

¹⁵² E/2008/72.

international affairs, and in the execution of the economic and social development programmes of the United Nations system,

1. *Acknowledges* the progress made by the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, in light of the strategic reforms introduced by its Executive Director and endorsed by its Board of Trustees, for the Institute to be a centre of excellence;

2. *Also acknowledges* the work of the Board of Trustees and welcomes the contributions of its newly reconstituted membership with respect to guiding the Institute through its reforms;

3. *Considers* that the core diplomatic training offered by the Institute is unique in its beneficiary base and its reliance on United Nations expertise;

4. *Notes with concern* that a lack of voluntary contributions could lead to a cessation of this service which is particularly important for the training of delegates from developing and least developed countries;

5. *Appeals*, in this regard, to the Institute to continue its fund-raising strategy and to all Governments, in particular those of developed countries, and to private institutions that have not yet contributed financially or otherwise to the Institute, to give it their generous financial and other support, and urges the States that have interrupted their voluntary contributions to consider resuming them in

Expressing grave concern at the increase in the number of people affected by humanitarian emergencies, including those associated with natural hazards and complex emergencies, and at the increased impact of natural disasters as well as at the displacement resulting from humanitarian emergencies,

Reaffirming the need for all actors engaged in the provision of humanitarian assistance in situations of complex emergencies and natural disasters to promote and fully respect the humanitarian principles of humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence,

Reiterating the need to mainstream a gender perspective into humanitarian assistance in a comprehensive and consistent manner, and taking note of the updated policy of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee on gender equality in humanitarian action,

Expressing its deep concern at the increasing challenges posed to Member States and to the United Nations humanitarian response capacity by the consequences of natural disasters, including the impact of climate change, and by the humanitarian implications of the current global food crisis,

Condemning the increasing number of attacks and other acts of violence against humanitarian personnel, and expressing its deep concern about the implications for the provision of humanitarian assistance to populations in need,

Recognizing the clear relationship between emergency, rehabilitation and development, and reaffirming that, in order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and development, emergency assistance must be provided in ways that will be supportive of recovery and long-term development, and that emergency measures should be seen as a step towards long-term development,

Welcoming the holding of the High-level Conference on World Food Security in Rome from 3 to 5 June 2008, and noting the importance of implementing its outcome, including those elements related to humanitarian assistance,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;¹⁵³

2. *Encourages* Member States to create and strengthen an enabling environment for the capacity-building of their national and local authorities, national societies of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, and national and local non-governmental and community-based organizations in providing timely

4. *Urges* Member States to develop, update and strengthen disaster preparedness and risk reduction measures at all levels, in accordance with priority 5 of the Hyogo Framework for Action,¹⁵⁴ taking into account their own circumstances and capacities and in coordination with relevant actors, as appropriate, and encourages the international community and relevant United Nations entities to continue to support national efforts in this regard;

5. *Encourages* Member States and, where applicable, regional organizations to strengthen operational and legal frameworks for international disaster relief, taking into account, as appropriate, the Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance, adopted at the thirtieth International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent held in Geneva in November 2007;

6. *Calls upon* the relevant organizations of the United Nations system and, as appropriate, other relevant humanitarian actors to continue to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance at the field level, including with national authorities of the affected State, as appropriate, and to further enhance transparency, performance and accountability;

7. *Recognizes* the benefits of engagement of and coordination with relevant humanitarian actors to the effectiveness of humanitarian response, and encourages the United Nations to continue to pursue efforts to strengthen partnerships at the global level with the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, relevant humanitarian non-governmental organizations and other participants of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee;

8. *Urges* Member States to continue to take the necessary steps to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel operating within their borders, recognizes the need for appropriate collaboration between humanitarian actors and relevant authorities of the affected State in matters related to their safety and security, requests the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to contribute to enhancing the safety and security of personnel involved in United Nations humanitarian operations, and urges Member States to ensure that perpetrators of crimes committed on their territory against humanitarian personnel do not operate with impunity and are brought to justice as provided for by national laws and obligations under international law;

9. *Welcomes* decisions taken during the United Nations Climate Change Conference in 2007, in particular the Bali Action Plan,¹⁵⁵ encourages Member States, as well as regional organizations and relevant international organizations, in accordance with their specific mandates, to support adaptation to the effects of climate change and to strengthen disaster risk reduction and early warning systems in order to minimize the humanitarian consequences of natural disasters, including the impact of climate change, and also encourages relevant entities to continue research on these humanitarian implications;

¹⁵⁴ Hyogo Framework for Action 2005-2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters, adopted by the World Conference on Disaster Reduction (A/CONF.206/6 and Corr.1), chap. I, resolution 2.

¹⁵⁵ FCCC/CP/2007/6/Add.1, decision 1/CP.13.

10. *Takes note* of the recent establishment by the Secretary-General of the High-level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis, and encourages its continued engagement with Member States;

11. *Takes note with interest* of the section on the use of foreign military assets in disaster relief contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations,¹⁵⁶ emphasizes the fundamentally civilian character of humanitarian assistance, and reaffirms the need in situations where military capacity and assets are used to support the implementation of humanitarian assistance, for their use to be undertaken with the consent of the affected State and in conformity with international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as humanitarian principles;

12. *Recalls* the Guidelines on the Use of Military and Civil Defence Assets in Disaster Relief, also known as the Oslo Guidelines, stresses the value of their use, and invites Member States to raise awareness about them;

13. *Requests* Member States, relevant United Nations organizations and other relevant actors to ensure that all aspects of humanitarian response address the specific needs of women, girls, men and boys, including through the improved collection, analysis and reporting of sex- and age-disaggregated data, taking into account, inter alia, the available information provided by States;

14. *Urges* Member States to continue to prevent, investigate and prosecute acts of gender-based violence, including sexual violence in humanitarian emergencies, calls upon Member States and relevant organizations to strengthen support services to victims of such violence, and also calls for a mo()erv4 T3m6(and)-6(al3 Tw 0 -10ves

18. *Requests*

1. *Takes note* of the annual progress report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010;¹⁶²

2. *Reaffirms* that the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010¹⁵⁸ constitutes a fundamental framework for a strong global partnership aimed at accelerating sustained economic growth, sustainable development and poverty eradication in the least developed countries;

3. *Welcomes* the Declaration¹⁶³ adopted by Heads of State and Government and heads of delegations participating in the high-level meeting of the sixty-first session of the General Assembly on the midterm comprehensive global review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010, in which they recommitted themselves to addressing the

must be guided by an integral approach, a broader genuine partnership, country ownership, market considerations and results-oriented actions encompassing:

- (a) Fostering a people-centred policy framework;
- (b) Ensuring good governance at both the national and international levels as essential for the implementation of the commitments embodied in the Programme of Action;
- (c) Building human and institutional capacities;
- (d) Building productive capacities to make globalization work for the least developed countries;
- (e) Enhancing the role of trade in development;
- (f) Reducing vulnerability and protecting the environment;

16. *Stresses* the crucial importance of integrated and coordinated follow-up, monitoring and reporting for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

17. *Also stresses*, within the context of the annual global reviews, as envisaged in the Programme of Action, the need to assess the implementation of the Programme of Action sector by sector, and in this regard invites the United Nations system and all relevant international organizations, consistent with their respective mandates, to report on the progress made in its implementation using quantifiable criteria and indicators to be measured against the goals and targets of the Programme of Action and to participate fully in reviews of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels;

18. *Reiterates its invitation* to the organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and other relevant multilateral organizations to provide full support to and cooperation with the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure, at the Secretariat level, the full mobilization and coordination of all parts of the United Nations system to facilitate coordinated implementation and coherence in the follow-up to and monitoring and review of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and global levels, including through such coordination mechanisms as the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, the United Nations Development Group, the Executive Committee on Economic and Social Affairs and the Inter-Agency Expert Group on the Millennium Development Goals Indicators;

20. *Expresses its concern* about the insufficiency of resources in the trust fund established for the participation of the least developed countries in the annual review of the implementation of the Programme of Action by the Economic and Social Council, and expresses its appreciation to those countries that have made voluntary contributions;

21. *Reiterates* the critical importance of the participation of Government representatives from the least developed countries in the annual review of the Programme of Action by the Economic and Social Council, expresses, in this regard, its deep appreciation to those countries that have made voluntary contributions to the special trust fund established for this purpose by the Secretary-General, invites donor countries to continue to support the participation of two representatives from each least developed country in the annual review of the implementation of the Programme of Action, including by contributing in an adequate and timely manner to the special trust fund, and requests the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to mobilize the necessary resources in order to ensure that the trust fund is adequately resourced and to provide information on the status of the trust fund;

22. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to include least developed country issues in all relevant reports in the economic, social and related fields in order to ensure follow-up to their development in the broader context of the world economy and contribute to preventing their marginalization while promoting their further integration into the world economy;

23. *Recalls* paragraph 114 of the Programme of Action on holding a fourth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries towards the end of the

current decade, and notes the steps being undertaken in this regard, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 62/203;

24. *Requests* the Secretary-General to step up appropriate measures for the

Decisions

2008/201 E

Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments to subsidiary and related bodies of the Economic and Social Council

At its 29th and 32nd plenary meetings, on 11 and 16 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council took the following action with regard to vacancies in its subsidiary and related bodies:

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

The Council elected Eugenio A.

**Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme
on Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency
Syndrome (UNAIDS)**

The Council elected the **Congo** for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2009.

Nomination postponed from a previous session

Committee for Programme and Coordination

of 26 April 2007, and recognizing the need for maximizing the meaningful participation of and contributions by civil society and business entities in the work

participate, on an exceptional basis, in the work of the Commission in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Council;

(c) Emphasized that the present decision had been taken on an exceptional basis and without prejudice to the established rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council, in particular the provisions of Council resolution 1996/31 concerning the accreditation and participation of non-governmental organizations and other major groups in the work of the Council and its subsidiary bodies, and that it should not be construed as creating a precedent;

(d) Decided to review in 2010 the list of academic entities and the modalities for their participation in the work of the Commission.

2008/219

Report of the Secretary-General on science, technology and innovation to be submitted to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its twelfth session

At its 34th plenary meeting, on 18 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its twelfth session on the science, technology and innovation priority themes addressed during the current biennium.

2008/220

Report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its eleventh session and provisional agenda and documentation for the twelfth session of the Commission

At its 34th plenary meeting, on 18 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Took note of the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its eleventh session;¹³

(b) Approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the twelfth session of the Commission as set out below:

Provisional agenda and documentation for the twelfth session of the Commission

- (a) Development-oriented policies for a socio-economically inclusive information society, including access, infrastructure and an enabling environment;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

- (b) Science, technology and engineering for innovation and capacity-building in education and research;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

- (c) Presentation of reports on science, technology and innovative policy reviews.
4. Implementation of and progress made on decisions taken by the Commission at its eleventh session.
 5. Election of the Chair and other officers for the thirteenth session of the Commission.
 6. Provisional agenda and documentation for the thirteenth session of the Commission.
 7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its twelfth session.

2008/221

Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with coordination and programme questions

At its 36th plenary meeting, on 21 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council took note of the following documents:

- (a) Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2007/08;¹⁴
- (b) Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its forty-eighth session.¹⁵

2008/222

Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations

At its 37th plenary meeting, on 21 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council decided:

- (a) To grant consultative status to the following seventy non-governmental organizations:

¹⁴ E/2008/58.

¹⁵ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/63/16)*.

Roster

Howard Center for Family, Religion and Society
Human Relief Foundation
Human Rights Defence Centre
Human Rights Information and Documentation Systems International
Initiatives: Women in Development
International Association for Religious Freedom
International Bureau for Children's Rights
International Confederation for Family Support
International Federation for Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida
International Federation of Business and Professional Women
International Fellowship of Reconciliation
International Institute for the Rights of the Child
International Islamic Committee for Woman and Child
International Kolping Society
International Multiracial Shared Cultural Organization
International Social Service
International Volunteerism Organization for Women, Education and Development
Japan Fellowship of Reconciliation
Mandat International
Millennium Institute
National Alliance of Women's Organizations
National Women's Council of Catalonia
New Japan Women's Association
New York County Lawyers' Association
Order of St. John
Prison Fellowship International
Rural Women Environmental Protection Association
Shimin Gaikou Centre
Simon Wiesenthal Center
United States Committee for UNIFEM
World Blind Union
(ii) For the reporting period 2002-2005:
Korean Federation for Environmental Movement

Organization for Defending Victims of Violence

People's Decade of Human Rights Education

Union nationale de la femme tunisienne

(d) To also note that the Committee had decided to close without prejudice consideration of the request for consultative status made by the following non-governmental organizations:

Association Sahel solidarité action

Foundation for Research and Support of the Indigenous Peoples of Crimea

(e) To further note that the Committee had decided to take note of the withdrawal by the following three organizations of their applications for consultative status:

Center for Conflict Resolution

International Crisis Group

Kurdish Human Rights Project

2008/223

Application of American Sports Committee

At its 37th plenary meeting, on 21 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council decided not to grant consultative status to the non-governmental organization American Sports Committee.

2008/224

Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2008 regular session

At its 37th plenary meeting, on 21 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2008 regular session.¹⁶

2008/225

Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations

At its 37th plenary meeting, on 21 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council decided:

(a) To grant consultative status to the following sixty-four non-governmental organizations:

¹⁶ E/2008/32 (Part I).

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IT for Change
Junior Achievement Worldwide
Knights of the Southern Cross
Learning and Development Kenya
Mother Child Education Foundation
National Women's Studies Association
Network of NGOs of Trinidad and Tobago for the Advancement of Women
Partnership for Global Justice
Plateforme pour le développement durable des Caraïbes
Red Venezolana de Organizaciones para el Desarrollo Social
Rural Litigation and Entitlement Kendra
Service for Peace
Ship and Ocean Foundation
Smile of the Child
Society Studies Centre
Vikash
Vluchtelingen Werk Nederland
Voices of African Mothers
Women and Modern World Centre
Women's Health and Education Center
Women's Rights Association against Discrimination
Women's Shadow Parliament (Kenya)

Roster

Center for Health and Gender Equity
Comitato Ev-K²
Kabbalah Centre
Ligue pour le droit de la femme congolaise
National Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs
New Zealand Council of Licensed Firearms Owners
Nigerian Healthcare Foundation
NTIC et citoyenneté
Play Soccer
Trance Research Foundation
Village Suisse

(b) To reclassify the following non-governmental organization from the Roster to special consultative status:

International Association for Media and Communication Research

(c) To note that the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations had taken note of the quadrennial reports of the following one hundred and twenty-six non-governmental organizations (years of reporting are 2003-2006, unless otherwise indicated in parentheses):

Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences

All China Women's Federation

All-Russian Social Fund

Antiviolence Center

Association algérienne d'alphabétisation

Association for Democratic Initiatives

Association for Progressive Communications

Association of Medical Doctors of Asia

Association of United Families International

Buddha's Light International Association

CARE International

Centre d'accompagnement des autochtones pygmées et minoritaires vulnérables

Centre for Democracy and Development

Cercle des amis de la forêt pour le 21e siècle

Citizens' Rights Protection Society

Coordinating Board of Jewish Organizations

Coordination des immigrés du sud du monde

Defence for Children International

Disabled Peoples' International

European Disability Forum

European Forum for Victim Services

European Youth Forum

Family Planning Association of Turkey

Federación de Asociaciones de Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos (2000-2003)

Fédération de Tunis de solidarité sociale

Federation of Associations of Former Civil Servants

Focus on the Family

Fondation Guilé
Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute (2002-2005)
Fund of Aid for Youth
German Foundation for World Population
Global Action on Aging
Global Fund for Women
Global Volunteers
Green Earth Organization
Handicap International
Hariri Foundation
HelpAge International
Himalayan Research and Cultural Foundation
Hong Kong Council of Social Service
Human Appeal International
Institut international des sciences administratives
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies
Interaction — American Council for Voluntary International Action
Interact Worldwide
International Alert
International Association for the Defence of Religious Liberty
International Association for Water Law
International Association of Charities
International Association of Peace Messenger Cities
International Bar Association
International Cartographic Association
International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development
International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development
International Chamber of Shipping
International Commission on Distance Education
International Council of Scientific Unions
International Council of Women
International Council on Human Rights Policy
International Council on Mining and Metals
International Driving Tests Committee

International Federation for Family Development
International Federation for Housing and Planning
International Federation of ACAT
International Federation of Agricultural Producers
International Federation of Associations of the Elderly
International Federation of Medical Students' Associations
International Federation of Persons with Physical Disability
International Federation of University Women
International Federation Terre des Hommes
International League for the Rights and Liberation of Peoples (2001-2004)
International Longevity Center
International Movement ATD Fourth World
International Organization for Standardization
International Planned Parenthood Federation (Europe Region)
International Planned Parenthood Federation (Western Hemisphere Region)
International Road Federation
International Social Security Association
International Women's Health Coalition
Inter-Press Service International Association
Japan Civil Liberties Union
Japan Federation of Bar Associations
Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development
Kids Can Free the Children
Korean Institute for Women and Politics
Legião da Boa Vontade
Life Ethics Educational Association
Life for Relief and Development
Mercy-USA for Aid and Development
Movement for a Better World
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
National Bar Association
National Council of Women of the United States
National Safety Council
National Wildlife Federation

Netherlands Organization for International Development Cooperation

Armenian Fund USA

Ma Qualcuno Pensi ad Abele

(e) To further note that the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations had decided to take note of the withdrawal by the following two organizations of their applications for consultative status:

Chinese Society for Corrosion and Protection

Observer Research Foundation

2008/226

Application of the non-governmental organization Human Rights Foundation for consultative status with the Economic and

- (a) Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification deferred from the previous sessions of the Committee;
 - (b) New applications for consultative status and new requests for reclassification;
 - (c) Applications of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council that have merged with non-governmental organizations without such consultative status.
4. Quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council:
 - (a) Deferred quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council;
 - (b) Review of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council.
 5. Strengthening of the Non-Governmental Organizations Section of the Secretariat.
 6. Review of the methods of work of the Committee: implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31, including the process of accreditation of representatives of non-governmental organizations, and Council decision 1995/304:
 - (a) Process of accreditation of representatives of non-governmental organizations;
 - (b) Consideration of issues in the agenda of the informal working group;
 - (c) Other related matters.
 7. Implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/46.
 8. Consideration of special reports.
 9. General voluntary trust fund in support of the United Nations Non-Governmental Organizations Informal Regional Network.
 10. Provisional agenda and documentation for the 2010 session of the Committee.
 11. Adoption of the report of the Committee.

2008/229

Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its resumed 2008 session

At its 37th plenary meeting, on 21 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council decided to defer its consideration of the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its resumed 2008 session¹⁷ to the resumed substantive session of the Council.

¹⁷ E/2008/32 (Part II).

2008/230

Application of the non-governmental organization Federación Estatal de Lesbianas, Gays, Transexuales y Bisexuales

At its 38th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council, having considered the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2008 regular session¹⁸ and draft decision II contained therein,¹⁹ decided to grant special consultative status to Federación Estatal de Lesbianas, Gays, Transexuales y Bisexuales.

2008/231

Smoke-free United Nations premises

At its 39th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council, recalling its resolution 2006/42 of 27 July 2006 on smoke-free United Nations premises, recommended that the General Assembly, at its sixty-third session, consider the recommendations set out in that resolution.

2008/232

Report of the Secretary-General on the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control

At its 39th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council decided to:

- (a) Take note of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made by the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control;²⁰
- (b) Request the Secretary-General to submit a report on the work of the Ad Hoc Inter-Agency Task Force on Tobacco Control to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2010.

2008/233

Genetic privacy and non-discrimination

At its 39th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council, recalling its decision 2007/269 of 27 July 2007 and taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General:²¹

- (a) Decided to invite the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to consult with relevant United Nations entities on the implementation of and follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions 2001/39 of 26 July 2001 and 2004/9 of 21 July 2004, the

¹⁸ E/2008/32 (Part I).

¹⁹ Ibid., chap. I.B.

²⁰ E/2008/59.

²¹ E/2008/51.

Universal Declaration on the Human Genome and Human Rights,²² the International Declaration on Human Genetic Data,²³ the Universal Declaration on Bioethics and Human Rights²⁴ and other norms and instruments adopted within the United Nations system that are relevant to genetic privacy and non-discrimination, and on a possible inter-agency coordination mechanism;

(b) Also decided to invite the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to report to the Economic and Social Council on relevant developments in the field of genetic privacy and non-discrimination at its substantive session of 2010 and on a possible inter-agency coordination mechanism, in consultation with and taking into account the views of Member States.

2008/234

Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with regional cooperation

At its 40th plenary meeting, on 23 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council took note of the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields;²⁵

(b) The economic situation in the Economic Commission for Europe region: Europe, North America and the Commonwealth of Independent States in 2007-2008;²⁶

(c) Overview of the economic and social conditions in Africa 2008;²⁷

(d) Summary of the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2008;²⁸

(e) Latin America and the Caribbean: economic situation and outlook, 2007-2008;²⁹

(f) Summary of the survey of economic and social developments in the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia region, 2007-2008.³⁰

2008/235

Agreed conclusions on financing gender equality and the empowerment of women

At its 40th plenary meeting, on 23 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council decided to transmit the following agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-second session to the General Assembly as an input into the preparations for and outcome of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, to be held in Doha from 29 November to 2 December 2008:

1. The Commission on the Status of Women reaffirms the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, which emphasized the need for political commitment to make available human and financial resources for the empowerment of women and that funding had to be identified and mobilized from all sources and across all sectors to achieve the goals of gender equality and the empowerment of women, and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, which called upon Governments to incorporate a gender perspective into the design, development, adoption and execution of all policies and budgetary processes, as appropriate, in order to promote equitable, effective and appropriate resource allocation and establish adequate budgetary allocations to support gender equality and development programmes that enhance women's empowerment.

2. The Commission reaffirms the declaration adopted on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, which stressed that challenges and obstacles remained in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, and pledged to take further

practical realization of the principle of equality between women and men and between girls and boys.

6. The Commission also reaffirms that States have primary responsibility for promoting gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls and that gender mainstreaming and national machineries are necessary and play a critical role in the implementation of

achieving universal access to reproductive health, as set out at the International Conference on Population and Development, which are critical to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

13. The Commission recalls the recognition in the Beijing Platform for Action of the role of the United Nations, including funds and programmes and specialized agencies, in particular the special roles of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), within their respective mandates, and recognizes the role of the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the Division for the Advancement of Women, as part of the United Nations system, in the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women and therefore in the implementation of the Platform for Action.

14. The Commission also recalls that the Bretton Woods institutions, other financial institutions and the private sector also have an important role to play in ensuring that financing for development promotes gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

15. The Commission recognizes the importance of non-governmental organizations, as well as other civil society actors, in advancing the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

16. The Commission is concerned that insufficient political commitment and budgetary resources pose obstacles to promoting gender equality and women's empowerment and continue to undermine the effectiveness and sustainability of both national mechanisms for the advancement of women and women's organizations in advocating for, implementing, supporting and monitoring the effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly.

17. The Commission is concerned about the growing feminization of poverty and reiterates that eradicating poverty is the greatest global challenge facing the world today, and an indispensable requirement for sustainable

20. The Commission states that the global commitments for the achievement of gender equality and empowerment of women since the Fourth World Conference on Women, including through the Monterrey Consensus, have yet to be fully implemented.

21. The Commission urges Governments and/or, as appropriate, the relevant funds, programmes and specialized agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, and invites the international financial institutions, civil society, non-governmental organizations and the private sector, bearing in mind national priorities, to take the following actions:

(a) Increase the investment in gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, taking into account the diversity of needs and circumstances of women and girls, including through mainstreaming a gender perspective in resource allocation and ensuring the necessary human, financial and material resources for specific and targeted activities to ensure gender equality at the local, national, regional and international levels, as well as through enhanced and increased international cooperation;

(b) Ensure that sufficient resources are allocated for activities targeting the elimination of persistent obstacles to gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in all critical areas of concern of the Platform for Action;

(c) Design and strengthen poverty eradication strategies, with the full and effective participation of women, that reduce the feminization of poverty and enhance the capacity of women and empower them to meet the challenge presented by the negative social and economic impacts of globalization;

(d) Create an environment in which women and girls can fully share the benefits of the opportunities offered by globalization;

(e) Integrate a gender perspective into the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and reporting of all national economic policies, strategies and plans, in a coordinated manner across all policy areas, including in national development, social protection and poverty reduction strategies, and involve national mechanisms for the advancement of women and women's organizations in the design and development of such policies, strategies and plans with the goal of achieving gender equality and the empowerment of women;

(f) Incorporate gender perspectives into all economic policymaking and increase the participation of women in economic governance structures and processes in order to ensure policy coherence and adequate resources for gender equality and the empowerment of women;

(g) Give priority to assisting the efforts of developing countries, including the least developed countries, in ensuring the full and effective participation of women in deciding and implementing development strategies and integrating gender concerns into national programmes, including by providing adequate resources to operational activities for development in support of the efforts to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women;

(h) Remove barriers and allocate adequate resources to enable the full representation and full and equal participation of women in political, social and economic decision-making and in administrative entities, in particular those responsible for economic and public finance policies, in order to guarantee the full and equal participation of women in the formulation of all plans, programmes and policies;

(i) Strengthen the capacities and mandates of institutional frameworks and accountability mechanisms, including of national machineries for the advancement of women, and ensure that they are continuously and adequately resourced and given the authority necessary to carry out their critical role in advocating for, supporting, monitoring and evaluating the integration of gender perspectives in all policy areas and the implementation of gender equality plans, programmes and legislation;

(j) Strengthen a coordinated and institutionalized dialogue among

appropriate, to promote more equitable distribution of productive assets, wealth, opportunities, income and services;

(o) Carry out gender-sensitive analysis of revenues and expenditures in all policy areas and take into account the review and evaluation results in budget planning, allocation and revenue-raising in order to enhance the contribution of Government expenditures to accelerating the full and effective implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action;

(p) Develop and implement, where appropriate, methodologies and tools, including national indicators, for gender-responsive planning and budgeting in order to systematically in

including sexual and reproductive health, as well as quality, affordable and universally accessible health care and services, in particular primary health care;

(ff) Address the overall expansion and feminization of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, taking into account that women and girls bear a disproportionate share of the burden imposed by the HIV/AIDS crisis, that they are more easily infected, that they play a key role in care and that they have become more vulnerable to violence, stigma and discrimination, poverty and marginalization from their families and communities as a result of the HIV/AIDS crisis, and, in that regard, significantly scale up efforts towards the goal of achieving universal access to comprehensive prevention programmes, treatment, care and support by 2010 and ensure that those efforts integrate and promote gender equality;

(gg) Ensure adequate financing for women's full, equal and effective participation at all levels in conflict prevention, management and resolution, peace negotiations and peacebuilding, including adequate national and international funding to ensure proper access to disarmament, demobilization and reintegration and other relevant programmes for women and girls;

(hh) Reduce excessive military expenditures, including global military expenditures, trade in arms and investment for arms production and acquisition, taking into consideration national security requirements, in order to permit the possible allocation of additional funds for social and economic development, including for gender equality and the advancement of women;

(ii) Ensure that adequate resources are allocated for activities targeting persistent serious obstacles to the advancement of women in situations of armed conflict and in conflicts of other types, wars of aggression, foreign occupation, and colonial or other alien domination as well as terrorism;

(jj) Integrate a gender perspective

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(mm) Provide assistance to States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, upon their request, to support the implementation of the obligations of States parties under the Convention.

22. The Commission invites the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to continue to give, while exercising its mandated functions, due consideration to financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women in its work.

23. The Commission requests Member States, with a view to strengthening financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women, to integrate gender perspectives in the preparations for and outcome of the Follow-up International Conference on Financing for Development to Review the Implementation of the Monterrey Consensus, to be held in Qatar in 2008.

2008/236

Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its fifty-second session and provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-third session of the Commission

At its 40th plenary meeting, on 23 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its fifty-second session³¹ and approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-third session of the Commission set out below:

Provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda and proposed organization of work of the Commission on the Status of Women

3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century":
 - (a) Implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern, and further actions and initiatives;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men, including caregiving in the context of HIV/AIDS

- (b) Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men;

³¹ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2008, Supplement No. 7 (E/2008/27).*

sixteenth session³² and approved the provisional agenda for the seventeenth session of the Commission as set out below:

Provisional agenda for the seventeenth session of the Commission on Sustainable Development

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Thematic cluster for the implementation cycle 2008-2009 (policy session):
 - (a) Agriculture;
 - (b) Rural development;
 - (c) Land;
 - (d) Drought;
 - (e) Desertification;
 - (f) Africa.

Note by the Secretariat on the organization of the work of the session

Note by the Secretariat on the state of preparation of documentation for the session

3. Programme review: climate change and official statistics.

Documentation

Report of the programme reviewer

4. Demographic and social statistics:

- (a) Population and housing censuses;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

- (b) Human settlements statistics;

Documentation

Report of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

- (c) Paris Group on Labour and Compensation;

Documentation

Report of the Paris Group on Labour and Compensation

- (d) Health statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Health Statistics

- (e) Social statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

- (f) Education statistics;

Documentation

Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

- (g) Statistics on drugs and drug use;

Documentation

Report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

- (h) Washington Group on Disability Measurement;

Documentation

Report of the Washington Group on Disability Measurement

- (i) Migration statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

- (j) Employment statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Committee for the Coordination of Statistical Activities

- (k) Gender statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the Global Gender Statistics Programme

Report of the Friends of the Chair on the review of indicators on violence against women

- (l) Culture statistics.

Documentation

Report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

5. Economic statistics:

- (a) National accounts;

Documentation

Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on National Accounts

- (b) Agricultural statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

- (c) Business registers;

Documentation

Report of the Wiesbaden Group on Business Registers

- (d) Energy statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

Report of the Oslo Group on Energy Statistics

- (e) Statistics of services;

Documentation

Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Services Statistics

Report of the Voorburg Group on Service Statistics

- (f) Information and communication technologies statistics;

Documentation

Report of the Partnership on Measuring Information and Communication Technologies for Development

- (g) International Comparison Programme;

Documentation

Report of the World Bank

- (h) Price statistics.

Documentation

Report of the Intersecretariat Working Group on Price Statistics

6. Natural resources and environment statistics:

- (a) Environmental accounting.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

7. Activities not classified by field:

- (a) Coordination and integratio

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

Report of the Steering Committee of the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the Twenty-first Century

- (g) Development indicators;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

- (h) Follow-up to Economic and Social Council policy decisions;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

- (i) Working methods of the Statistical Commission;

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General

- (j) Regional statistical development.

Documentation

Report of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

8. Programme questions (United Nations Statistics Division).
9. Provisional agenda and dates for the forty-first session of the Commission.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda for the forty-first session of the Commission

Note by the Secretariat on the draft multi-year programme of work of the Commission

10. Report of the Commission on its fortieth session.

2008/239

Human settlements

At its 41st plenary meeting, on 23 July 2008 the Economic and Social Council,

(c) Requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on the coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda for consideration by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2009.

2008/240

Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its forty-first session and provisional agenda for its forty-second session

At its 41st plenary meeting, on 23 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council:

(a) Took note of the report of the Commission on Population and Development on its forty-first session;³⁶

(b) Approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-second session of the Commission as set out below:

Provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-second session of the Commission on Population and Development

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

Documentation

Provisional agenda for the forty-second session of the Commission

Note by the Secretariat on the organization of the work of the session

Report of the Bureau of the Commission on its intersessional meetings

3. Follow-up actions to the recommendations of the International Conference on Population and Development.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the contribution of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development to the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals

Report of the Secretary-General on the monitoring of population programmes, focusing on the contribution of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development to the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals

Report of the Secretary-General on the flow of financial resources for assisting in the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

³⁶ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2008, Supplement No. 5 (E/2008/25).*

4. Contribution of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development to the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals.
5. Programme implementation and future programme of work of the Secretariat in the field of population.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on world demographic trends

Report of the Secretary-General on programme implementation and progress of work in the field of population in 2008

6. Contribution of population and development issues to the theme of the annual ministerial review in 2009.
7. Provisional agenda for the forty-third session of the Commission.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat containing the draft provisional agenda for the forty-third session of the Commission

8. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-second session.

2008/241

Tenth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names and twenty-fifth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

At its 41st plenary meeting, on 23 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council decided:

(a) To take note of the report of the Ninth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names, held in New York from 21 to 30 August 2007;³⁷

(b) To endorse the recommendation that the Tenth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names be convened in 2012;³⁸

(c) To endorse the recommendation that the twenty-fifth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names be convened in the first half of 2009.³⁹

2008/242

Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the environment and cartography

At its 41st plenary meeting, on 23 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment

³⁷ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.08.1.4.

³⁸ Ibid., chap. III, resolution IX/1, para. 1.

³⁹ Ibid., para. 2.

Programme on its tenth special session, held from 20 to 22 February 2008⁴⁰ and the report of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names on the work of its twenty-fourth session, held in New York on 21 and 31 August 2007.⁴¹

2008/243

Document considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

At its 42nd plenary meeting, on 24 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people.⁴²

2008/244

Report of the Commission for Social Development on its forty-sixth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-seventh session of the Commission

At its 42nd plenary meeting, on 24 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council:

- (a) Took note of the report of the Commission for Social Development on its forty-sixth session;⁴³
- (b) Approved the provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-seventh session of the Commission as set out below:

Provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-seventh session of the Commission for Social Development

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly:

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Economic and Social Council resolution 2008/18 entitled "Promoting full employment and decent work for all"

⁴⁰ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-third Session, Supplement No. 25 (A/63/25)*.

⁴¹ E/2007/89.

⁴² A/63/75-E/2008/52.

⁴³ *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2008, Supplement No. 6 (E/2008/26)*.

2008/245
Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal
Justice on its seventeenth session and provisional agenda and
documentation for the eighteenth session of the Commission

At its 42nd plenary meeting, on 24 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council:

- (d) Other activities in support of the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in particular activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, non-governmental organizations and other bodies.
- 5. Preparations for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.
- 6. Use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice.
- 7. Policy directives for the crime programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as its governing body, including administrative, strategic management and budgetary questions and follow-up to resolutions.
- 8. Provisional agenda for the nineteenth session.
- 9. Other business.
- 10. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its eighteenth session.

B. Documentation

- 1. Election of officers.
- 2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
Documentation
Provisional agenda, annotations and proposed organization of work
- 3. Thematic discussion:
 - (a) “Economic fraud and identity-related crime”;
 - (b) “Penal reform and reduction of prison overcrowding, including the provision of legal aid in criminal justice systems”.*Documentation*
Note by the Secretariat (*as required*)
- 4. World crime trends and responses: integration and coordination of efforts by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and by Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice.
Documentation
Report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation in combating transnational organized crime and corruption
Report of the Secretary-General on assistance in implementing the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism
Report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation in the prevention, investigation, prosecution and punishment of economic fraud and identity-related crime
Report of the Executive Director on the activities of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Report of the Executive Director on international cooperation in preventing and combating illicit international trafficking in forest products, including timber, wildlife and other forest biological resources

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network

Note by the Secretariat on world crime trends and responses: integration and coordination of efforts by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and by Member States in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice (*as required*)

5. Preparations for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to General Assembly resolution 63/___, entitled "Preparations for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice"

6. Use and application of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice

Report of the Secretary-General on support of national efforts for child justice reform, in particular through technical assistance and improved United Nations system-wide coordination

Report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation for the improvement of access to legal aid in criminal justice systems, particularly in Africa

7. Policy directives for the crime programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice as its governing body, including administrative, strategic management and budgetary questions and follow-up to resolutions.

Documentation

Report of the Executive Director on the implementation of the consolidated budget for the biennium 2008-2009 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Report of the Executive Director on the consolidated budget for the biennium 2010-2011 for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (*to be submitted for the reconvened eighteenth session*)

Report of the Executive Director on programmes and initiatives to be implemented by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the biennium 2010-2011 (*as required*)

Report of the Executive Director on ways and means of improving the financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (*as required*)

Normative segment

3. Thematic debate (*theme and sub-themes to be identified*).
4. Follow-up to the twentieth special session of the General Assembly: general overview and progress achieved by Governments in meeting the goals and targets for the years 2003 and 2008 set out in the Political Declaration adopted by the Assembly at its twentieth special session.

Documentation

Reports of the Secretariat (*as necessary*)

5. Drug demand reduction:

2008/248

Report of the International Narcotics Control Board

At its 42nd plenary meeting, on 24 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2007.⁴⁶

2008/249

International expert group meeting on the implementation of article 42 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

At its 42nd plenary meeting, on 24 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council decided to authorize a three-day international expert group meeting on the implementation of article 42 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples⁴⁷ and request that the results of the meeting be reported to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues at its eighth session.

2008/250

Venue and dates of the eighth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

At its 42nd plenary meeting, on 24 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council decided that the eighth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues should be held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 18 to 29 May 2009.

2008/251

Provisional agenda and documentation for the eighth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

At its 42nd plenary meeting, on 24 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council approved the following provisional agenda for the eighth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues:

Provisional agenda for the eighth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Follow-up to the recommendations of the Permanent Forum on:
 - (a) Economic and social development;

⁴⁶ *Report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2007* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.08.XI.1).

⁴⁷ General Assembly resolution 61/295, annex.

2008/254**Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its seventh session and provisional agenda for its eighth session**

At its 44th plenary meeting, on 25 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council decided:

(a) To approve the convening of the eighth session of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration from 30 March to 3 April 2009 on the main theme “The human factor in capacity-building and development”;

(b) To also approve the following agenda for the eighth session of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration:

1. The human factor in capacity-building and development.
2. Compendium of basic United Nations terminology in governance and public administration.
3. Review of the United Nations Programme on Public Administration, Finance and Development.
4. Public administration perspective on the theme of the 2009 annual ministerial review: “Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to global public health”.

2008/255**Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**

At its 44th plenary meeting, on 25 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council, recalling General Assembly resolution 1166 (XII) of 26 November 1957, in which the Assembly had requested the Council to establish the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as subsequent Assembly resolutions, in which the membership of the Executive Committee was increased:

(a) Took note of the requests to enlarge the membership of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees contained in the letter dated 29 February 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Djibouti to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General⁵⁰ and the letter dated 30 May 2008 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General;⁵¹

(b) Recommended that the General Assembly, at its sixty-third session, decide on the question of enlarging the membership of the Executive Committee from seventy-six to seventy-eight States.

⁵⁰ E/2008/63.

⁵¹ E/2008/84.

2008/256

Documents considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with social and human rights questions

At its 44th plenary meeting, on 25 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council decided to take note of the following documents:

- (a) Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child;⁵²
- (b) Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its thirty-eighth and thirty-ninth sessions;⁵³

2008/258**Multi-year programme of work for the 2010 and 2011 annual ministerial reviews of the Economic and Social Council**

At its 45th plenary meeting, on 25 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council decided to adopt the following themes for its annual ministerial-level substantive reviews for 2010 and 2011:

(a) 2010: “Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and empowerment of women”;

(b) 2011: “Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to education”.

2008/259**Document considered by the Economic and Social Council in connection with special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance**

At its 45th plenary meeting, on 25 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council decided to take note of the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening emergency relief, rehabilitation, reconstruction, recovery and prevention in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster.⁶⁰

⁶⁰ A/63/84-E/2008/80.