Economic and Social Council

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Commission on Science and Technology for Development
Eleventh session
Geneva, 26–30 May 2008
Item 1 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Provisional annotated agenda and organization of work

1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

2. Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society outcomes at the regional and international levels

3. Priority themes:

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

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

4. Implementation of and progress made on decisions taken at the tenth session of the Commission

5. Election of the Chair and other officers for the twelfth session of the Commission

6. Provisional agenda and documentation for the twelfth session of the Commission

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission at its eleventh session

Annotations

Item 1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

1.   Rule 7 of the rules of procedure requires that, at the beginning of each session, the Commission adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda. The provisional agenda and documentation for the eleventh session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development were approved by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 2007/240 of 25 July 2007.

2.   In accordance with established practice, the Commission, at its ninth meeting on 25 May 2007, elected by acclamation the Bureau of the eleventh session, with the following composition:

> *Chair*:   Mr. Dato' Sri Jamaludin Jarjis (Malaysia)
>
> *Vice-chairs*:   Mr. Mothetjoa Metsing (Lesotho)
> Mr. Juan Eduardo Eguiguren (Chile)
> Mr. Bernd Michael Rode (Austria)
> Mr. Janis Karklins (Latvia)

3.   As at previous sessions of the commission, one of the vice-chairs will be designated to also serve as rapporteur.

4.   The proposed organization of work of the Commission at its eleventh session (see annex I) has been prepared pursuant to relevant decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council to facilitate the consideration of agenda items within the time frame available and in accordance with the conference services allocated to the Commission. The timetable should be considered provisional and indicative; if the Commission completes its consideration of an item ahead of schedule, it may wish to proceed immediately to the next item.

5.   The Commission is scheduled to meet from Monday, 26 May, to Friday, 30 May 2008. The morning meetings will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the afternoon meetings from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

6.   The current membership of the Commission is provided in annex II for information.

Item 2. Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society outcomes at the regional and international levels

7.   The World Summit on the Information Society, organized by the International Telecommunication Union on behalf of the United Nations, took place in two phases: in 2003 in Geneva, and 2005 in Tunis. In the Geneva Declaration of Principles, the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society[1] adopted a common vision and commitment to building a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society. The second phase of the Summit, held in Tunis, endorsed the outcomes of the first phase and adopted the Tunis Commitment and the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, which discussed, inter alia, financial mechanisms and Internet governance.

8.   The Tunis Agenda for the Information Society requested that the Economic and Social Council oversee the United Nations system-wide follow-up to the

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[1] The outcome documents are available at: http://www.itu.int/wsis/.

outcomes of the Geneva and Tunis summit phases. To this end, the Economic and Social Council was to review the mandate of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, including its strengthening, taking into account the multi-stakeholder approach.[2]

9.   In its resolution 2006/46 of 28 July 2006, entitled "Follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society and review of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development", the Council decided that the Commission would effectively assist the Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up to the outcomes of the Summit and advise the Council thereon, including through recommendations to the Council aimed at furthering the implementation of the Summit outcomes.

10.   On 27 July 2007, the Council adopted resolution 2007/8 on the flow of information for the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society. By this latter resolution, the Council requested the Secretary-General to inform annually the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on the implementation of the outcomes of the Summit, including all e-applications. In this connection, the Council requested the United Nations organizations acting as action line facilitators, United Nations regional commissions, main theme facilitators, the Global Alliance for Information and Communications Technologies and Development and other entities, as appropriate, to submit to the secretariat of the Commission their respective reports as inputs towards the preparation of the annual report of the Secretary-General to the Commission.

11.   The Report of the Secretary-General[3] aims to provide an overview of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of World Summit of the Information Society at the regional and international levels, highlighting examples of good and effective practices, with a view to sharing best and effective practices and lessons learned. It draws on the findings and recommendations of the Commission's panel discussion held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in November 2007, on inputs by the United Nations entities and specialized agencies and on other relevant literature. The Commission will review and assess progress made on the implementation of the outcomes of the Summit at regional and international levels, as requested in Council resolution 2006/46.

Documentation

E/CN.16/2008/2	Report of the Secretary-General on 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
E/CN.16/2008/CRP.1	Report on the 2007–2008 Intersessional Panel of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development
E/CN.16/2008/CRP.2	World Summit of the Information Society Follow up Report, 2008

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2 Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, para. 105.
3 E/CN.16/2008/2.

Item 3. Priority themes:

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

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

12. At its tenth session, in May 2007, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, in response to the request of the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2006/46, and recalling the Commission's mandate as contained in paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 of that resolution, decided to adopt a multi-year work programme, which was underpinned by a strong development orientation and contained a number of themes. The Commission decided to focus in each biennium on a specific theme related to the building of the information society with a view to narrowing the digital divide and to examine, within its original mandate, the implications of science and technology for development.

13. The first two priority themes to be addressed by the Commission within the framework of its new multi-year work programme are as follows:

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

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

14. In order to contribute to a further understanding of these two priority themes, and to assist the Commission in its deliberations at its eleventh session, the UNCTAD secretariat convened a panel meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, from 28 to 30 November 2007. The report from the panel discussion will be presented to the Commission for consideration.[4]

Documentation

E/CN.16/2008/3	Report of the Secretary-General on development-oriented policies for a socio-economic inclusive information society, including access, infrastructure and an enabling environment
E/CN.16/2008/4	Report of the Secretary-General on science, technology and engineering for innovation and capacity-building in education and research
E/CN.16/2008/CRP.1	Report on the 2007–2008 Intersessional Panel of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development

Item 4. Implementation of and progress made on decisions taken at the tenth session of the Commission

15. In its resolution 2007/8 of 25 July 2007, the Economic and Social Council requested the Commission to undertake a number of activities related to the follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels. By its decision 10/101 on the multi-year work programme of the Commission on Science and Technology for

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[4] E/CN.16/2008/CRP1.

Development, the Council endorsed the decision of the Commission to focus in each biennium on a specific priority theme related to the building of the information society with a view to narrowing the digital divide and to examine, within its original mandate, the implications of science and technology for development. The Commission will have before it a report on the implementation of and progress made on decisions taken at the tenth session of the Commission.

Item 5. Election of the Chair and other officers for the twelfth session of the Commission

16.   Following the practice established at its previous sessions, the Commission will elect the Chair and four vice-chairs for its twelfth session. It is understood that one of the vice-chairs will also serve as rapporteur.

Item 6. Provisional agenda and documentation for the twelfth session of the Commission

17.   In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission will have before it the draft provisional agenda for its twelfth session, together with an indication of the documentation to be submitted for its consideration.

Item 7. Adoption of the report of the Commission at its eleventh session

18.   In accordance with rule 37 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions, the Commission shall submit to the Economic and Social Council a report on the work of its eleventh session.

Annex I
Proposed organization of work

Date/time	Agenda item	Programme
Monday, 26 May		
a.m.	1 Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters	Opening of the session
	2 Progress made in the implementation and follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society outcomes at the regional and international levels **Ministerial high-level segment**	*Introduction and general discussion*
p.m.	2 Progress made in the implementation and follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society outcomes at the regional and international levels	Panel discussion and interactive dialogue with the United Nations regional, economic and social commissions
Tuesday, 27 May		
a.m.	2 Progress made in the implementation and follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society outcomes at the regional and international levels	Special Commission on Science and Technology for Development multi-stakeholders panel discussion
p.m.	2 Progress made in the implementation and follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society outcomes at the regional and international levels	*General discussion concluded*
Wednesday, 28 May		
a.m.	3 Priority themes: (a) Development-oriented policies for a socio-economic inclusive information society, including access, infrastructure and an enabling environment (b) Science, technology and engineering for innovation and capacity-building in education and research	*Introduction and general discussion*
p.m.	3 Priority themes: (a) Development-oriented policies for a socio-economic inclusive information society, including access, infrastructure and an enabling environment (b) Science, technology and engineering for innovation and capacity-building in education and research	*General discussion continued*

Date/time	Agenda item	Programme
Thursday, 29 May		
a.m.	3 Priority themes: (a) Development-oriented policies for a socio-economic inclusive information society, including access, infrastructure and an enabling environment (b) Science, technology and engineering for innovation and capacity-building in education and research 4 Implementation of and progress made on decisions taken at the tenth session of the Commission	*General discussion concluded* *Introduction and general discussion*
p.m.	2 Progress made in the implementation and follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society outcomes at the regional and international levels 3 Priority themes: (a) Development-oriented policies for a socio-economic inclusive information society, including access, infrastructure and an enabling environment (b) Science, technology and engineering for innovation and capacity-building in education and research	Informal consultations on draft proposals
Friday, 30 May		
a.m./p.m.	2 Progress made in the implementation and follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society outcomes at the regional and international levels 3 Priority themes: (a) Development-oriented policies for a socio-economic inclusive information society, including access, infrastructure and an enabling environment (b) Science, technology and engineering for innovation and capacity-building in education and research 5 Election of the Chair and other officers for the twelfth session of the Commission 6 Provisional agenda and documentation for the twelfth session of the Commission 7 Adoption of the report of the Commission at its eleventh session	Informal consultations on draft proposals - concluded *Nomination and election of officers* *Action on draft proposals* *Adoption of the draft provisional agenda* *Adoption of the report* *Closure of the session*

Annex II

Membership of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its eleventh session (43 members; four-year term)

Members	Term expires on 31 December
Angola	2008
Argentina	2010
Austria	2008
Belarus	2010
Belgium	2010
Brazil	2008
Burkina Faso	2010
Chile	2008
China	2010
Cuba	2010
Democratic Republic of the Congo	2008
Dominican Republic	2010
El Salvador	2010
Equatorial Guinea	2008
Eritrea	2010
Finland	2008
France	2010
Gambia	2008
Germany	2010
India	2010
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2010
Italy	2008
Jamaica	2008
Jordan	2008
Latvia	2010
Lesotho	2010
Malaysia	2010
Oman	2008
Pakistan	2008
Peru	2008
Philippines	2010
Russian Federation	2008
Sierra Leone	2008
Slovakia	2008
Sri Lanka	2008
Sudan	2010
Switzerland	2008
Tunisia	2010
Turkey	2010
Uganda	2010
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2008
United States of America	2010
[Vacancy (Eastern European Group)	2010]

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Corrigendum

Paragraph 11

In footnote 3 and in the list of documents following the paragraph, *replace* E/CN.16/2008/2 *with* A/63/72–E/2008/48.

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