Economic and Social Council

Commission on Science and Technology for Development
Thirteenth session
Geneva, 17–21 May 2010
Item 1 of the provisional agenda

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) Improvements and innovations in existing financial mechanisms

    (b) New and emerging technologies

4. Implementation of and progress made on decisions taken by the Commission at its twelfth session

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

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

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirteenth 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 shall adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda. The provisional agenda and documentation for the thirteenth session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development were approved by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 2009/219 of 24 July 2009.

2.   In accordance with the established practice, the Commission, at its twelfth session on 29 May 2009, elected by acclamation the Bureau of the thirteenth session, with the following composition:

Chair:	Frédéric Riehl (Switzerland)
Vice-Chairs:	Štefan Morávek (Slovakia)
	Edward K. Omane Boamah (Ghana)
	Miguel Angel Alcaine (El Salvador)
	Sarvagya Katiyar (India)

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 thirteenth 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 timeframe available and in accordance with the conference services allocated to the Commission. The timetable should be considered tentative 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, 17 May, to Friday, 21 May 2010. 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 contained 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 (WSIS), organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) 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 WSIS[1] adopted a common vision and commitment to building a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society. The second phase of the Summit, at Tunis, endorsed the outcomes of the first phase and adopted a Commitment and an Agenda for the Information Society, which addressed, inter alia, the themes of financial mechanisms and Internet governance.

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

8.   The Economic and Social Council was requested by the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society to oversee the United Nations system-wide follow-up of the outcomes of the Geneva and Tunis Phases of the Summit. To this end, the Council was requested to review the mandate of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), 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 Economic and Social Council decided that the CSTD shall effectively assist the Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up to the outcomes of the WSIS and advise the Council thereon, including through recommendations to the Council aimed at furthering the implementation of the Summit outcomes.

10.   In its resolution 2007/8 of 27 July 2007 on "Flow of information for the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society", the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to annually inform the Commission on the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS, 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 elaboration of the annual report of the Secretary-General to the Commission.

11.   In its resolution 2008/3 adopted on 18 July 2008 and in its resolution 2009/7 adopted on 24 July 2009 on "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 recommended that in submitting their reports to the secretariat of the CSTD, in accordance with resolution 2007/8, action line facilitators bring to the attention of the Commission obstacles and difficulties encountered by all stakeholders in regard to the commitments and recommendations pertaining to their respective action line at the regional and international levels and make proposals to the Commission for possible action, whenever deemed necessary. The 2009/7 resolution also requests the Secretary-General to report to the Economic and Social Council through the Commission on the progress made towards enhanced cooperation. Furthermore, the Commission, during its thirteenth session, is requested to organize a substantive discussion on the five-year progress made in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes, including consideration of the modalities of implementation and follow-up to the Summit, and invites all facilitators and stakeholders to take this into account with regard to their contribution to that session.

12.   The report of the Secretary-General[3] aims to provide an overview of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of WSIS 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 Geneva, Switzerland in November 2009, 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 WSIS outcomes at regional and international levels, as requested by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2006/46.

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2 Tunis Agenda for the Information Society para. 105.
3 A/65/64-E/2010/12.

Documentation

A/65/64–E/2010/12	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 outcomes at the regional and international levels"
E/2009/92	Report of the Secretary-General on "Enhanced cooperation on public policy issues pertaining to the Internet"
E/CN.16/2010/CRP.1	Report on the Inter-sessional Panel Meeting

Item 3
Priority themes:

    (a)   Improvements and innovations in existing financial mechanisms

    (b)   New and emerging technologies

13.   At its tenth session, in May 2007, as requested by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2006/46, and recalling the Commission on Science and Technology for Development's mandate contained in paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 of the resolution, the Commission adopted a multi-year work programme 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.

14.   The next themes addressed by the Commission within the framework of its multi-year work programme are:

    (a)   Improvements and innovations in existing financing mechanisms; and

    (b)   New and emerging technologies.

15. In order to contribute to a further understanding of these themes, and to assist the Commission in its deliberations at its thirteenth session, a panel meeting was convened in Geneva, Switzerland, from 9 to 11 November 2009. The report from the panel discussion will be before the Commission.[4]

Documentation

E/CN.16/2010/3	Report of the Secretary-General on Improvements and innovations in existing financing mechanisms for Information and Communication Technology for Development
E/CN.16/2010/4	Report of the Secretary-General on New and emerging technologies: renewable energy for development
E/CN.16/2010/CRP.1	Report on the Inter-sessional Panel Meeting

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[4] E/CN.16/2010/CRP1.

Item 4
Implementation of and progress made on decisions taken by the Commission at its twelfth session

16.   In its resolution 2009/7 of 24 July 2009, the Economic and Social Council called upon the international community, governments, United Nations entities and all WSIS stakeholders to undertake a number of activities related to the follow-up to the outcomes of the WSIS at the regional and international levels. And by its decision 2009/219 of 24 July 2009, the Council requested the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its thirteenth session on the science, technology and innovation priority themes addressed during the current biennium. An oral report on the implementation of and progress made on decisions taken at the twelfth session will be presented at the thirteenth session of the Commission.

17.   The 2009/7 resolution also stresses the request to report to the Economic and Social Council through the Commission on the progress made towards enhanced cooperation. Furthermore, the Commission, during its thirteenth session, is requested to organize a substantive discussion on the five-year progress made in the implementation of the WSIS outcomes, including consideration of the modalities of implementation and follow-up to the WSIS, and invites all facilitators and stakeholders to take this into account with regard to their contributions to that session.

18.   Economic and Social Council resolution 2009/8, entitled "Science and technology for development", requests the Commission to explore the possibility of organizing an Internet-based science, technology and innovation collaborative network, in conjunction with UNCTAD, the regional commissions and other appropriate stakeholders, which could promote regional and global cooperation. It also encourages the Commission to play the role of torch-bearer for innovation and to support governments to integrate science, technology and innovation into national development strategies by providing a forum for developing countries and the international community to share best practices and information on new technologies, financing mechanisms and regulatory measures, and access strategies and technologies with a focus on reaching women and the population in rural areas.

19.   The same resolution further encourages UNCTAD to improve the existing collaboration on science and technology for development within the United Nations system and to continue to provide its expertise and analytical skills for science, technology and innovation policy reviews, and by organizing training sessions, particularly for African countries. UNCTAD is also encouraged to develop a clearing house for common development challenges that can be addressed through scientific, technological and innovation-related issues, including financing and regulation, and to develop as well a training programme for sharing best practices on science, technology and innovation capacity-building in developing countries. Finally, UNCTAD is requested to continue to assist particularly African countries in their efforts to build science, technology and innovation capacities through training and workshops in the areas of biotechnology and cyber-security through the network of centres of excellence.

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

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

Item 6
Provisional agenda and documentation for the fourteenth session of the Commission

21. 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 fourteenth session, together with an indication of the documentation to be submitted for its consideration.

Item 7
Adoption of the report of the Commission on its thirteenth session

22. 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 thirteenth session.

Annex I
Proposed organization of work

Date/time	Agenda item/discussion topic	Programme
Monday, 17 May		
10 a.m.	1 Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters	Opening of the session
	2 Ministerial round table on the follow-up to and implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society	Introduction and general discussion
3 p.m.	2 Five-year overview of progress made in WSIS outcome implementation: Presentations by Heads of United Nations agencies and other stakeholders	General discussion with a professional moderator
Tuesday, 18 May		
10 a.m.	2 Introduction of the Report of the Secretary-General on WSIS follow-up	Discussion
	2 Introduction and discussion of the report of the Secretary General on enhanced cooperation	
3 p.m.	2 Discussion on the outcome of the IGF meeting in Sharm El Sheikh	
Wednesday, 19 May		
10 a.m.	Special session on "Gender, Science and Technology": contribution of the CSTD to the Economic and Social Council's Annual Ministerial Review on "Implementing the internationally agreed goals in regard to gender equality and empowerment of women"	
3 p.m.	3 Priority themes: (a) Improvements and innovations in existing financing mechanisms (b) New and emerging technologies	Introduction and general discussion

Thursday, 20 May

10 a.m.	STIP reviews	Introduction and general discussion
3 p.m.	STIP reviews	
	4 Implementation of and progress made on decisions taken at the twelfth session of the Commission	Introduction and general discussion
	Discussion on the draft resolutions	Consultations on draft proposals

Friday, 21 May

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Discussion on the draft resolutions	Consultations on draft proposals (concluded) **Action on draft proposals**
	5 Election of the Chair and other officers for the fourteenth session of the Commission	Nomination and election of officers
	6 Provisional agenda and documentation for the fourteenth session of the Commission	Adoption of the draft provisional agenda
	7 Adoption of the report of the Commission at its thirteenth session	Adoption of the report

Closure of the session

Annex II

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

Members	Term expires on 31 December
1. Argentina	2010
2. Austria	2012
3. Belarus	2010
4. Belgium	2010
5. Brazil	2012
6. Bulgaria	2010
7. Burkina Faso	2010
8. Chile	2012
9. China	2010
10. Costa Rica	2012
11. Cuba	2010
12. Democratic Republic of the Congo	2012
13. Dominican Republic	2010
14. El Salvador	2010
15. Equatorial Guinea	2012
16. Eritrea	2010
17. Finland	2012
18. France	2010
19. Germany	2010
20. Ghana	2012
21. India	2010
22. Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2010
23. Israel	2012
24. Jamaica	2012
25. Jordan	2012
26. Latvia	2010
27. Lesotho	2010
28. Malaysia	2010
29. Mali	2012
30. Oman	2012
31. Pakistan	2012
32. Philippines	2010
33. Portugal	2012
34. Russian Federation	2012
35. Slovakia	2012
36. South Africa	2012
37. Sri Lanka	2012
38. Sudan	2010
39. Switzerland	2012
40. Tunisia	2010
41. Turkey	2010
42. Uganda	2010
43. United States of America	2010

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