

**UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
FOR DEVELOPMENT (CSTD), twenty-first session
Geneva, 14-18 May 2018**

Priority theme 2 on Building digital competencies to benefit from existing and emerging technologies with a special focus on gender and youth dimensions.

Statement submitted by

Secretary of the Commission on Science
and Technology for Development (CSTD)

Tuesday, 15 May 2018

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Statement by the Secretary of CSTD

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

I was requested by the Programme Planning and Budget Division of the UN in New York to bring to the attention of the Commission that in accordance with rule 28 of the Rules of procedure of the functional commissions of ECOSOC, -- under which CSTD operates, -- the draft resolutions must be sent for clearance of program budget implications (so-called PBIs) to Budget division in New York before the Commission adopts them on Friday, not after --- as has been the practice the past. [In accordance with the rules, the Secretary-General is required to provide an estimate of the programme budget implications of implementing the proposals before the Commission adopts it.]

Usually, 48 hours are required for the PBI clearance. Considering that CSTD session is only one week long, a shorter timeline had been agreed on in consultation with Budget Division. It would require that the final versions of both draft resolutions are sent to Budget in New York no later than 6 o'clock in the evening (Geneva time) on Friday, last day, for PBI clearance before the Commission will adopt them. It would take approximately one to two hours for the Budget Division to review the drafts for any PBIs. The text would either be cleared as not containing any PBIs or an oral statement may have to be prepared to be read out before the adoption of the resolution by the Commission.

In this connection, I would like to appeal to the delegations, through you Mr. Chair, to take this requirement into account as the Commission will not be able to take up draft resolutions until PBI clearance on the drafts is received.

I thank you Mr. Chair.

[For reference only:

Rule 28 entitled "**Estimates of expenditure**" of the Rules of Procedure of the Functional Commissions of the Economic and Social Council, document E/5975/Rev.1

1. *Before a proposal involving the expenditure of United Nations funds is approved by the commission, the Secretary-General shall prepare and provide to the commission an estimate of the programme budget implications of implementing the proposal. The Chairman shall draw the attention to that estimate and invite discussion on it when the proposal is considered by the commission.*
2. *Any programme budget proposal recommended by the commission to the Council for its approval must be stated in terms of the objectives to be achieved.]*