

**Economic and Social Council**

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Commission on Science and Technology for Development**Twentieth session**

Geneva, 8–12 May 2017

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

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Annotations

Item 1

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

1. Rule 7 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council provides that commissions shall adopt, at the beginning of each session, the agenda of the session on the basis of the provisional agenda. The provisional agenda and documentation for the twentieth session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development were approved by the Council in its decision 2016/254 of 27 July 2016.

2. In accordance with the established practice, the Commission, at its eighth plenary meeting on 13 May 2016, elected by acclamation the Bureau of the twentieth session, as follows:

Vice-Chairs: A. Min Tjoa (Austria)
 Benedicto Fonseca Filho (Brazil)
 Peter Major (Hungary)
 Joseph Noël Etienne Ghislain Sinatambou (Mauritius)

3. The Commission postponed the election of the Chair from the Asia and the Pacific States. On 24 January 2017, Member States of the Asia and the Pacific States endorsed the candidature of Ruijun Wang (China) to serve as the Chair of the twentieth session of the Commission. Mr. Wang will be elected by the Commission at the first meeting of its twentieth session on Monday, 8 May 2017 and, as per past practice, will act as Chair-designate prior to his election. In accordance with past practice 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 twentieth session (see annex I) is based on 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 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 to Friday, 8 to 12 May 2017. 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.

Contribution of the Commission to the 2017 Economic and Social Council high-level segment

7. General Assembly resolution 70/1, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, was adopted in September 2015. The Economic and Social Council will support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through its 2017 theme, “Eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions through promoting sustainable development, expanding opportunities and addressing related challenges”.

8. Pursuant to the provisions contained in paragraphs 8 and 9 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 68/1,¹ a ministerial round table will be held on Monday, 8 May 2017, in the morning to discuss the Economic and Social Council's theme for 2017. The round table will focus on the role of science, technology and innovation in eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, and the outcome of the discussion will be in the form of a Chair's summary to be submitted to the Council for its consideration during its high-level segment (17 to 20 July 2017).

Documentation

E/CN.16/2017/1

Provisional annotated agenda and organization of work

Item 2

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

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

10. The Tunis Agenda for the Information Society requested the Economic and Social Council to oversee the United Nations system-wide follow-up of the outcomes of the Geneva and Tunis phases of the Summit. To that end, the Council was requested to review the mandate of the Commission, including its strengthening, taking into account the multi-stakeholder approach (Tunis Agenda, para. 105).

11. In its resolution 2006/46 of 28 July 2006 on the 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 Commission would effectively assist the Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up to the Summit outcomes and advise the Council thereon, including through recommendations to the Council aimed at furthering the implementation of the Summit outcomes.

12. In its resolution 2007/8 of 25 July 2007 on the 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 inform the Commission annually on the implementation of the outcomes of the Summit, including all e-applications. In this connection, the Council requested United Nations organizations acting as action-line facilitators, 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 to the annual report of the Secretary-General to the Commission.

¹ Entitled "Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/16 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council".

13. The 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 (A/72/64-E/2017/12) aims at providing an overview of the progress made in the implementation of the Summit outcomes, highlighting examples of good and effective practices, with a view to sharing those practices and the lessons learned. The 2016 report was prepared based on the findings and recommendations of the Commission's panel discussion held in Geneva, Switzerland, in January 2017, on inputs by United Nations bodies and specialized agencies and on other relevant literature. The Commission will review and assess progress on the implementation of the Summit outcomes at the regional and international levels, as requested by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2006/46.

14. The Commission will hear a briefing on the progress of the Working Group on Enhanced Cooperation. General Assembly resolution 70/125, the outcome document of the 10-year review of implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society, requested the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to establish a working group to develop recommendations on further implementation of enhanced cooperation, as envisioned in the Tunis Agenda, and report to the Commission at its twenty-first session. The Working Group has met twice (30 September 2016; 26–27 January 2017). It is expected to hold its third meeting on 3–5 May 2017.

Documentation

A/72/64-E/2017/12	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.16/2017/CRP.1	Report on the intersessional panel meeting
E/CN.16/2017/CRP.2	Implementing World Summit on the Information Society outcomes, 2016

Item 3 Science and technology for development

15. In its resolution 2006/46 (para. 4), the Economic and Social Council decided that the Commission should be the focal point in the system-wide follow-up of World Summit on the Information Society outcomes, while at the same time maintaining its original mandate on science and technology for development.

16. In accordance with this mandate, the Commission focuses in each annual cycle on two priority themes.

17. The priority themes under this item addressed by the Commission are as follows:

- (a) New innovation approaches to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals
- (b) The role of science, technology and innovation in ensuring food security by 2030

18. In selecting these themes, the Commission envisaged that the findings would contribute to the high-level political forum on sustainable development, which will examine in 2017 the theme of eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world and the related Sustainable Development Goals, namely Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 14 and 17.

19. In order to contribute to a further understanding of these themes, and to assist the Commission in its deliberations at its twentieth session, a panel meeting was convened in Geneva, from 23 to 25 January 2017. The report on the panel discussion will be before the Commission.

Documentation

E/CN.16/2017/2	New innovation approaches to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals Report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.16/2017/3	The role of science, technology and innovation in ensuring food security by 2030 Report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.16/2017/CRP.1	Report on the intersessional panel meeting

Item 4

Presentation of reports on science, technology and innovation policy reviews

20. This item concerns updates on national science, technology and innovation policy reviews undertaken by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development with a view to assisting developing countries in identifying the measures that are needed to integrate science, technology and innovation policies into their national development strategies, and the sharing of information about progress made, lessons learned and challenges encountered in implementing recommendations formulated in the context of earlier science, technology and innovation policy reviews, as per General Assembly resolution 70/213 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2016/23.

21. The Commission will hear presentations on the science, technology and innovation policy reviews of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Rwanda. Countries where science, technology and innovation policy reviews have been implemented in recent years will be invited to present updates of follow-on activities.

Item 5

Election of the Chair and other officers for the twenty-first session of the Commission

22. In accordance with established practice, the Commission will elect a Chair and four Vice-Chairs for the twenty-first session at the end of the twentieth session. One of the Vice-Chairs will also serve as Rapporteur.

Item 6

Provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-first session of the Commission

23. 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 twenty-first 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 twentieth session

24. 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 twentieth session.

Annex I

Proposed organization of work

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item/discussion topic</i>	<i>Programme</i>
Monday, 8 May		
10 a.m.	1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters	Opening statements Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
	Contribution of the Commission to the 2017 theme of the Economic and Social Council, "Eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions through promoting sustainable development, expanding opportunities and addressing related challenges"	Ministerial round table followed by an interactive dialogue
3 p.m.	2. 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	Introduction of the report of the Secretary-General
	Review of progress made in the implementation of World Summit on the Information Society outcomes	Ministerial round table followed by general discussion
Tuesday, 9 May		
10 a.m.	2. 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	General discussion (continued)
3 p.m.	3. Science and technology for development Priority themes: (b) The role of science, technology and innovation in ensuring food security by 2030	Introduction and general and interactive discussion
Wednesday, 10 May		
10 a.m.	4. Presentation of reports on science, technology and innovation policy reviews	Introduction followed by an interactive discussion
3 p.m.	3. Science and technology for development Priority themes: (a) New innovation approaches to support the implementation of the Sustainable Development	Introduction and general and interactive discussion

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item/discussion topic</i>	<i>Programme</i>
Goals		
Thursday, 11 May		
10 a.m.	Informal consultations	Introduction of draft proposals, followed by a discussion
3 p.m.	Informal consultations	Discussions on draft proposals (continued)
Friday, 12 May		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Informal consultations	Discussions on draft proposals continued, as required
	5. Election of the Chair and other officers for the twenty-first session of the Commission	Election of officers
	Action on draft proposals	Adoption of the draft proposals
	6. Provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-first session of the Commission	Adoption of the draft provisional agenda for the next session
	7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its twentieth session	Adoption of the draft report
	Closure of the session	

Annex II

Membership of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its twentieth session

The Commission is composed of 43 members serving a four-year term.

<i>Membership*</i>	<i>Term expires on 31 December</i>
1. Angola	2018
2. Austria	2020
3. Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	2018
4. Brazil	2020
5. Bulgaria	2018
6. Burkina Faso	2020
7. Cameroon	2020
8. Canada	2018
9. Chile	2020
10. China	2018
11. Côte d'Ivoire	2018
12. Cuba	2018
13. Democratic Republic of the Congo	2020
14. Dominican Republic	2018
15. El Salvador	2020
16. Germany	2020
17. Hungary	2020
18. India	2018
19. Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2018
20. Japan	2020
21. Kazakhstan	2020
22. Kenya	2018
23. Latvia	2018

<i>Membership*</i>	<i>Term expires on 31 December</i>
24. Mauritania	2018
25. Mauritius	2018
26. Nigeria	2020
27. Pakistan	2018
28. Peru	2018
29. Poland	2018
30. Portugal	2020
31. Russian Federation	2020
32. Saudi Arabia	2020
33. Sweden	2018
34. Switzerland	2020
35. Thailand	2018
36. Turkey	2018
37. Turkmenistan	2020
38. Uganda	2018
39. United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2018
40. United States of America	2018

* The Economic and Social Council postponed the election of one member from African States, one member from Latin American and Caribbean States and one member from Western European and other States, whose membership would begin on the date of election and expire on 31 December 2020.
