Economic and Social Council

Commission on Science and Technology for Development
Twenty-fifth session
Geneva, 28 March–1 April 2022
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 outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels.

3. Science and technology for development:

   Priority themes:

   (a) Industry 4.0 for inclusive development;

   (b) Science, technology and innovation for sustainable urban development in a post-pandemic world.

4. Presentation of reports on science, technology and innovation policy reviews.

5. Election of the Chair and other officers for the twenty-sixth session of the Commission.

6. Provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-sixth session of the Commission.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its twenty-fifth session.

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 twenty-fifth session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development were approved by the Council in its decision 2021/258 on 22 July 2021.

2.   In accordance with Economic and Social Council decision 2021/213, the Commission elected, under silence procedure, by acclamation the following members of the Bureau of the twenty-fifth session:

Vice-Chairs: Ana Cristina Amoroso das Neves (Portugal)

Muhammadou MO Kah (Gambia)

Peter Major (Hungary)

The Commission postponed the election of the Chair from the Asia-Pacific States and the Vice-Chair from the Latin American and Caribbean States. In accordance with the past practice of the Commission, one of the Vice-Chairs will be designated to also serve as Rapporteur.

3.   The proposed organization of work of the Commission at its twenty-fifth session (see annex I) is based on the 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 consideration of an item ahead of schedule, it may wish to proceed immediately to the next item. The programme may also be adapted.

4.   Due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic and limitations on in-person meetings and international travel, the Commission is scheduled to meet from 28 March to 1 April 2022 in a hybrid format. The virtual sessions will be held in from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. each day (CET).

5.   The current membership of the Commission is contained in annex II.

6.   On the recommendation of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its twenty-fourth session, in July 2021, the Economic and Social Council adopted decisions 2021/255, 2021/256 and 2021/257, which extended arrangements for the participation of non-governmental organizations, civil society entities, academic and technical entities and business sector entities, including the private sector, in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development until 2025. It also adopted decision 2021/254, which extended the mandate of the Gender Advisory Board of the Commission for a further five years, beginning on 1 January 2021, in order to allow the Gender Advisory Board to complete its programme of work within the extrabudgetary resources allocated for this purpose.

7.   The Commission also reviewed, at its twenty-fourth session, the benefits of participation of non-governmental organizations, academic entities and business sector entities in the work of the Commission, to recommend appropriate steps to the Economic and Social Council. It also reviewed the work of its Gender Advisory Board and recommended appropriate steps to the Council.

**Contribution of the Commission to the Economic and Social Council and the
high-level political forum on sustainable development**

8.   General Assembly resolution 70/1, titled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", was adopted in September 2015. To support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in 2022, the thematic

focus of the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Council is "Building back better from the coronavirus disease while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development".

9.   Pursuant to the provisions contained in paragraph 29 of the annex to General Assembly resolution 72/305, a high-level round table on the role of science, technology and innovation in a sustainable and resilient recovery from the pandemic while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development will be held on Monday, 28 March 2022. The session will identify ways to prioritize science, technology and innovation as part of national development strategies in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic and the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development. It will also provide an opportunity for high-level policymakers to exchange experiences, lessons learned and good practices, and to discuss challenges faced at the national, regional and international levels, as well as possible solutions for addressing them.

10.   The outcome of the discussion will be in the form of a Chair's summary to be submitted to the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Council for consideration.

Documentation

E/CN.16/2022/1   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

11.   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) and 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.

12.   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 on Science and Technology for Development, including its strengthening, taking into account the multi-stakeholder approach (paragraph 105).

13.   In its resolution 2006/46 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.

14.   In its resolution 2007/8, the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to inform the Commission annually on the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, including all electronic applications. In this regard, 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.

15. 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 aims to provide 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.

16. The 2022 report was prepared based on the findings and recommendations of the intersessional panel meeting of the Commission, held from 17 to 19 November 2021, on inputs by bodies and specialized agencies of the United Nations 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 2007/8.

Documentation

A/77/62-E/2022/8	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 Report of the Secretary-General

Item 3
Science and technology for development

17. In its resolution 2006/46, the Economic and Social Council decided that the Commission should be the focal point in the system-wide follow-up of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society, while at the same time maintaining its original mandate on science and technology for development. In accordance with this mandate, the Commission focuses in each annual cycle on two priority themes.

18. The priority themes under this item to be addressed by the Commission are as follows:

(a) Industry 4.0 for inclusive development;

(b) Science, technology and innovation for sustainable urban development in a post-pandemic world.

19. In selecting these themes, the Commission envisaged that the findings would contribute to the implementation of the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the 2021 session of the Economic and Social Council and the 2021 high-level political forum on sustainable development. In 2022, the forum will examine the theme "Building back better from the coronavirus disease while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" and will review Sustainable Development Goals 4, 5, 14, 15 and 17. It will also take into account the different and particular impacts of the pandemic across all of the Goals and the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the Goals.

20. Furthermore, the General Assembly, in its resolution 73/17, requested the Commission, through the Economic and Social Council, to continue to consider the impact of key rapid technological changes, such as artificial intelligence, among others, on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets. The deliberations on the priority themes, in particular the second theme, will fulfil this request.

21. In order to contribute to a further understanding of the priority themes, and to assist the Commission in its deliberations at its twenty-fourth session, an intersessional panel meeting was convened from 17 to 19 November 2021. The report on the panel meeting will be before the Commission.

Documentation

E/CN.16/2022/2	Industry 4.0 for inclusive development Report of the Secretary-General

Documentation

E/CN.16/2022/3	Science, technology and innovation for sustainable urban development in a post-pandemic world Report of the Secretary-General
E/CN.16/2022/CRP.1	Report on the intersessional panel meeting

Item 4
Presentation of reports on science, technology and innovation policy reviews

22.   This item concerns updates of 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, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 74/229 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2021/29.

23.   The Commission will hear presentations on the science, technology and innovation policy reviews of Angola, Botswana and Zambia.

24.   The Commission will also hear about activities by the secretariat in relation to applying a gender lens to science, technology and innovation policy in the context of its policy advice to developing countries.

Item 5
Election of the Chair and other officers for the twenty-sixth session of the Commission

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

Item 6
Provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-sixth session of the Commission

26.   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-sixth 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 twenty-fifth session

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

Annex I

Proposed organization of work

Time (CST)	Agenda item and discussion topic	
Monday, 28 March		
2.30–4.30 p.m.	Agenda item 1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters	Opening statements
	Contribution of the Commission to the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development High-level round table on the role of science, technology and innovation in a sustainable and resilient recovery from the pandemic while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	High-level round table followed by interactive discussion
Tuesday, 29 March		
2.30–4.30 p.m.	Agenda item 3. Science and technology for development Priority theme (a): Industry 4.0 for inclusive development	Introduction
		High-level round table followed by interactive discussion
Wednesday, 30 March		
2.30–4.30 p.m.	Agenda item 3. Science and technology for development Priority theme (b): Science, technology and innovation for sustainable urban development in a post-pandemic world	Introduction
		High-level round table followed by interactive discussion
Thursday, 31 March		
2.30–4.30 p.m.	Agenda 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	Introduction
		High-level round table followed by interactive discussion
Friday, 1 April		
2.30–4.30 p.m.	Agenda item 4. Presentation of reports on science, technology and innovation policy reviews	Introduction followed by interactive discussion
	Applying a gender lens to science, technology and innovation policy, to deliver on Sustainable Development Goal 5	
	Action on draft proposals	Adoption of draft proposals
	Agenda item 5. Election of the Chair and other officers for the twenty-sixth session of the Commission	Election of officers
	Agenda item 6. Provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-sixth session of the Commission	Adoption of draft provisional agenda for next session
	Agenda item 7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its twenty-fifth session	Adoption of draft report
	Closing of the session	

Annex II

Commission on Science and Technology for Development: Membership at its twenty-fifth session

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

	Membership	*Term expires on 31 December*
1.	Austria	2024
2.	Belarus	2024
3.	Belgium	2022
4.	Botswana	2022
5.	Brazil	2024
6.	Burundi	2024
7.	Cameroon	2024
8.	Canada	2022
9.	China	2022
10.	Cuba	2022
11.	Dominican Republic	2022
12.	Ecuador	2022
13.	Egypt	2022
14.	Ethiopia	2022
15.	Finland	2024
16.	Gambia	2024
17.	Guatemala	2024
18.	Guinea	2024
19.	Hungary	2022
20.	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2022
21.	Israel	2024
22.	Japan	2024
23.	Kenya	2022
24.	Latvia	2022
25.	Liberia	2022
26.	Madagascar	2022
27.	Nepal	2022
28.	Oman	2022
29.	Panama	2022

	Membership	*Term expires on 31 December*
30.	Paraguay	2024
31.	Peru	2024
32.	Philippines	2024
33.	Portugal	2024
34.	Romania	2022
35.	Russian Federation	2024
36.	Saudi Arabia	2024
37.	South Africa	2024
38.	Switzerland	2024
39.	Thailand	2022
40.	Turkey	2022
41.	Turkmenistan	2024
42.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	2022
43.	United States of America	2022