

Decision 2021/255

Participation of non-governmental organizations and civil society entities in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development

At its 13th plenary meeting, on 22 July 2021, the Economic and Social Council, recalling its resolution 2006/46 of 28 July 2006 and its decisions 2008/217 of 18 July 2008, 2010/226 of 19 July 2010, 2011/236 of 26 July 2011 and 2015/243 of 22 July 2015, and recognizing the need to maximize the meaningful participation of and contributions by civil society in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development:

(a) Acknowledged that the Commission on Science and Technology for Development had benefited from the participation of non-governmental organizations and civil society entities in its work;

(b) Decided, on an exceptional basis and without prejudice to the established rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, to extend to non-governmental organizations and civil society entities that are not in consultative status with the Council but that received accreditation to the World Summit on the Information Society an invitation to participate in the work of the Commission until 2025;

(c) Urged that voluntary contributions be made in order to provide the maximum possible assistance for the participation of non-governmental organizations and civil society entities from developing countries and to ensure the balanced representation of such organizations and entities, including in the panels of the Commission;

(d) Invited the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to consider as expeditiously as possible the applications of such organizations and entities, in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Council;

(e) Decided that, while using the multi-stakeholder approach effectively, the intergovernmental nature of the Commission should be preserved;

(f) Also decided that every effort should be made by the Commission, in collaboration with relevant United Nations bodies and other interested parties, to mobilize and ensure the meaningful and effective participation, including by providing assistance on a voluntary basis, of all stakeholders from developing countries, including non-governmental organizations, small and medium-sized enterprises, industry associations and development actors.