



Commission on Science and Technology for Development

Twenty-seventh session

Geneva, 15–19 April 2024

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) Data for development;
 - (b) Global cooperation in science, technology and innovation for development.
4. Presentation of reports on science, technology and innovation policy reviews.
5. Election of the Chair and other officers for the twenty-eighth session of the Commission.
6. Provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-eighth session of the Commission.
7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its twenty-seventh 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-seventh session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development were approved by the Council in its decision 2023/320 on 7 June 2023.

2. In accordance with established practice, at its closing plenary on 31 March 2023, the Commission elected by acclamation the following members of the Bureau of the twenty-seventh session:

Chair:

Ana Cristina Amoroso das Neves (Portugal)

Vice-Chairs:

Muhammadou M.O. Kah (Gambia)

Peter Major (Hungary)

Luis Juan Chuquihuara Chil (Peru)

3. The Commission postponed the election of the Vice-Chair from the Asia-Pacific States. In accordance with the 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 twenty-seventh 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.

5. The Commission is scheduled to meet from Monday to Friday, 15 to 19 April 2024. 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 Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development

7. 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 2023, 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 “Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions”.

8. 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 reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises, and the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions, will be held on Monday, 15 April 2024. At the session, discussions will focus on challenges faced at the national, regional and international levels, as well as possible solutions for addressing them, with a view to identifying lessons learned and good practices in using science, technology and innovation as a crucial means of implementing the 2030 Agenda, including gender, ending poverty and leaving no one behind. The session will also provide an opportunity for high-level policymakers to exchange experiences in implementing the 2023 ministerial declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development.

9. The outcome of the discussions will be included in the report of the Commission to be submitted to the Economic and Social Council for approval.

Documentation

E/CN.16/2024/1

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

10. 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, during the first phase of the Summit, delegates adopted a common vision and commitment to building a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented information society. During the second phase, delegates 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.

11. 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, it was requested that the Council review the mandate of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, including its strengthening, taking into account the multi-stakeholder approach (paragraph 105).

12. 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.

13. 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 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.

14. 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 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.

15. The 2024 report was prepared based on the findings and recommendations of the intersessional panel meeting of the Commission, held on 6 and 7 November 2023, as well as 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/79/62-E/2024/3 | 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.16/2024/CRP.1 | Report on the intersessional panel meeting |

16. In addition, General Assembly resolution 70/125, adopted on 16 December 2015, called for a high-level meeting in 2025 to review the overall implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society. Economic and Social Council resolution 2023/3, adopted in June 2023, requested the Commission to collect inputs from Member States, all facilitators and other stakeholders, as well as to organize, during its twenty-seventh session, in 2024, and its twenty-eighth session, in 2025, substantive discussions on the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit during the past 20 years, and to report thereon, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly. The Commission will allocate dedicated time for such discussions under item 3.

Item 3

Science and technology for development: priority themes

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 to 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) Data for development;
- (b) Global cooperation in science, technology and innovation for development.

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 2023 session of the Economic and Social Council and the 2024 high-level political forum on sustainable development. In 2024, the forum will examine the theme “Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions” and will review Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 13, 16 and 17. It will also take into account 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 first 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-seventh session, an intersessional panel meeting was convened on 6 and 7 November 2023. A report on the intersessional panel meeting will be before the Commission.

Documentation

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| E/CN.16/2024/2 | Data for development Report of the Secretary-General |
| E/CN.16/2024/3 | Global cooperation in science, technology and innovation for development Report of the Secretary-General |
| E/CN.16/2024/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 resolutions 74/229 and 76/213 and Economic and Social Council resolution 2023/4.

23. The Commission on Science and Technology for Development will hear presentations on the science, technology and innovation policy review of Seychelles. The Commission will also report here on other technical cooperation activities undertaken under the aegis of the Commission, including the implementation of technology assessment projects in developing countries.

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

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

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

25. 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-eighth 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-seventh session

26. 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-seventh session to the Economic and Social Council.

Annex I

Proposed organization of work

| <i>Date/Time</i> | <i>Agenda item and discussion topic</i> | <i>Programme</i> |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| Monday, 15 April | | |
| 10 a.m. | Agenda item 1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters | Opening statements Adoption of the agenda and organization of work |
| 11.30 a.m.– 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. | Contribution of the Commission to the 2024 theme of the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development: “Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions” | High-level round table followed by general discussion |
| | Agenda item 3. Science and technology for development Priority theme: (b) Global cooperation in science, technology and innovation for development | Introduction and high-level round table followed by an interactive discussion |
| Tuesday, 16 April | | |
| 10 a.m. | Agenda item 3. Science and technology for development Priority theme: (a) Data for development | Introduction and high-level round table followed by an interactive discussion |
| 3 p.m. | Agenda item 3. Science and technology for development Priority theme: (a) Data for development | |
| Wednesday, 17 April | | |
| 10 a.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 (including a dedicated discussion on the World Summit on the Information Society+20) | Introduction and high-level round table followed by interactive discussion |
| 3 p.m. | Agenda item 4. Presentation of reports on science, technology and innovation policy reviews (including other cooperation activities undertaken under the aegis of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development) | Introduction followed by general and interactive discussion |
| Thursday, 18 April | | |
| 10 a.m. | Informal consultations | Introduction of draft proposals, followed by a discussion |
| 3 p.m. | Informal consultations | Discussions on draft proposals (continued) |

| <i>Date/Time</i> | <i>Agenda item and discussion topic</i> | <i>Programme</i> |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| Friday, 19 April | | |
| 10 a.m. | Informal consultations | Discussions on draft proposals (continued) |
| 3 p.m. | Agenda item 5. Election of the Chair and other officers for the twenty-eighth session of the Commission | Election of officers |
| | Action on draft proposals | Adoption of draft proposals |
| | Agenda item 6. Provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-eighth 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-seventh session | Adoption of draft report |
| | Closing of the session | |

Annex II**Commission on Science and Technology for Development:
Membership at its twenty-seventh session**

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

| | <i>Membership</i> | <i>Term expires on 31 December</i> |
|-----|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. | Algeria | 2026 |
| 2. | Austria | 2024 |
| 3. | Belarus | 2024 |
| 4. | Belize | 2026 |
| 5. | Botswana | 2026 |
| 6. | Brazil | 2024 |
| 7. | Burundi | 2024 |
| 8. | Cameroon | 2024 |
| 9. | Canada | 2026 |
| 10. | China | 2026 |
| 11. | Colombia | 2026 |
| 12. | Cuba | 2026 |
| 13. | Djibouti | 2026 |
| 14. | Ecuador | 2026 |
| 15. | Egypt | 2026 |
| 16. | Finland | 2024 |
| 17. | France | 2026 |
| 18. | Gambia | 2024 |
| 19. | Guatemala | 2024 |
| 20. | Guinea | 2024 |
| 21. | Hungary | 2026 |
| 22. | India | 2026 |
| 23. | Israel | 2024 |
| 24. | Japan | 2024 |
| 25. | Latvia | 2026 |
| 26. | Oman | 2026 |
| 27. | Paraguay | 2024 |
| 28. | Peru | 2024 |
| 29. | Philippines | 2024 |

| | <i>Membership</i> | <i>Term expires on 31 December</i> |
|-----|---|------------------------------------|
| 30. | Portugal | 2024 |
| 31. | Romania | 2026 |
| 32. | Russian Federation | 2024 |
| 33. | Rwanda | 2026 |
| 34. | Saudi Arabia | 2024 |
| 35. | South Africa | 2024 |
| 36. | Switzerland | 2024 |
| 37. | Tajikistan | 2026 |
| 38. | Turkmenistan | 2024 |
| 39. | Türkiye | 2026 |
| 40. | United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | 2026 |
| 41. | United Republic of Tanzania | 2026 |
| 42. | United States of America | 2026 |
| 43. | Uzbekistan | 2026 |
