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Commission on the Status of Women

Fifty-seventh session

4-15 March 2013

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Annotated provisional agenda and proposed organization of work*

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”:
 - (a) Implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives:
 - (i) Priority theme: elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls;
 - (ii) Review theme: the equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men, including caregiving in the context of HIV/AIDS;
 - (b) Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men: key gender equality issues to be reflected in the post-2015 development framework;
 - (c) Gender mainstreaming, situations and programmatic matters.
4. Communications concerning the status of women.
5. Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions.
6. Provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session of the Commission.
7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-seventh session.

* The proposed organization of work will be issued as E/CN.6/2013/1/Add.1.



Annotations

1. Election of officers

In accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and pursuant to Council resolution 1987/21 and decision 2002/234, the Commission on the Status of Women, at the 1st meeting of its fifty-sixth session, on 14 March 2011, elected, by acclamation, Marjon V. Kamara (Liberia) as Chair, and Irina Velichko (Belarus) and Carlos Enrique García González (El Salvador) as Vice-Chairs of the fifty-sixth and fifty-seventh sessions of the Commission. At the 2nd meeting of its fifty-sixth session, on 27 February 2012, the Commission elected Ana Marie L. Hernando (Philippines) and Filippo Cinti (Italy) as Vice-Chairs, and designated Mr. Cinti to act as Rapporteur of the Commission.

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2009/16, the Commission appoints five members to serve two-year terms on the Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women established in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/27. At the 1st meeting of its fifty-sixth session, the Commission appointed Li Xiaomei (China) for the Asia-Pacific States and Noa Furman (Israel) for the Western European and other States. At its 2nd meeting, on 27 February 2012, the Commission appointed Ms. Fatima Alfeine (Comoros), Mr. Ruben Armando Escalante Hasbún (El Salvador), and Mr. Grigory Lukiyantsev (Russian Federation) to serve as members of the Working Group.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Rule 7 of the rules of procedure provides that the Commission, at the beginning of each session, shall adopt the agenda of that session on the basis of the provisional agenda.

The provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-seventh session of the Commission were approved by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 2012/249.

Preparations for the fifty-seventh session of the Commission were undertaken in accordance with its agreed conclusions 1996/1 on methods of work and Economic and Social Council resolutions 2006/9 and 2009/15. Accordingly, the Bureau of the Commission held several meetings as well as informal briefings and consultations with delegations to consider the organization and methods of work for the session.

Following past practice, statements delivered by representatives of delegations of members and observers of the Commission during general discussions shall be limited to 5 minutes, and statements made on behalf of groups of delegations to 10 minutes. It is also recommended that interventions from non-governmental organizations be integrated into the general debate and the thematic panel discussions, taking into consideration geographical balance.

3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”

(a) Implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives

High-level round table

In its resolution 2006/9, the Economic and Social Council decided that the annual interactive high-level round table would focus on experiences, lessons learned and good practices, including results with supporting data, where available, in relation to the implementation of previous commitments made with regard to the priority theme.

The high-level round table at the fifty-seventh session will focus on “Elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls”.

Documentation

Discussion guide for the high-level round table on the elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls: note by the Secretariat (E/CN.6/2013/5)

Priority theme

In its resolution 2009/15, the Economic and Social Council endorsed the Commission’s proposed future organization and methods of work. Accordingly, at its fifty-seventh session, the Commission will consider the theme “Elimination and prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls”.

Review theme

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2009/15, the Commission will evaluate progress in the implementation of the agreed conclusions from its fifty-third session on “The equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men, including caregiving in the context of HIV/AIDS”.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on multisectoral services and responses for women and girls subjected to violence (E/CN.6/2013/3)

Report of the Secretary-General on prevention of violence against women and girls (E/CN.6/2013/4)

Future programme of work

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2009/15, the Commission will discuss the possibility of conducting in 2015 a review and appraisal of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and will decide on priority themes for future sessions.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on proposals for priority themes for future sessions of the Commission on the Status of Women (E/CN.6/2013/7)

(b) Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men: key gender equality issues to be reflected in the post-2015 development framework

In its resolution 2006/9, the Economic and Social Council requested the Bureau of the Commission, prior to each session, to identify, in consultation with all States, through their regional groups, an emerging issue for consideration by the Commission, taking into account developments at the global and regional levels as well as planned activities within the United Nations, where increased attention to gender perspectives was required.

Following consultation, the Bureau decided that the Commission would hold an interactive expert panel on the emerging issue of key gender equality issues to be reflected in the post-2015 development framework.

(c) Gender mainstreaming, situations and programmatic matters

Report of the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

In accordance with paragraph 67 (c) of General Assembly resolution 64/289, the Commission will have before it the annual report of the head of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) on the normative aspects of the work of UN-Women and on its implementation of the policy guidance provided by the Commission.

Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women

In its resolution 2012/25 on the situation of and assistance to Palestinian women, the Economic and Social Council requested the Commission to continue to monitor and take action with regard to the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly. It also requested the Secretary-General to continue to review the situation, to assist Palestinian women by all available means and to submit to the Commission at its fifty-seventh session a report, including information provided by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, on the progress made in the implementation of the resolution.

Violence against women

In its resolution 50/166 on the role of the United Nations Development Fund for Women in eliminating violence against women, the General Assembly requested the Fund to include in its regular reports information on the establishment of a trust fund in support of national, regional and international actions to eliminate violence against women and to provide such information to the Commission.

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

In accordance with article 21.2 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women are transmitted to the Commission for its information. The report of the Committee on its forty-ninth, fiftieth and fifty-first sessions (A/67/38) will be before the Commission. A note by the Secretariat transmitting the results of the fifty-second and fifty-third sessions of the Committee will also be before the Commission.

Documentation

Report of the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women to the Commission on the Status of Women (E/CN.6/2013/2)

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of and assistance to Palestinian women (E/CN.6/2013/6)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women on the activities of the United Nations Trust Fund in support of Actions to Eliminate Violence against Women (A/HRC/23/17-E/CN.6/2013/8)

Documents for information

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its forty-ninth, fiftieth and fifty-first sessions (A/67/38)

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the results of the fifty-second and fifty-third sessions of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (E/CN.6/2013/CRP.1)

4. Communications concerning the status of women

In its resolution 76 (V), the Economic and Social Council established a procedure by which the Commission would receive and consider communications relating to the status of women. In its resolution 304 I (XI), the Council amended resolution 76 (V) and requested the Secretary-General to compile, before each session of the Commission, a list of confidential and non-confidential communications, containing a brief indication of the substance of each communication.

In its resolution 1983/27, the Council reaffirmed the mandate of the Commission to consider confidential and non-confidential communications on the status of women and authorized the Commission to appoint a working group to consider such communications and prepare a report thereon for the Commission.

In its resolution 1993/11, the Council reaffirmed that the Commission was empowered to make recommendations to the Council on what action should be taken on emerging trends and patterns of discrimination against women revealed by such communications.

In its decision 2002/235, the Council decided, in order to make the communications procedure of the Commission more effective and efficient:

(a) That the Commission, starting at its forty-seventh session, should appoint, at each session, the members of the Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women for the next session so that the members would be able to meet to enable the Secretariat to issue their report three working days before the adoption of the agenda by the Commission;

(b) To request the Secretary-General:

(i) To inform Governments about each communication pertaining to them that would be considered by the Commission and give them at least 12 weeks before the consideration of such communications by the Working Group;

(ii) To ensure that the members of the Working Group receive in advance the lists of communications, including replies from Governments, if any, to be taken into account in preparing its report for examination by the Commission.

In its resolution 2009/16, the Economic and Social Council decided that the Commission, starting at its fifty-fourth session, should appoint the members of the Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women for a two-year period.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the list of confidential communications concerning the status of women (E/CN.6/2013/SW/COMM.LIST/47/R and Add.1)

5. Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

The Commission will have before it a letter from the President of the Economic and Social Council on follow-up to the Council's policy recommendations.

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/27, functional commissions are invited to provide concise, action-oriented input to the Council's annual high-level segment. At its 2013 annual ministerial review, the Council will consider the theme "Science, technology and innovation, and the potential of culture, for promoting sustainable development and achieving the Millennium Development Goals". The Commission will have before it a note by the Secretariat concerning the Commission's input to the 2013 annual ministerial review.

Documentation

Letter dated 29 November 2012 from the President of the Economic and Social Council to the Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women (E/CN.6/2013/9)

Note by the Secretariat on science, technology and innovation, and the potential of culture, for promoting sustainable development and achieving the Millennium Development Goals (E/CN.6/2013/10)

6. Provisional agenda for the fifty-eighth session of the Commission

In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the Commission will have before it a draft provisional agenda for its fifty-eighth session, including the list of documents to be submitted for its consideration.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-seventh session

In accordance with rule 37 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the Commission shall submit to the Council a report on the work of its fifty-seventh session.

Annex

Membership of the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-seventh session (2013)

(45 members; four-year term)

<i>Membership</i>	<i>Term expires at close of session in the year</i>
Argentina	2014
Bangladesh	2014
Belarus	2013
Belgium	2015
Brazil	2016
Central African Republic	2014
China	2016
Colombia	2013
Comoros	2014
Cuba	2016
Democratic Republic of the Congo	2015
Dominican Republic	2016
El Salvador	2014
Estonia	2015
Finland	2016
Gambia	2014
Georgia	2015
Germany	2013
Guinea	2013
Indonesia	2016
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2015
Iraq	2013
Israel	2013
Italy	2013
Jamaica	2015

<i>Membership</i>	<i>Term expires at close of session in the year</i>
Japan	2013
Liberia	2015
Libya	2014
Malawi	2016
Malaysia	2014
Mauritania	2013
Mongolia	2014
Netherlands	2015
Nicaragua	2013
Niger	2016
Philippines	2014
Republic of Korea	2014
Russian Federation	2016
Rwanda	2013
Spain	2015
Swaziland	2014
Thailand	2015
United States of America	2016
Uruguay	2014
Zimbabwe	2015
