



# **ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**

## **Working methods and procedures**

# Reference documents

- [UN Charter](#), Chapter X, Articles 61-72
- Relevant resolutions of the General Assembly (including [61/16](#), [68/1](#), [72/305](#), [74/298](#))
- Rules of procedure ([E/5715/Rev.2](#))
- Agenda and annotated agenda ([E/2021/1](#), [E/2021/100](#) – to be issued)
- 2021 working arrangements (resolution [2021/1](#))
- Resolutions and decisions adopted ([E/2021/INF/2](#), [E/2021/99](#). Resolutions issued as E/RES documents; and e-decisions on [e-deleGATE](#))
- Annual report to the General Assembly ([A/75/3](#))

## **Role and functions of the President and Bureau**

- Elected at organizational session (July)
- Regional rotation and special responsibilities (rule 18)
- General powers of the President (rule 42)
- Coordinate the work and prepare decisions on behalf of the membership, consult
- Additional guidance: Paras. 31-33 of GA res. 68/1 and paras. 13, 25 and 27 of 72/305;
- President raises awareness and promotes engagement

## **ECOSOC system - subsidiary bodies**

(E/2019/INF/3 (mandates) and E/2021/INF/4 (dates))

- Functional commissions
- Regional commissions
- Standing committees
- Ad hoc bodies
- Expert bodies composed of governmental experts
- Expert bodies composed of members serving in their personal capacity
- Related bodies

# Management segment

- 2 Management segments during the 2021 cycle (8-9 June and 21-22 July)
- Resolution 72/305: focus on the adoption of procedural decisions, consideration of recommendations of subsidiary bodies, as well as the introduction of reports and consideration of draft proposals submitted under relevant agenda items.
- Bulk of formal decision-making (In 2019, 31 of 34 resolutions; 48 of 64 decisions. In 2020, 18 of 23 resolutions. 25 of 33 decisions.)
- 11 of 20 agenda items

# Elections

- Elections for most regular vacancies to be held during the 20 April Management meeting; outstanding vacancies can be considered *ad hoc*
- ECOSOC conducts elections of members of 26 subsidiary and related bodies (Functional commissions, Executive Boards, Peacebuilding Commission) – regular elections to 17 bodies in 2021
- Agreed candidate/slate – can be elected without vote
- Secret ballot, if requested (rule 68)
- Documentation ([E/2021/100/Add.1](#), [E/2021/9](#) and Addenda – to be issued)
- Use of 'Candiweb' (under [e-delegate](#) - Elections)

## Decision-making

- Decisions/resolutions adopted either without a vote or, at the request of a member, by recorded vote
- Each member has one vote (rule 58)
- Majority of those present and voting (rule 60)
- Source of proposals:
  - Contained in reports of subsidiary bodies
  - Draft proposals either by a delegation/group of delegations or President's/Vice-President's text,
- Practice of consensus – in 2019, 31 of 34 resolutions and 62 of 64 decisions adopted without a vote. In 2020, no voting (limited in-person meetings)

## Participation of non-Member States


- Rule 72 provides for participation of State non-members of the Council (also Article 69 of the Charter,)
- States not members of the Council may submit and co-sponsor draft proposals
- Inclusive approach (rule 72, order of speakers, practice in negotiation of draft ministerial declaration and other draft resolutions)




## **Adapting to COVID-19 constraints**

- Adjusted to virtual environment
- Allowed decision-making through silence procedure (extended to subsidiary bodies)
- Adjusted ECOSOC's calendar of meetings
- Conducted elections through silence procedure
- Conducted the first virtual negotiations (FfD forum outcome)
- HLPF (incl. VNRs) held fully virtually
- No solution for voting, balloting
- Currently – in-person and informal virtual meetings

# ECOSOC website

**ECOSOC**

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OUR GOALS


ACHIEVING  
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## ECOSOC brings people and issues together to promote collective action for a sustainable world


At the centre of the UN development system, we conduct cutting-edge analysis, agree on global norms and advocate for progress. Our collective solutions advance sustainable development.




## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The HLPF is the central platform for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals.


### Latest News

 Taking Action for a More Sustainable World

### What's on

 February 8 - 17th  
Commission for Social Development, fifty-ninth session

### From the President



# ECOSOC Place in e-deleGATE



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## Announcements

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Attachments

21 Jan 2021 Newly migrated eDelegate platform: Economic and Social Council

20-419nve.pdf  
edeleGateV10 guide to change  
password 2 pages.pdf

19 Jan 2021 [REGISTRATION]: ECOSOC meeting with the Chairs of the ECOSOC Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies, to be held virtually on Monday, 25 January 2021, at 10:00 am.

210118\_ECOSOC President\_Inv  
Letter to MEMBER STATES.pdf

18 Jan 2021 Resending: Letter from the President of the Economic and Social Council on the appointment of Co-Facilitators for the preparation of draft conclusions and recommendations of the 2021 FfD Forum [Sent on 31 December 2020 - RESEND on new platform]

2021 FFD Forum-Appointment  
facilitators.pdf

18 Jan 2021 Re-sending: Composition of the Economic and Social Council as of 1 January 2021

ECOSOC MEMBERSHIP - 2021  
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06 Jan 2021 Letter from the President of the Economic and Social Council on the appointment of Co-Facilitators for the preparation of draft conclusions and recommendations of the 2021 FfD Forum [Sent on 31 December 2020 - RESEND on new platform]

2021 FFD Forum-Appoint  
facilitators.pdf

05 Jan 2021 Composition of the Economic and Social Council as of 1 January 2021

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