



# **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)

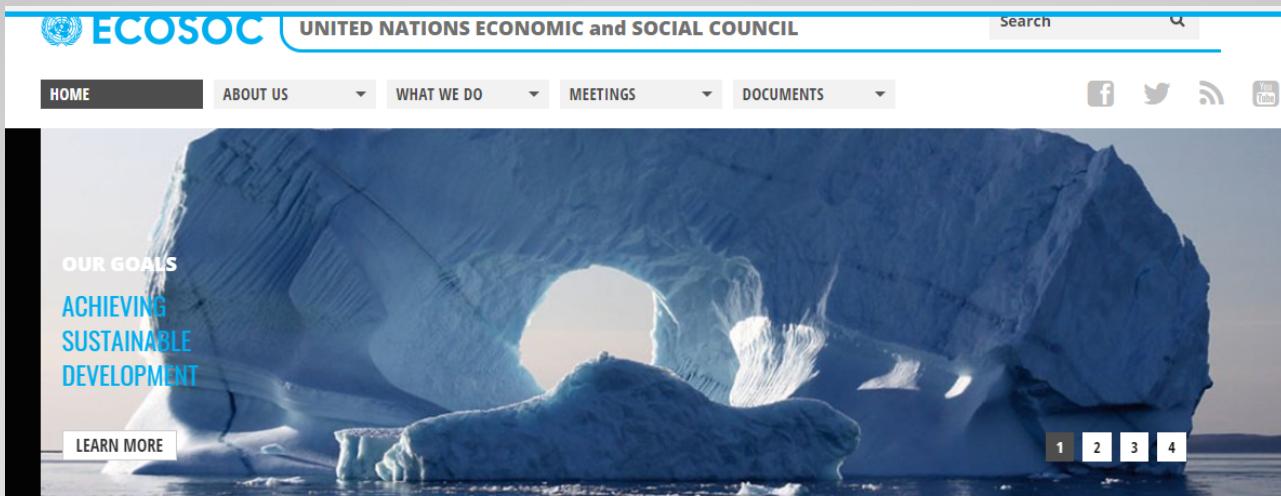
# Participation of non-Member States

- 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



The screenshot shows the homepage of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). The header includes the ECOSOC logo and the text "UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC and SOCIAL COUNCIL". A search bar is located in the top right corner. Below the header is a navigation menu with links for "HOME", "ABOUT US", "WHAT WE DO", "MEETINGS", and "DOCUMENTS". To the right of the menu are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, RSS, and YouTube. The main content area features a large image of a massive iceberg with a hole, and text overlay "OUR GOALS" and "ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT". A "LEARN MORE" button is visible. At the bottom of the image are page navigation numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4.

**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  
ECOSOC 75

## What's on

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


## From the President



# ECOSOC Place in e-deleGATE

 e-deleGATE  
Secure Portal for Delegates

What's New > General Assembly > Security Council > **ECOSOC >** Conference > Protocol > Resources > Search

**Announcements**

[Add announcement](#)

Show 20 entries

Search:

Date	Subject	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 clean.pdf
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-Appointment facilitators.pdf
05 Jan 2021	Composition of the Economic and Social Council as of 1 January 2021	ECOSOC MEMBERSHIP - 2021 clean.pdf

**Welcome**