

# Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) of the General Assembly



# Role and main responsibilities of the technical secretariat (what do we do?)

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- Provide technical secretariat support to the Committee focusing on procedural and organizational matters.
- Ensure all services are in place and are used efficiently and effectively.
- Work closely with other offices involved in the substantive work of the Committee.
- Support the Chair and the Bureau.



# Presentation – 4 parts

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- 1) Programme of work (proposed modalities)- Interactive dialogues, general debate.
- 2) Documentation and draft proposals (i.e. resolutions or decisions - including introduction and action).
- 3) The Bureau.
- 4) Tools.



# Programme of work

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- Programme of work - circulated on the e-deleGATE portal and the Committee website.
- 14 items considered annually – 2 of which are organizational.
- General Committee to recommend items for inclusions and allocation on 15 September – GA plenary to adopt the agenda on 17 September.



# Programme of work, cont'd

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- 8 weeks of deliberations (5 weeks of deliberations and 3 weeks of action).
- List of speakers for general debate with a deadline.
- Time limits: **6 minutes** for individual delegations and **8 minutes** for groups.
- For interactive dialogues: **2-3 minutes**.



# Programme of work, cont'd

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- Human rights item (item 75) includes presentations by special procedure mandate-holders and other experts (around 65 expected for 76<sup>th</sup> session).
- Up to 3 experts presenting per meeting followed by an interactive dialogue with each presenter.
- Action during first 5 weeks through in-person meetings not possible.



# Draft programme of work

DRAFT AS OF 27 AUGUST 2021, PIAN 5

## DRAFT PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE - 76th session

Week 1						Week 2					
MON 27 SEPT	TUE 28 SEPT	WED 29 SEPT	THU 30 SEPT	FRI 1 OCT		MON 4 OCT	TUE 5 OCT	WED 6 OCT	THU 7 OCT	FRI 8 OCT	
AM No meeting	No meeting	No meeting	Organizational meeting to be conducted by Chairman (to be closed at 1 pm)	General debate (expenses)		AM General debate (expenses)	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 27 (a)(b): Social development 108, 110 and 111: Cultur, Information and Technology, Drugs (virtual)	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 28 (a)(b): Advancement of women (virtual)	No meeting	No meeting	
PM No meeting	No meeting	No meeting	General debate (expenses)	General debate (expenses)		PM General debate (expenses)	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 29 (a)(b): Advancement of women (virtual)	No meeting	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 71 (a)(b): Rights of children (virtual)	No meeting	
Week 3						Week 4					
MON 11 OCT	TUE 12 OCT	WED 13 OCT	THU 14 OCT	FRI 15 OCT		MON 19 OCT	TUE 20 OCT	WED 20 OCT	THU 21 OCT	FRI 22 OCT	
AM No meeting 1 pm - deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 22, 108,110 and 111	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 70 (a)(c,d): Human Rights Special procedures (virtual)	70 (a)(c,d): Human Rights Special procedures (virtual)	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 70 (a)(c,d): Human Rights Special procedures (virtual)	No meeting		AM Interactive dialogue under the following item: 75 (a)(c,d): Human Rights Special procedures (virtual)	No meeting	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 75 (a)(c,d): Human Rights Special procedures (virtual)	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 75 (a)(c,d): Human Rights Special procedures (virtual)	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 75 (a)(c,d): Human Rights Special procedures (virtual)	
PM Interactive dialogue under the following item: 72 (a, b): Rights of indigenous peoples	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 73 (a)(c,d): Human Rights Special procedures (virtual)	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 73 (a)(c,d): Human Rights Special procedures (virtual)	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 73 (a)(c,d): Human Rights Special procedures (virtual)	No meeting		PM Interactive dialogue under the following item: 75 (a)(c,d): Human Rights Special procedures (virtual)	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 75 (a)(c,d): Human Rights Special procedures (virtual)	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 75 (a)(c,d): Human Rights Special procedures (virtual)	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 75 (a)(c,d): Human Rights Special procedures (virtual)	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 75 (a)(c,d): Human Rights Special procedures (virtual)	
Week 5						Week 6					
MON 25 OCT	TUE 26 OCT	WED 27 OCT	THU 28 OCT	FRI 29 OCT		MON 2 NOV	TUE 3 NOV	WED 3 NOV	THU 4 NOV	FRI 5 NOV	
AM Interactive dialogue under the following item: 75 (a)(c,d): Human Rights Special procedures (virtual)	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 75 (a)(c,d): Human Rights Special procedures (virtual)	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 75 (a)(c,d): Human Rights Special procedures (virtual)	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 75 (a, b): Rights of self-determination (virtual)	66: UNHCR (Dialogue with UNHCR) (virtual)	1 pm - deadline for submission of revised draft proposals under item 75 (a to d)	AM No formal meeting 1 pm - deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 20, 21 and 24	No meeting	No meeting	No meeting	No meeting (virtual)	Action on proposals
PM Interactive dialogue under the following item: 75 (a)(c,d): Human Rights Special procedures (virtual)	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 75 (a)(c,d): Human Rights Special procedures (virtual)	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 75 (a, b): Rights of self-determination (virtual)	No meeting	Interactive dialogue under the following item: 70 Report of HRC (Dialogue with HRC President) (virtual)		PM No meeting 1 pm - deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 20	No meeting	No meeting	No meeting (virtual)	No meeting	
Week 7						Week 8					
MON 8 NOV	TUE 9 NOV	WED 10 NOV	THU 11 NOV	FRI 12 NOV		MON 15 NOV	TUE 16 NOV	WED 17 NOV	THU 18 NOV	FRI 19 NOV	
AM No meeting	No meeting	No meeting 1 pm - deadline for submission of revised draft proposals and draft amendments	No meeting	Action on proposals		AM Action on proposals	No meeting	Action on proposals	Action on proposals	Action on proposals	123: Revitalization of the work of the GA 128: Programme planning Action on proposals Conclusion
PM No meeting	Action on proposals	No meeting	No meeting	Action on proposals		PM Action on proposals	No meeting	Action on proposals	Action on proposals	Action on proposals	

# Documentation and draft proposals

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## Useful documents:

- Historical information on items: GA annotated agenda (A/76/100)
- Working methods of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Committee: A/C.3/75/CRP.1

## Pre-session

- Organization of work ([A/C.3/76/L.1](#))
- Status of documentation – ([A/C.3/76/L.1/Add.1](#))

## In-session

- Draft resolutions and decisions (L documents A/C.3/76/L.\_)

## Post-session

- Reports under each item with technical proceedings and action taken (to be reflected in the checklist A/C.3/76/INF/1)

# Documentation and draft proposals, cont'd

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## Submission of draft proposals

- Submission of draft proposals (Res. and Dec.) should follow the guidelines.
- *Important:* use **A/RES** document as basis when based on previous text.
- Submission at least **4 working days** in advance of action – processing and budget review.
- **USE E-SUBMISSIONS.**

# Documentation and draft proposals, cont'd

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- *Sponsorship*: through e-Sponsorship module in e-delegate or in room prior to action during in-person formal meetings.
- *e-Sponsorship* will close at the start of the consideration of a draft proposal for in-person formal meetings or at the expiration of the silence procedure if such a procedure is used.



# Formal and informal meetings

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- Formal meetings: Plenaries of **up to 3-hours** in duration, with interpretation services, summary records and a press release.
- Virtual meetings.
- **Punctuality** and **utilization** important.
- Informal consultations do not have services mentioned above.
- All meetings announced in the UN Journal.



# Bureau

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- **Chair:** His Excellency Mohamed Siad Doualeh, Permanent Representative of Djibouti.
- **Vice-Chairs:**
  - Mr. Joongil Shin of the Rep. of Korea;
  - Ms. Devita Abraham of Trinidad Tobago;
  - Ms. Hanne Carlé of Belgium.
- **Rapporteur:** Ms. Maria-Iuliana Niculae of Romania.



# Bureau cont'd

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## Functions:

- Organize the work of the Committee.
- Divides the responsibilities for draft resolutions by regions.
- Reviews the progress of work and coordinate action in the plenary.



# Tools

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- Committee website, e-deleGATE portal.
- e-deleGATE portal ([edelegate.un.int](http://edelegate.un.int)) – list of speakers/ submission and sponsorship of proposals/ voting intentions/ texts of draft resolutions/ announcements.

# Third Committee website

<https://www.un.org/en/ga/third>



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### Social, Humanitarian & Cultural Issues (Third Committee)

#### Third Committee

The Third Committee of the General Assembly at its seventy-third session, is chaired by [H.E. Mahmoud Saikal \(Afghanistan\)](#).

The General Assembly allocates to the Third Committee, agenda items relating to a range of social, humanitarian affairs and human rights issues that affect people all over the world.

As in previous sessions, an important part of the work of the Committee will focus on the examination of human rights questions, including reports of the special procedures of the Human Rights Council which was established in 2006. In October 2018, the Committee will hear and interact with special rapporteurs, independent experts, and chairs of working groups as mandated by the Human Rights Council.

The Committee also discusses questions relating to the advancement of women, the protection of children, indigenous issues, the treatment of refugees, the promotion of fundamental freedoms through the elimination of racism and racial discrimination, and the right to self-determination. The Committee also addresses important social development questions such as issues related to youth, family, ageing, persons with disabilities, crime prevention, criminal justice, and international drug control.

At the seventy-second session of the General Assembly, the Third Committee considered over 60 draft resolutions, more than half of which were submitted under the human rights agenda item alone. These included three so-called country-specific resolutions on human rights situations.

The Third Committee is expected to consider a similar number of draft resolutions during the present session of the General Assembly.

In line with General Assembly resolution 66/246, the formal meetings of the Third Committee are webcast live on [UN Web TV](#). Live coverage of the formal meetings is available in the six official languages of the United Nations, including the original language of the speaker. Past meetings of the session will also be available from the Committee's dedicated [video archives](#).

#### THIRD COMMITTEE

- Secretariat
- **73rd session**
  - Bureau
  - Documents

#### Resources

- Press releases
- Related links
- e-deleGATE
- UN Web TV
- Video archives
- Past sessions

#### MAIN COMMITTEES

# E-deleGATE portal

## <https://edelegate.un.int/>



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**Thank you**

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