



United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs  
Division for Social Policy and Development

# 56<sup>TH</sup> COMMISSION for SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Strategies for eradicating poverty  
to achieve sustainable development for all

2018 United Nations Headquarters, New York

29 January – 7 February 2018

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## Highlights of the 56th Session of CSocD

The **President of the General Assembly (GA), President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), UN Secretary-General, Under-Secretary-General for UNDESA, Civil Society Representative and Youth Representative** are expected to address the Commission during the opening session on 29 January 2018.

### Four High-level Panel Discussions:

- 1) Priority theme: “Strategies for Eradicating Poverty to achieve Sustainable Development for All” –  
*Mon.29 Jan. 3pm - 6pm*
- 2) Emerging Issues: “Innovation and inter-connectivity for social development” -  
*Tue.30 Jan. 3pm - 6pm*
- 3) “The third Review and Appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action on Ageing” -  
*Wed.31 Feb. 10am - 1pm*
- 4) “Evidence-based approach to the mainstreaming of disability in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Agenda 2030” –  
*Wed.31 Feb. 3pm - 6pm*

### ECOSOC Youth Forum:

“The role of youth in building sustainable and resilient urban and rural communities”. The Forum will be held from 30 – 31 January 2018.

### Civil Society Forum:

“Social Protection, Including Floors”. The Forum will be held on 2 February 2018, 10am - 1pm and 3 - 6pm



## High-Level Panel on the Priority Theme of the 56th Session of CSocD Mon 29 Jan. 3pm – 6pm

- The panel on the priority theme will engage in a substantive dialogue, focused on the following:
  - (1) Policy actions and recommendations on ways to effectively address the root causes of poverty within countries
  - (2) Knowledge sharing, experiences and innovative strategies that have proven to be effective at eradicating poverty in all its forms at the national, regional and international levels
  - (3) Issues related to poverty eradication, including inequality, resource mobilization, the use of disaggregated data and effective and accountable public institutions
  - (4) Emerging issues likely to affect the eradication of poverty and accelerating sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth and sustainable development.



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## High-Level Panel on the Priority Theme of the 56th Session of CSocD Panellists (as of 13 December)

- Keynote speaker/expert  
**H.E. Mr. Juan Somavia**, Director of the Diplomatic Academy of Chile, former Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Interregional Policy Cooperation, former President of ECOSOC, and the former Director-General of the International Labour Organisation
- **Mr. Michel SERVOZ**, Director General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (EMPL) at the European Commission
- **Mr. Mark McGreevy OBE**, Group Chief Executive of DePaul International and the founder of the Institute of Global Homelessness
- Moderator: **Ms. Jane Barratt**, Secretary-General of the International Federation on Ageing

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## High-Level Panel on Emerging Issues of the 56th Session of CSocD Tue. 30 Jan. 3pm – 6pm (as of 13 December)

- The panel on emerging issues will aim to:
  - (1) Identify opportunities and challenges that innovation and inter-connectivity can bring to societies, and examine the role of social policy to create conditions under which they can be useful tool for advancing social progress and achieving the SDGs
  - (2) Exchange information, knowledge, and good policies and practices at the national/regional/international levels, where innovation, new technologies help advance social development
  - (3) Explore how the international community/the Commission could play an important role to leverage technological advances.

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## High-Level Panel on Emerging Issues of the 56th Session of CSocD Panellists (as of 13 December)

- **Dr. Sen GONG**, Research Fellow of the Development Research Centre of the State Council, Executive Vice-President of the China Centre for International Knowledge on Development
- **Miss. Noor Al Malki Al Jehani**, Executive Director, Doha International Family Institute
- **Prof. Walter Valdivia**, Senior Fellow to CSPO, a science policy think tank at Arizona State University, and Adjunct Faculty at Johns Hopkins, and a Senior Policy Editor for the Mercatus Center at George Mason University.
- **Prof. Maria Garrido**, Research Assistant Professor and Principal Research Scientist at the Technology and Social Change Group, University of Washington
- **Ms. Donna Scheeder**, President 2015-2017, International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions
- Moderator: **Mr. Jeremy Millard**, Chief Policy Advisor, Danish Technological Institute, Denmark, Research Fellow at Brunel University, United Kingdom and Special Advisor to DG CONNECT, European Commission on public sector innovation, e-government and public services



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## High-Level Panel: “Third review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing”

Wed. 31 Jan. 10am – 1pm

- The panel will aim to :
  - (1) Identify opportunities and challenges for further implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action
  - (2) Explore how laws and policies aimed at enshrining and respecting the human rights of older persons can advance implementation of the MIPAA, including through the exchange of good practices and lessons learned
  - (3) Explore how the Member States and the Commission can create synergies between the MIPAA and the SDGs to enhance the well-being and the rights of older persons as well their role in advancing sustainable development for all.

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## High-Level Panel: “Third review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing”

**Panellists** (as of 13 December)

- **Ms. Maria Teresa Baran**, Deputy Minister of Health of Paraguay, and the Chair of the ECLAC Regional Review and Appraisal Conference
- **Mr. José António Vieira da Silva**, Minister of Labour, Solidarity, and Social Security of Portugal, and the Chair of the ECE Regional Review and Appraisal Conference
- **Dr. Abla Sibai**, Chair of the Epidemiology and Population Health Department at the American University of Beirut, and the Co-founding Director of the Centre for Studies on Ageing in Lebanon, and the Co-founding Director and Executive Committee Member of the AUB University for Seniors Program
- **Expert from ESCAP** (TBC)
- **Expert from ECA** (TBC)
- **Moderator** (TBC)

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## High-Level Panel: “Mainstreaming of disability in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Agenda 2030”

Wed. 31 Jan. 3pm – 6pm

- The panel will engage in the following :
  - (1) Issues related to disability-inclusive development in the context of the efforts to achieve sustainable development and build resilience for all
  - (2) Issues concerning inclusion of persons with disabilities in socio-economic development, humanitarian actions, and enhancing equal access to rehabilitation and social services
  - (3) Evidence-based research, including the status of disability data and statistics, can be further improved for disability-inclusive implementation.





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## High-Level Panel: “Mainstreaming of disability in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Agenda 2030” Panellists

- **Madame Zhang Haidi**, Chairperson of China Disabled Persons’ Federation (Minister level)
- **Mr. Mesbah Ansari**, Deputy Director for Human Rights of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran
- **Mr. Gero Carletto**, Lead economist and Manager for the Center of Development Data, World Bank
- **Prof. Mary Crock**, Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Sydney, Australia
- **Ms. Catalina Devandas Aguilar**, Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities of the Human Rights Council
- Moderator: **Ms. Venus Ilagan**, Secretary General of Rehabilitation International and former president of Disabled People's International

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## Reports and Notes of the 56th session of CSocD

1. Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all - [E/CN.5/2018/3](#)
2. Implementation of the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes - [A/73/61 AND E/2018/4](#)
3. Social Dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Economic Development - [E/CN.5/2018/2](#)
4. Note by the Secretariat on the emerging issues "Innovation and inter-connectivity for social development" - [E/CN.5/2018/5](#)
5. Third Review and Appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing: Report of the Secretary-General - [E/CN.5/2018/4](#)



## Informal Consultations and Side Events of CSocD56

- ❖ Informal consultations will commence as soon as possible. Interested delegations are encouraged to contact the facilitators or the Vice-Chairs who are responsible for draft resolutions to actively engage in the negotiations of these draft resolutions.
- ❖ **There will be no formal meetings** on Friday 2 Feb., Monday 5 Feb. from 3-6pm and Tuesday 6 Feb.
- ❖ We have received notification of more than 60 side-events as of today, covering a range of relevant topics. All delegations are of course invited to participate.
- ❖ Information on side-events will be posted on the CSocD56 website, accessible through [social.un.org/csocd](https://social.un.org/csocd)



## Conclusion

- The afternoon of Wednesday, 7 February will be dedicated to the consideration of the draft proposals before the conclusion of the work of the CSocD56.
- CSocD57 will open immediately after the official conclusion of the CSocD56.
- The deadline for submission of draft proposals is **Friday 2 February at 3:00 PM.**

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## Delegates with Disabilities at CSocD56

- ❖ Please inform the Secretariat in advance if there are delegates with disabilities that require particular support.
- ❖ Please contact the UN Accessibility Centre at: [accessibilitycentre@un.org](mailto:accessibilitycentre@un.org)



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# THANK YOU

Updates on CSocD56 will be posted here:  
[social.un.org/csocd](http://social.un.org/csocd)

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