

2005/45

**Promoting an integrated approach to rural development in developing countries for poverty eradication and sustainable development**

*The Economic and Social Council,*

*Reaffirming* the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2003,

*Recalling* its decision 2004/48 of 22 July 2004,

*Noting* the offer of Brazil to host the International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development in 2006,

*Reiterating* that the eradication of rural poverty and hunger is crucial for the achievement of internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,<sup>1</sup> and that rural development should be pursued through an integrated approach that encompasses economic, social and environmental dimensions, takes into account a gender perspective and consists of mutually reinforcing policies and programmes, which should be balanced, targeted, situation-specific, locally owned, should include local synergies and initiatives and should be responsive to the needs of rural populations,

*Having considered* progress or the lack thereof in the implementation of the ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of its substantive session of 2003 at its substantive session of 2005,

*Decides* to consider, at its regular organizational session in February 2006, the proposal to include a discussion on promoting an integrated approach to rural development in developing countries for poverty eradication and sustainable development at a future substantive session of the Council.

*40th plenary meeting  
27 July 2005*

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<sup>1</sup> See General Assembly resolution 55/2.