

Follow-up mechanisms for major UN conferences and summits

Children (1990)
Education for All (1990, 2000)
Least Developed Countries (1990, 2001)
Drug problem (1990, 1998)
Food Security (1992, 1996)
Sustainable Development (1992, 2002)
Human Rights (1993, 2001)
Population and Development (1994)
Small Island Developing States (1994, 2005)
Natural Disaster Reduction (1994, 2005)
Advancement of Women (1995, 2005)
Social Development (1995)
Human Settlements (1996, 2001)
Youth (1998)
Millennium Summit (2000, 2005)
HIV/AIDS (2001)
Financing for Development (2002)
Ageing (2002)
Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries (2003)
Information Society (2003, 2005)



United Nations
Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Follow-up mechanisms

Children

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

1990: World Summit for Children, New York, U.S.A.: World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children; Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children in the 1990s

1996: Mid-decade review at the 51st session of the United Nations General Assembly: A report of the Secretary-General (A/51/256)

2002: End-decade review: 27th special session of the United Nations General Assembly, New York, U. S. A.: A World Fit for Children

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

United Nations Children's Fund

- **Follow-up process:**

At the international level, several follow-up mechanisms have been set up: UN Inter-Agency Task Force; the Joint Committee on Health Policy and the Joint Committee on Education

Data collection has been strengthened. UNICEF has established a web-based database: "Monitoring situation of children and women" (<http://www.childinfo.org/>)

Education for All

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

1990: World Conference on Education for All, Jomtien, Thailand: World Declaration on Education for All: Meeting Basic Learning Needs; Framework for Action: Meeting Basic Learning Needs

1996: Mid-Decade Meeting on Education for All, Amman, Jordan: The Amman Affirmation

2000: World Education Forum, Dakar, Senegal: Dakar Framework for Action

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

- **Follow-up process:**

1990-2000: The International Consultative Forum on Education for All served as a focal point for information and dialogue.

2000- : The High Level Group on Education for All, convened annually by the Director-General of UNESCO, aims at sustaining and accelerating the political momentum.

The Working Group on Education for All provides technical guidance and information exchange between all partners.

EFA Observatory was set up in the UNESCO Institute for Statistics to monitor and report on the progress.

2002: The International EFA Strategy was developed by the International Task Force on EFA. It aims at operationalizing the Dakar Framework for Action.

Food Security

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

1992: International Conference on Nutrition, Rome, Italy: World Declaration on Nutrition; Plan of Action for Nutrition

1996: World Food Summit, Rome, Italy: Rome Declaration on World Food Security; World Food Summit Plan of Action

2002: World Food Summit: five years later: Declaration of the World Food Summit: five years later

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

- **Follow-up process:**

FAO's Committee on World Food Security serves as a forum in the United Nations System for review and follow-up of policies concerning world food security, including food production and physical and economic access to food.

1996- : The Food Insecurity and Vulnerability Information and Mapping Systems Programme (FIVIMS Programme) monitors the progress. The Inter-Agency Working Group works on the FIVIMS Programme.

Least Developed Countries

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

1990: Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Paris, France: Paris Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s.

2001: Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, Brussels, Belgium: Brussels Declaration and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010.

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

Economic and Social Council: The Economic and Social Council established a regular sub-item in its general segment to undertake the review of the implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action in 2001 and it has considered the item annually.

- **Follow-up process:**

The Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) was established by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/227 of 24 December 2001. The Office aims at enhancing the mobilization and galvanization of international support for - and ensuring the effective coordination, monitoring and review of - the implementation of the Brussels Declaration and Programme of Action (POA).

2001- : Annual reviews by the Economic and Social Council and the United Nations General Assembly

2004: The high-level segment of the 2004 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council considered resource mobilization and enabling environment for poverty reduction in the context of the implementation of the Brussels Programme of Action.

Drug problem

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

1990 17th special session of the United Nations General Assembly, New York, U. S. A.: Political Declaration and Global Programme of Action

1998 20th special session of the United Nations General Assembly, New York, U. S. A.: Political Declaration, Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, Measures to Enhance International Cooperation to Counter the World Drug Problem

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

Commission on Narcotic Drugs: The Commission serves as the central policy-making body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters. It also serves as the governing body of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP)

- **Follow-up process:**

Annual reviews by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

Sustainable Development

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: Rio Declaration, Agenda 21

1997 19th special session of the United Nations General Assembly, New York, U. S. A.: Further implementation of Agenda 21

2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa: Johannesburg Declaration and Plan of Implementation

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

Commission on Sustainable Development

- **Follow-up process:**

1993-1996: Multi-year thematic programme of work with a separate thematic focus for each year and a review of cross-sectoral issues.

1998-2001: Multi-year programme of work with pre-determined themes for sectoral issues, cross-sectoral themes. Focus is also given to an economic sector or a major group.

2003 – 2015: Multi-year programme of work with pre-determined thematic cluster for each two-year cycle.

2016 – 2017: Overall appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation

Forests

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

1992: United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: Forest Principles, Chapter 11 of Agenda 21

2001: First session of the United Nations Forum on Forests, New York, U. S. A.: Plan of Action, Multiyear Programme of Work

2002: World Summit on Sustainable Development

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

United Nations Forum on Forests: The Forum was established in 2000 by the ECOSOC resolution 2000/35 as part of a new international arrangement on forests, to carry on the work building on the IPF and IFF processes (see below).

- **Follow-up process:**

1995-1997: Intergovernmental Panel on Forests, under the auspices of the Commission on Sustainable Development

1997-2000: Intergovernmental Forum on Forests, under the auspices of the Commission on Sustainable Development

2001- : Annual review by the United Nations Forum on Forests

Human Rights

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

1993: World Conference on Human Rights, Vienna, Austria: Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (VDPA)

1998: The Five-Year Implementation Review of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action: 54th session of the Commission on Human Rights; 1998 substantive session of the ECOSOC; 53rd session of the United Nations General Assembly

2001: World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance: Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

Commission on Human Rights

- **Follow-up process:**

1993: Establishment of the High Commissioner as the United Nations official with principal responsibility for United Nations human rights activities under the direction and authority of the Secretary-General (the resolution of the United Nations General Assembly 48/141)

Appointment by the Commission on Human Rights of a special rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia and related intolerance (the resolution 1993/20 of the Commission on Human Rights)

1993-: Consideration by the General Assembly, ECOSOC, the Commission on Human Rights and other organs and agencies of the United Nations system related to human rights of appropriate measures to fully implement recommendations contained in the VDPA

2003: Appointment by the United Nations Secretary-General of five independent eminent experts to follow-up, together with the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

Indigenous issues

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

1993: World Conference on Human Rights, Vienna, Austria: Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (VDPA), which recommended the creation of the permanent forum to be established within the framework of the United Nations Decade of the World's Indigenous Peoples (1994-2004)

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues: The Permanent Forum was established in 2000 by ECOSOC resolution 2000/22 as a subsidiary organ of ECOSOC with a view to serving as a subsidiary body to the Council on indigenous issues related to economic and social development.

- **Follow-up process:**

Annual reviews by the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Forum

Population and Development

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

1994: International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, Egypt: Programme of Action

1999: 21st special session of the United Nations General Assembly, New York, U. S. A.: Key actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development

2004: 37th session of the Commission on Population and Development

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

Commission on Population and Development: The Commission together with the General Assembly and the ECOSOC constitute a three-tiered intergovernmental mechanism for the follow-up to the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development. The Commission monitors, reviews and assesses the implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, regional and international levels and advises the Council thereon.

United Nations Population Fund: The governing body of the Fund oversees on a regular basis the needs of countries in implementing the national population and development programmes and reports to ECOSOC on this matter.

- **Follow-up process:**

1994- : Annual reviews by the Commission on Population and Development, the governing body of UNFPA and ECOSOC

Small Island Developing States

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

1994: Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados: Declaration of Barbados and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

1999: Fifth-year review: 22nd special session of the United Nations General Assembly, New York, U. S. A.: declaration and state of progress and initiatives for the future implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

2005: Tenth-year review: International Meeting for the 10-year Review of the Barbados Programme of Action, Port Luis, Mauritius: Mauritius Declaration and Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

Commission on Sustainable Development: The Commission, in carrying out its multi-year thematic programme of work, has included in its consideration matters related to the implementation of the outcome of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in a distinct and identifiable manner.

- **Follow-up process:**

1995- : The Commission on Sustainable Development in the context of its multi-year thematic programme of work, continuously reviews the implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action

Natural Disaster Reduction

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

1994: World Conference on Natural Disaster Reduction, Yokohama, Japan: Yokohama Message; Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action for Safer World

2005: World Conference on Disaster Reduction, Kobe, Japan: Hyogo Declaration; Hyogo Framework for Action: 2005 - 2015

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

The United Nations General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council

- **Follow-up process:**

1995-2000: Periodic reviews by the UNGA and ECOSOC in conjunction with the review of the implementation of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction

1999: The programme forum on the International Decade, Geneva, Switzerland: the Geneva mandate on disaster reduction; a strategy document entitled "A safer world in the twenty-first century: risk and disaster reduction"

2000: Adoption of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

2000- : Periodic reviews by the UNGA and ECOSOC in conjunction with the review of the International Strategy

2004: Review of the Yokohama Strategy and Plan of Action for a Safer World as an input to the World Conference on Disaster Reduction

Advancement of Women

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

1995: The United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, China: Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

2000: Fifth-year review: 23rd special session of the United Nations General Assembly, New York, U. S. A.: Political Declaration and Further actions and initiatives to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

2005: Tenth-year review: 49th session of the Commission on the Status of Women: Declaration of the Commission on the Status of Women on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

Commission on the Status of Women: Following the 1995 Fourth World Conference on Women, the General Assembly mandated the Commission to integrate into its programme a follow-up process to the Conference, regularly reviewing the critical areas of concern in the Platform for Action and to develop its catalytic role in mainstreaming a gender perspective in United Nations activities. The Commission's multi-year programme of work is closely related to both, the Platform for Action and the Outcome Document of the 23rd special session of the United Nations General Assembly.

- **Follow-up process:**

1995- : Periodic reviews by the Commission on the Status of Women

2002-2006: Multi-year programme of work with predetermined themes for each session of the Commission

Social Development

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

1995: World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, Denmark: Copenhagen Declaration; Ten Commitments; Programme of Action

2000: Fifth-year review: 24th special session of the United Nations General Assembly, Geneva, Switzerland: Further Initiatives for Social Development

2005: Tenth-year review: 43rd session of the Commission for Social Development

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

Commission for Social Development: Since the World Summit for Social Development, held in Copenhagen in 1995, the Commission has been the key UN body in charge of the follow-up and implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action.

- **Follow-up process:**

- 1995- : Periodic review by the Commission
- 2002-2006: Multi-year programme of work with pre-determined themes for each session of the Commission

Human Settlements

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

- 1996: Second United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, Turkey: Habitat Agenda; Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements
- 2001: Fifth-year review: 25th special session of the United Nations General Assembly, New York, U. S. A.: Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat): The Commission on Human Settlements and its secretariat, the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), were transformed into the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) as of 1 January 2002. The Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) together with the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council constitute the three-tiered intergovernmental mechanism to oversee the coordination of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda. The Programme is the United Nations focal point for the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and collaborates with the Commission on Sustainable Development and other relevant bodies as it relates to sustainable development.

- **Follow-up process:**

- 1996-2001: Periodic reviews by the Commission on Human Settlements
- 2002- : Periodic reviews by the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
- 2004-2005: 12th and 13th sessions of the Commission on Sustainable Development considered human settlements as one of the thematic clusters

Youth

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

1998: World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth, Lisbon, Portugal:
Lisbon Declaration on Youth Policies and Programmes

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

Commission for Social Development: As the subsidiary body of the Economic and Social Council responsible for global social development issues, the Commission for Social Development plays as the focal point for the implementation of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond (see below). The Commission carries out the policy-level dialogue on youth for policy coordination and periodic monitoring of issues and trends.

- **Follow-up process:**

The Programme on Youth at the United Nations originated in 1965 by the endorsement of the Declaration on the Promotion among Youth of the Ideals of Peace, Mutual Respect and Understanding between Peoples. In 1985, the General Assembly observed the International Youth Year and in its tenth anniversary in 1995, it adopted the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond.

Periodic reviews by the Commission for Social Development and the General Assembly

1995: 50th session of the United Nations General Assembly, New York, U. S. A.:
the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond

2000: The Millennium Declaration called for the development and implementation of the strategies on providing decent and productive work for the young people.

2005: 60th session of the United Nations General Assembly, New York, U. S. A.:
resolution on the tenth anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond

Millennium Summit

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

2000: Millennium Summit, New York, U. S. A.: Millennium Declaration

2005: 2005 World Summit, New York, U. S. A.: 2005 World Summit Outcome

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

United Nations General Assembly:

- **Follow-up process:**

Annual reviews by the United Nations General Assembly. Reviews of this process encompass broad development themes, especially those contained in the Millennium Development Goals (see below).

2001: The Secretary-General submitted a report, entitled “Road map towards the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration,” outlining potential strategies of action, including the Millennium Development Goals.

HIV/AIDS

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

2001: 25th special session of the United Nations General Assembly, New York, U. S. A.: Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

General Assembly of the United Nations:

- **Follow-up process:**

Annual reviews by the United Nations General Assembly

Financing for Development

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

2002: International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico: Monterrey Consensus

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

General Assembly of the United Nations: Every two years, the General Assembly hosts a two-day High Level Dialogue on Financing for Development.

Economic and Social Council: Every year in the spring, ECOSOC holds a special high-level meeting with the leadership of the World Bank, the International

Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization on the follow-up to the Monterrey Consensus.

The Council also makes recommendations to the General Assembly by adopting a resolution during its annual substantive session.

- **Follow-up process:**

Annual reviews by the United Nations General Assembly

2003: First General Assembly High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development

2005: Second General Assembly High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development

Ageing

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

2002: Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, Spain: Madrid Political Declaration; International Plan of Action 2002

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

Commission for Social Development: The Commission for Social Development is responsible for follow-up and appraisal of the implementation of the International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002. The Commission was asked to integrate the different dimensions of population ageing as contained in the International Plan of Action in its work.

- **Follow-up process:**

Periodic reviews by the Commission for Social Development: The Commission decided in its 42nd session to undertake the review and appraisal of the Madrid Plan of Action every five years, with each review and appraisal cycle to focus on one of the priority directions identified in the Madrid Plan of Action

Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

2003: International Ministerial Conference on Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donors, Almaty, Kazakhstan: Almaty Ministerial Declaration; Almaty Programme of Action

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

General Assembly of the United Nations: The General Assembly has monitored the implementation of the Almaty Programme of Action under a specific item on its agenda at its each session. Substantive preparations for, as well as review and monitoring of, the implementation of the Programme of Action are carried out by relevant bodies of the UN system. In particular, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development is requested to continue the consideration of related specific programmes.

- **Follow-up process:**

Annual reviews by the United Nations General Assembly

Information Society

- **Major conferences and outcomes:**

2003: The World Summit on the Information Society: the First Phase, Geneva, Switzerland: WSIS Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action

2005: The World Summit on the Information Society: the Second Phase, Tunis, Tunisia: Tunis Agenda for the Information Society; Tunis Commitments

- **Lead organ for substantive follow-up:**

Economic and Social Council is requested to oversee the United Nations system-wide follow-up of the Geneva and Tunis Outcome of the WSIS.

- **Follow-up process:**

To be determined by the Economic and Social Council

I. Types of follow-up mechanisms: by the primary reviewing body

1. Functional commissions and other subsidiary organs of ECOSOC

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

- Drug problem

Commission on Sustainable Development

- Sustainable development
- Small Island Developing States
- Other issues as they relate to sustainable development

Commission on Human Rights

- Human rights

Commission on Status of Women

- Advancement of women

Commission on Social Development

- Social development
- Youth
- Ageing

United Nations Forum on Forests

- Forests

United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

- Indigenous Issues

2. Specialized agencies and Programmes

UNICEF

- Children

UNESCO

- Education for All

FAO

- Food security

UN-HABITAT

- Human settlements

***The hybrid of 1 and 2**

Commission on Population and Development

UNFPA

- Population and development

3. ECOSOC

- Least Developed Countries
- Natural disaster reduction
- Information society

4. General Assembly

- Financing for Development
- Landlocked Developing Countries
- HIV/AIDS
- Millennium Summit

Existing Follow-up Processes / Mechanisms

