



## **Economic and Social Council**

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**Commission on the Status of Women**  
**Forty-ninth session**  
**28 February -11 March 2005**  
**Item 2 of the provisional agenda**  
**Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters**

**Annotated provisional agenda and proposed organization of work**

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”:
  - (a) Review of gender mainstreaming in organizations of the United Nations system;
  - (b) Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men;
  - (c) Implementation of strategic objectives and action in the critical areas of concern;
    - (i) Review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the special session of the General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”

(ii) Current challenges and forward-looking strategies for the advancement and empowerment of women and girls.

4. Communications concerning the status of women.
5. Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions.
6. Provisional agenda for the fiftieth session of the Commission.
7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-ninth session.

## **Annotations**

### **1. Election of officers**

Rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council provides that at the commencement of the first meeting of a regular session, the Commission shall elect, from among the representatives of its members, a Chairperson, one or more Vice-Chairpersons and such other officers as may be required. At its forty-eighth session, the Commission elected, in addition to a Chairperson, four Vice-Chairpersons, with one Vice-Chairperson having rapporteurial responsibilities.

In its resolution 1987/21, the Economic and Social Council recommended that, in order to enhance the effectiveness of the work of the Commission, the officers elected to the Bureau of the Commission should serve a term of office of two years. The officers elected at the forty-eighth session will continue to serve during the forty-ninth session.

In accordance with its decision 2002/234, the Economic and Social Council, in order to improve the work of the Commission on the Status of Women and to ensure continuity in the work of its successive Bureaux decided that, starting with the forty-seventh session, in 2003, the Commission immediately following the closure of a regular session, would hold the first meeting of its subsequent regular session for the sole purpose of electing the new Chairperson and other members of the Bureau, in accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council.

The first meeting of the forty-eighth session took place immediately following the closure of the forty-seventh session, at which point the Commission elected the Chairperson and other members of the Bureau to serve at the forty-eighth and forty-ninth sessions of the Commission. After the closure of the forty-ninth session, the Commission will open the fiftieth session for the sole purpose of electing the new Chairperson and other members of the Bureau, in accordance with rule 15 of the rules and procedure of the functional commissions of the Council and ECOSOC decision 2002/34.

The membership of the Commission expiring at the end of its forty-ninth through fifty-second sessions is given in Annex II. The membership of the Commission expiring at the end of its fiftieth through fifty-third sessions is given in Annex III.

## **2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters**

Rule 7 of the rules of procedure provides that the Commission shall, at the beginning of each session, adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda.

The provisional agenda and documentation for the forty-ninth session of the Commission were approved by the Economic and Social Council in Council decision 2004/239.

Preparations for the forty-ninth session of the Commission were undertaken in accordance with its agreed conclusions 1996/1 on methods of work. Accordingly, the Bureau of the Commission

held several meetings, as well as consultative briefings with all interested delegations on 23 June 2004, 20 July 2004 and 14 September 2004 to consider the organization and methods of work for the session.

It is expected that time will be set aside for a high-level plenary. To ensure wide participation, it is recommended that individual interventions by Governments, intergovernmental organizations, United Nations entities and non-governmental organizations be limited to five (5) minutes, and interventions on behalf of groups be limited to ten (10) minutes, as was the case at previous sessions. It is also recommended that as at previous sessions, interventions from non-governmental organizations, with geographical location being taken into consideration, be integrated into the high-level plenary and that non-governmental organizations would also participate in each of the panels on the thematic issues.

In its decision 46/101, the Commission on the Status of Women decided that, starting from its forty-seventh session in 2003, it would introduce the option of high-level round tables. It authorized the Bureau to decide, after consultation with all interested States through the regional groups, on the number, timing and theme of any such round tables. At an informal meeting on 14 September 2004, the Commission decided that the theme of the high-level round table at the forty-ninth session would be “Innovations in institutional arrangements for promoting gender equality at national level” The Commission will have before it under Item 3 (c), a discussion guide on the round table.

The Commission will also have before it a note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation for the session.

## **Documentation**

Discussion guide on the high-level roundtable. Note by the Bureau (E/CN.6/2005/CRP.2)

Note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation for the session (E/CN.6/2005/L.1)

### **3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”:**

#### **(a) Review of mainstreaming in organizations of the United Nations system;**

#### ***Review and appraisal of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly***

In accordance with the Beijing Political Declaration and its multi-year programme of work, the Commission will review the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century” and current challenges and forward-looking strategies for the advancement and empowerment of women and girls.

***Review of methods of work of the Commission on the Status of Women***

The General Assembly in resolution 57/270B (para. 46) requested the functional commissions to examine their methods of work in order to better pursue the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, recognizing that there is no need for a uniform approach since each functional commission has its own specificity, while also noting that modern methods of work can better guarantee the review of progress made in implementation at all levels, on the basis of a report with recommendations to be submitted by the Secretary-General to each functional commission and relevant subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council on their methods of work, in accordance with the provisions defined by the respective outcomes and relevant decisions taken by each body, the functional commissions should report to the Council no later than 2005 on the outcome of this examination.

At the forty-eighth session, the Commission on the Status of Women adopted a decision containing specific actions to enhance its working methods (48/101). The Commission decided to continue its discussion on these issues during the forty-ninth session of the Commission.

***Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system***

In section III, paragraph 5, of its resolution 1996/6, the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to prepare annually, under item 3, a report on measures taken and progress

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achieved in the follow-up to and implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, and the progress achieved in mainstreaming a gender perspective within the United Nations system. This request was most recently reiterated in General Assembly Draft Resolution II (as contained in A/59/497) and (A/RES/58/148). The Commission will have before it the report requested.

***The situation of and assistance to Palestinian women***

In its resolution 2004/56 on the situation of and assistance to Palestinian women, the Economic and Social Council requested the Commission on the Status of Women to continue to monitor and take action with regard to the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women, in particular paragraph 260 concerning Palestinian women and children, and the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly; and requested the Secretary-General to continue to review the situation and to assist Palestinian women by all available means, and to submit to the Commission at its forty-eighth session a report on the progress made in the implementation of that resolution. The Commission will have before it the report requested.

***Situation of women and girls in Afghanistan***

In its resolution 2004/10 on the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan, the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to continue to review the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan and to submit to the Commission at its forty-eighth session a report on

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progress made in implementation of that resolution. The Commission will have before it the report requested.

***Joint work plan on the human rights of women***

In its resolution 39/5, the Commission requested the Secretary-General to see to the preparation of a joint work plan on the human rights of women for the then Centre for Human Rights and the Division for the Advancement of Women on an annual basis. In its resolution 2003/44, the Commission on Human Rights encouraged the Secretary-General to ensure implementation of the joint work plan of the Division for the Advancement and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, to continue to elaborate this plan, reflecting all aspects of work under way and the lessons learned, to identify obstacles/impediments and areas for further collaboration and to make it available to the Commission on Human Rights and to the Commission on the Status of Women. The Commission will have before it the joint work plan of the Division for the Advancement and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

***Improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system***

In its resolution A/C.3/59/L.24 on the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to provide a verbal update on the implementation of that resolution, including by providing up-to-date statistics on the number and percentage of women in all organizational units and at all levels throughout the United Nations

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system, as well as sex-disaggregated attrition rates for all organizational units and at all levels, and on the implementation of departmental human resource action plans, in particular for the achievement of gender targets, to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-eighth session. The Commission will hear an oral report by the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women on that resolution. The Commission will also have before it, for information, the Secretary-General's report to the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly on the status of women in the United Nations system.

### ***Violence against women***

In resolution 50/166 on the role of the United Nations Development Fund for Women in eliminating violence against women, the General Assembly requested the Fund to include in its regular reports information on the establishment of a trust fund in support of national, regional and international actions to eliminate violence against women and to provide such information to the Commission on the Status of Women and the Commission on Human Rights. The Commission on the Status of Women will receive such information.

### ***Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women***

In accordance with article 21.2 of the Convention, the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women are transmitted to the Commission for its information. The report of the Committee on its thirtieth and thirty-first sessions (A/59/38) and a

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note transmitting the results of the Committee's thirty-second session (10 to 28 January 2005) will be before the Commission for its information.

## **Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General on measures taken and progress achieved in the follow-up to and implementation of the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" and in mainstreaming a gender perspective within the United Nations system. (E/CN.6/2005/3)

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of and assistance to Palestinian women (E/CN.6/2005/4)

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of women and girls in Afghanistan (E/CN.6/2005/5)

Report of the Secretary-General on the joint work plan of the Division for the Advancement of Women and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (E/CN.4/2005/69-E/CN.6/2005/6)

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Note by the Secretary-General transmitting information provided by the United Nations Development Fund for Women on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/166 (E/CN.6/2005/7 / E/CN.4/2005/70)

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the results of the thirty-second session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (E/CN.6/2005/CRP.1)

### **Documentation for information**

Report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system (A/59/357)

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women at its thirtieth and thirty-first sessions (A/59/38 (Supp))

Note by the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (A/59/135)

### **(b) Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men**

In its resolution 1996/6, the Economic and Social Council decided that the Commission's agenda would include annually a sub-item 3 (b) on emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues

affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men; and requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report on emerging issues under that sub-item, as appropriate, at the request of the Commission or its Bureau. No report has been requested under this sub-item.

**(c) Implementation of strategic objectives and action in the critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives**

*Thematic issues*

In its resolution 2001/4, the Economic and Social Council decided on the multi-year programme of work of the Commission on the Status of Women for the period 2002 to 2006, including a calendar for considering implementation of strategic objectives and actions in the critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives. For 2005, the following two themes were identified: (i) Review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”; and (ii) Current challenges and forward-looking strategies for the advancement and empowerment of women and girls.

**Documentation**

Report of the Secretary-General on review and appraisal of the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the special session of the General Assembly entitled “Women 2000:

gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century” (merged with the Report of the Secretary-General on the current challenges and forward-looking strategies for the advancement and empowerment of women and girls) (E/CN.6/2005/2)

#### **4. Communications concerning the status of women**

In its resolution 76 (V) of 5 August 1947, the Economic and Social Council established a procedure by which the Commission would receive and consider communications relating to the status of women. In its resolution 304 I (XI) of 14 and 17 July 1950, the Council amended resolution 76 (V) and requested the Secretary-General to compile, before each session of the Commission, a list of confidential and non-confidential communications, containing a brief indication of the substance of each communication.

In its resolution 1983/27, the Economic and Social Council reaffirmed the mandate of the Commission to consider confidential and non-confidential communications on the status of women, and authorized the Commission to appoint a working group to consider such communications and prepare a report thereon for the Commission.

In its resolution 1993/11, the Economic and Social Council reaffirmed that the Commission was empowered to make recommendations to the Council on what action should be taken on emerging trends and patterns of discrimination against women revealed by such communications.

In its decision 2002/235, the Economic and Social Council decided, in order to make the communications procedure of the Commission on the Status of Women more effective and efficient:

- (a) That the Commission, starting at its forty-seventh session, should appoint, at each session, the members of the Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women for the next session so that the members may meet to enable the secretariat to issue their report three working days before the adoption of the agenda by the Commission;
- (b) To request the Secretary-General
  - (i) to inform Governments about each communication pertaining to them that will be considered by the Commission and give them at least twelve weeks before the consideration of such communications by the Working Group, and
  - (ii) to ensure that the members of the Working Group receive in advance the lists of communications, including replies from Governments, if any, to be taken into account in preparing its reports for examination by the Commission.

At the closure of the forty-eighth session, the Commission appointed the members of the Working Group to serve at the forty-ninth session. The Commission will be called upon to

appoint, before closure of the forty-ninth session, the members of the Working Group for the fiftieth session.

## **Documentation**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the confidential list of communications concerning the status of women (E/CN.6/2005/SW Communications List No. 39)

### **5. Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions**

The Commission will have before it a letter of the President of the Economic and Social Council on follow-up to the Council's policy guidance.

The Council, in its resolution 2001/27 of 26 July 2001, invited its functional commissions to provide concise, action-oriented inputs to its annual high-level segment. The Commission will have before it a note by the Secretariat as an input to the 2005 ECOSOC high-level segment on "Achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration as well as implementing the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits: progress made, challenges and opportunities".

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Letter dated 16 December 2004 from the President of the Economic and Social Council addressed to the Chairperson of the Commission on the Status of Women (E/CN.6/2005/8)

Note by the Secretariat as an input to the 2005 ECOSOC high-level segment (E/CN.6/2005/CRP.4)

## **6. Provisional agenda for the fiftieth session of the Commission**

Pursuant to paragraph 3 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1894 (LVII), and in accordance with Council decision 2004/239, the Commission will have before it the draft provisional agenda for its fiftieth session, with an indication of the documents to be submitted under each agenda item and the legislative authority for their preparation.

## **7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its forty-ninth session**

In accordance with rule 37 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the Commission shall submit to the Council a report on the work of its forty-ninth session.

## Annex I

**Proposed organization of work**  
**Forty-eighth session of the Commission on the Status of Women**  
**1-12 March 2004**

<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Programme</b>
<b>Monday 28 February</b>		<b>Opening of the session</b>
a.m.	Item 2 Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters	Introduction of reports followed by dialogue
	Item 3 Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"	High-level plenary on review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly; and Current challenges and forward-looking strategies for the advancement and empowerment of women and girls
p.m.	Item 3 (c)	High-level round table – Innovations in institutional arrangements for promoting gender equality at national level ( <i>in parallel</i> )
<b>Tuesday 1 March</b>		
a.m.	Item 3 Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"	High-level plenary
p.m.	Item 3 Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"	High-level plenary
<b>Wednesday 2 March</b>		
a.m.	Item 3 (c) Panel	"Addressing the linkages between the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly and the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration: progress, gaps and challenges
p.m.	Item 3 (c) Panel	"Synergies between national-level implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Convention of the Elimination on All Forms of Discrimination against Women

<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Programme</b>
<b>Thursday 3 March</b>		
a.m.	Item 3 Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"	High-level plenary
p.m.	Item 3 Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"	High-level plenary
<b>Friday 4 March</b>		
a.m.		Observance of International Women's Day
p.m.	Item 3 (c) Panel	"Presentation of the review and appraisal processes at regional level – achievements, gaps and challenges
<b>Monday 7 March</b>		
a.m.	Item 3 Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"	High-level Plenary
p.m.	Item 3 Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"	High-level Plenary
<b>Tuesday 8 March</b>		
noon to 1.00 p.m.	Item 5	Follow-up to ECOSOC resolutions and decisions
	Item 6: Provisional agenda for the fiftieth session of the Commission	Introduction of proposals including provisional agenda for the fiftieth session of the CSW
	Item 3	CSW Working Methods
p.m.	Item 3 (c) Panel	"Remaining challenges in relation to statistics and indicators, building on the discussions at the High-level round table organized in the 48 <sup>th</sup> session of the Commission 2004 as well as available data from the World's Women: Trends and Statistics (2005)

<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Programme</b>
		and the World Survey on the Role of Women in Development (2005)
<b>Wednesday 9 March</b>		
a.m.	Item 3 (c) Panel	“Future perspectives on the promotion of gender equality: through the eyes of young women and men”
p.m.	Item 4 Communications concerning the status of women	Closed meeting to consider the report of the Working Group on Communications
<b>Thursday 10 March</b>		
a.m.	Item 3: (c) Panel	“Integration of gender perspectives in macro-economics”
p.m.	Item 3 (c) Panel	“The role of regional and inter-governmental organizations promoting gender equality”
<b>Friday 11 March</b>		
a.m.	Item 3	Action on proposals
	Item 3	Action on outstanding issues
p.m.	Item 7: Adoption of the report of the forty-ninth session Commission on the Status of Women	Adoption of the report of the forty-ninth session
		Closure of the forty-ninth session
		Opening of the fiftieth session
	Item 1	Election of officers

## Annex II

### **Membership of the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-ninth session (2004) (membership expires at the conclusion of 49<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 51<sup>st</sup> and 52<sup>nd</sup> sessions in 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008, respectively)**

(45 members; four-year term)

#### ***Membership***

*Conclusion of 49<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 51<sup>st</sup> and 52<sup>nd</sup>  
sessions respectively*

Algeria.....	2007
Argentina.....	2005
Armenia.....	2007
Azerbaijan .....	2005
Belgium.....	2007
Bolivia.....	2007
Botswana.....	2006
Burkina Faso .....	2006
Canada.....	2007
China.....	2008
Congo.....	2007
Cuba .....	2006
Dominican Republic .....	2008
El Salvador.....	2008
Gabon.....	2006
Germany.....	2005
Ghana .....	2008
Guatemala .....	2006

Guinea .....	2005
Hungary.....	2008
Iceland.....	2008
India .....	2007
Indonesia.....	2006
Iran (Islamic Republic of).....	2006
Japan .....	2005
Kazakhstan .....	2008
Malaysia.....	2006
Mauritius .....	2008
Netherlands .....	2005
Nicaragua .....	2006
Nigeria.....	2007
Pakistan.....	2005
Peru .....	2005
Republic of Korea .....	2006
Russian Federation.....	2007
South Africa .....	2006
Sudan.....	2006
Suriname .....	2008
Thailand .....	2007
Tunisia.....	2005
Turkey .....	2007

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United Arab Emirates .....	2006
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Island .....	2005
United Republic of Tanzania .....	2005
United States of America .....	2008

### Annex III

#### **Membership of the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-ninth session (2005 (membership expires at the conclusion of 50<sup>th</sup>, 51<sup>st</sup>, 52<sup>nd</sup>, 53<sup>rd</sup> sessions in 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009, respectively)**

(45 members; four-year term)

#### ***Membership***

*Conclusion of 50<sup>th</sup>, 51<sup>st</sup>, 52<sup>nd</sup> and 53<sup>rd</sup> sessions respectively*

Algeria.....	2007
Armenia.....	2007
Belgium.....	2007
Belize .....	2009
Bolivia.....	2007
Botswana.....	2006
Burkina Faso .....	2006
Canada.....	2007
China.....	2008
Congo.....	2007
Croatia.....	2009
Cuba .....	2006
Dominican Republic .....	2008
El Salvador.....	2008
Gabon.....	2006
Germany.....	2009
Ghana .....	2008
Guatemala.....	2006

Hungary.....	2008
Iceland.....	2008
India .....	2007
Indonesia.....	2006
Iran (Islamic Republic of).....	2006
Japan .....	2009
Kazakhstan.....	2008
Malaysia.....	2006
Mali.....	2009
Mauritius.....	2008
Morocco .....	2009
Netherlands .....	2009
Nicaragua .....	2006
Nigeria.....	2007
Peru .....	2009
Qatar.....	2009
Republic of Korea.....	2006
Russian Federation.....	2007
South Africa.....	2006
Sudan.....	2006
Suriname .....	2008
Thailand .....	2007
Turkey.....	2007

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United Arab Emirates .....	2006
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Island .....	2009
United Republic of Tanzania .....	2009
United States of America .....	2008