



This Substantive Session 2003 of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) continues the work that the Council has started in 2002 by putting a regular item on its agenda to review progress made by its functional commissions, and by the United Nations family of agencies, funds and programmes to implement the Council's agreed conclusions 1997/2 on gender mainstreaming.

The Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality (IANWGE) whose purpose is to enhance coordination and collaboration between and among entities of the United Nations Secretariat and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes on gender equality issues - presents in this information kit, up-todate information on recent policy statements, programme objectives, operational and other activities, and good practices of 33 UN entities and organizations on gender mainstreaming. The collection includes a wide range of policies and activities of each of the organizations representing the extent to which ECOSOC agreed conclusions 1997/2 have been interpreted and implemented according to the mandate of each entity. It stems from the leadership and commitment of the Secretary-General (Chair of the CEB), the heads of agencies, funds and programmes, the combined work of gender focal points and units, programme managers, and administrators in the areas of programme and budget, monitoring and evaluation. It also shows how the annual meeting and on-going Inter-Agency collaboration through workshops on gender mainstreaming, communiqués, exchange of information and good practices on methodologies, strategies, competence building and re-assessments since the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing 1995), put the gender mainstreaming strategy firmly on the map.

The Network hopes that this collection, which will be updated periodically, gives a clear vision of the organizations' work to pursue the integration of gender perspectives in all aspects of their policies and programmes, as a strategy for achieving the goal of gender equality in programmatic and operational work.

Chairperson

Inter-Agency Network on Women and Gender Equality Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women