

Draft decision of the Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its resolutions 2020/1 of 25 July 2019 on the working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Council and 2019/11 of 7 June 2019 on the provisional calendar of conferences and meetings in the economic and social and related fields for 2020 and 2021,

Noting the evolving situation surrounding the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, the related letters dated 11 March 2020 addressed to all Member States by the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the agreement reached on 2 March 2020 regarding the arrangements for the sixty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women,

(a) Decides to make the following adjustments for upcoming meetings, segments and forums of the Council and sessions of its subsidiary bodies taking place in New York:

(i) The following meetings/segments/forums will be held in a scaled-down format, with participation of New York-based delegates and, as appropriate, using technological solutions, such as remote participation: for panelists and speakers not based in New York:

ECOSOC meetings/segments/forums:

- Joint ECOSOC/General Assembly thematic debate on Least Developed Countries (half-day meeting on 13 April);
- ECOSOC Special meeting on the Sahel (half-day meeting on 14 April);
- ECOSOC management meeting(s) on elections (15 April);
- ECOSOC forum on financing for development follow-up (20-22 April);
- ECOSOC Development Cooperation Forum (14 May);
- ECOSOC operational activities for development segment (19-21 May);

ECOSOC subsidiary bodies:

- Commission on Population and Development, fifty-third session (30-31 March);
- United Nations Forum on Forests, fifteenth session (meeting on one day between 4 and 8 May);

(ii) The following ECOSOC forums will not be held during the 2020 session:

- Partnership forum;
- Multistakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals;

(iii) The following meetings/segments/forums will be postponed and, if possible, rescheduled, as applicable with adjusted modalities/duration, during the remainder of the 2020 cycle of ECOSOC, or later in 2020:

ECOSOC meetings/segments/forums:

- ECOSOC Youth Forum (to be held in conjunction with the General Assembly Youth Plenary to commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of the United Nations);

- ECOSOC Special meeting on international cooperation in tax matters (to be held in conjunction with the twentieth session of the Committee of Experts on international cooperation in tax matters);

ECOSOC subsidiary bodies:

- Committee of Experts on Public Administration, nineteenth session
 - Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, nineteenth session
 - Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters, twentieth session;
- (a) Notes that the situation surrounding COVID-19 continues to evolve rapidly and authorizes the ECOSOC Bureau to take further decisions to adjust the meetings, segments and forums of the Council and the sessions of the subsidiary bodies of the Council within the 2020 cycle of ECOSOC.