Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

There are 171 States parties to the Covenant. In 2021, 7 reports from States were reviewed (annual average of 13 without pandemic restrictions).

Authoritative guidance
Currently developing a general comment on land and economic, social and cultural rights to clarify States parties’ obligations in relation to land and the governance of tenure of land. Forthcoming: general comment on sustainable development.

Statement on Leaving no one behind
- Economic, social and cultural rights are a fundamental pillar of the 2030 Agenda.
- Prioritizing disadvantaged and marginalized individuals and groups is a common objective of the 2030 Agenda and the Covenant.
- The rights-based methodology of the Covenant ensures that no one is left behind.
- The Covenant will enable States to fulfil their pledge to leave no one behind in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals.

Statement on Covid-19
In 2021, the Committee issued a statement on universal affordable vaccination against coronavirus disease, international cooperation and intellectual property.

Individual communications
Under its Optional Protocol (2013), the Committee has competence to receive and consider complaints from individuals claiming that their rights under the Covenant have been violated. There are 26 State parties to the Optional Protocol. In 2021, the Committee examined 7 cases founding a violation of the Covenant in 3 of them.

Broad engagement with different actors
The Committee engages with other human rights mechanisms, including treaty bodies and seeks to contribute to important discussions on the way forward. It also works with civil society actors, national human rights institutions, UN entities and other stakeholders.

https://uhri.ohchr.org/en/

Access More Information on Subsidiary Bodies:
https://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/content/ecosoc/subsidiary-bodies