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THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (ECOSOC) serves as the central forum for the discussion of international economic, social, humanitarian and environmental issues, and for formulating policy recommendations addressed to Member States and the United Nations system. Through these discussions, the Council plays a key role in fostering international cooperation for development and in setting priorities for action.

The Council coordinates the economic, social and related work of the United Nations Funds, Programmes and Specialized Agencies, and holds throughout the year several short sessions, ad hoc meetings, round-tables and panel discussions with the participation of non-governmental stakeholders, to prepare for its four-week substantive session in July. The work of the Council is also carried out by the activities of its subsidiary and related bodies.

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President of ECOSOC speaks at the opening of the Substantive Session

PAST ACTIVITIES / Substantive Session of ECOSOC

A. High-level Segment of ECOSOC (6-9 July 2009)

This year's High-level Segment of the Economic and Social Council, with the main theme for the [Annual Ministerial Review \(AMR\)](#) being global public health, attracted a number of key figures to address the Council in the opening session.

The session, which was opened by [Sylvie Lucas](#), the President of the Council, featured a statement by Secretary-General [Ban Ki-moon](#) and the President of the Swiss Confederation, [Hans-Rudolf Merz](#). The Council also heard keynote statements from [H.R.H Princess Muna Al Hussein](#) of Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, [Urmaz Paet](#), Foreign Minister of the Republic of Estonia, and [Nicolas Schmit](#), Delegate Minister for Foreign Affairs and Immigration of Luxembourg. In addition, Margaret Chan, Director General of the World Health Organization addressed the Council

as the lead speaker. The Council also heard from guest speakers: [Michael Marmot](#), Chair of the Commission on Social Determinants of Health, [Cherie Blair](#), Cherie Blair Foundation for Women, and [Sarah Omega Kidangasi](#), Maternal Health Advocate, Kenya

The Council was further briefed on the outcome of the preparatory meetings by the conveners. [Jeffrey Sturchio](#), President and CEO of the Global Health Council reported on the special event, "Philanthropy and the global public health agenda", that took place in New York on 23 February 2009. The regional preparatory meetings for the Annual Ministerial Review were reported by the ministers who hosted the events: [Dr. H.A.P. Kahandaliyanage](#), Secretary of the Ministry of Healthcare & Nutrition of Sri Lanka for South Asia; Chen Zhu, Minister of Health of China for Asia and the Pacific; Abdullah bin Khalid Al-Qahtani, Minister of Health of Qatar for Western Asia; [Rudyard Spencer](#), Minister of Health and the Environment of Jamaica for Latin America and the Caribbean; and [George](#)

[Sipa-Adjah Yankey](#), Minister of Health of Ghana for Africa.

The Economic and Social Council engaged in a [high-level policy dialogue](#) with the representatives of UN Conference on Trade and Development, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization during its High-level Segment in the afternoon of 6 July. Mr. Sha Zukang, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, who moderated the dialogue, emphasized that the crisis will continue to hit developing countries through several channels of transmission, including Official Development Assistance (ODA), exports, and finance. However, he also noted that significant steps have been taken in response to the crisis, including through unprecedented fiscal stimulus packages, and massive availability of new international liquidity. The Director General of the International Labour Organization (ILO) made a presentation on the “Global Jobs Pact” adopted at the 98th International Labour Conference, which intends to promote a job-intensive recovery from crisis, drawing on the decent work agenda and to shape a pattern for sustainable growth.

The Council's [third Annual Ministerial Review](#), held during the High-level Segment of its substantive session, focused on the theme of global public health. The Ministerial Declaration adopted at the conclusion of the Segment was hailed as a significant impetus to the implementation of the health agenda. By promoting consensus on issues ranging from non-communicable diseases, communicable diseases, neglected tropical diseases,



Exhibition booth of UNICEF at the 2009 Innovation Fair

es, health systems, health literacy, e-health, to financing, partnerships, education and infrastructure, the Declaration opened new opportunities for collaborative actions. It has set the stage for many follow-up actions leading to development of regional action plans on health literacy or multi-sectoral working groups on health challenges.

Governments showed strong interest in the work of the Council, as reflected in the regional meetings hosted by Sri Lanka, China, Qatar, Jamaica and Ghana, and National Voluntary Presentations by Bolivia, China, Jamaica, Japan, Mali, Sri Lanka and Sudan. The potential of ECOSOC in generating momentum towards the MDGs, in bringing many diverse constituencies on issues of global importance and in encouraging innovative solutions to problems has become even more evident this year.

ECOSOC also organized its 2009 thematic debate on “Current global and national trends and their impact on social development, including health”, and [two parallel](#)

[roundtable dialogues](#) on “[Social trends and emerging challenges and their impact on public health: renewing our commitment to the vulnerable in a time of crisis](#)” and “[Trends in aid and aid effectiveness in the health sector](#)” took place.

During the four-day Segment, ECOSOC also held its [2009 Innovation Fair](#), where Member States, civil society and UN system representatives discovered at first hand some of the innovative projects and products that can have a positive impact on the achievement of the health-related Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). As part of the opening ceremony of the Fair on 6 July, Mr. Ban launched the first series of [ECOSOC stamps](#) on the theme of global public health, designed and produced by the [United Nations Postal Administration](#). It is the first time that the Postal Administration has released stamps featuring the work of an intergovernmental body.



The ECOSOC postal stamps were exhibited at the 2009 Innovation Fair

B. Dialogue with the Executive Secretaries of the Regional Commissions (10 July 2008)

Bearing in mind the specificity of each region, the [High-level Dialogue of the Executive Secretaries of the UN Regional Commissions](#) with the Economic and Social Council, held on 10 July 2009, addressed the theme of the Annual Ministerial Review, "Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to global public health". The Dialogue provided the UN Regional Commissions with an opportunity to discuss with Member States the "Regional perspectives on the global economic and financial crisis, including the impact on global public health".

The Executive Secretaries offered overviews of the socio-economic situation and the status of the regions concerning the health-related MDGs. The impact of the global economic and financial crisis on the social development agenda in the regions, compounded by the effect of the food and energy crises, was highlighted, particularly those aspects related to poverty reduction efforts, social protection schemes and unemployment. The presenters cautioned against the dangers of neglecting longer-term investments in health services as a result of focusing on short-term macro-economic investments needed to stabilize the economy.

The Executive Secretaries agreed that the international community should continue to work on regulatory changes to the international financial and economic systems, combating protectionism and taking up coordinated positions on a South-South basis. They empha-

sized that the responses had to be coordinated at the global level because national or even regional responses would be insufficient to deal with the scale and breadth of the crisis.

The presenters made concrete suggestions on how the responses to the crisis could be used to address a number of health concerns. They stressed that both short and long-term strategies need to prioritize health and other social issues, so that investments in these sectors contribute to social stability and cohesion. They also indicated that responses to the crisis offer opportunities for health system reform to make it more effective, efficient and equitable.

Several key messages emerged from the presentations:

- » *The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) stressed that impacts of the crisis will be particularly hard felt in Africa because there are few mechanisms to cushion the effects on ordinary people, such as unemployment benefits and social security arrangements.*
- » *The Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) noted that the crisis will affect healthcare in the region as well as overall contributions to ODA. Thus, the provision of health services in the developing world will be affected.*
- » *The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) underscored that to overcome the crisis it was important not to abandon com-*

petitiveness and ensure building the best relations between the market and the State, drawing upon the experience of development in the region.

- » *The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) highlighted that regional cooperation can allow Asia and the Pacific to adopt more effective financing strategies for healthcare and protection of the most vulnerable from ill health, providing an effective social protection package.*
- » *The Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) underlined that the crisis is presenting opportunities for reform of the institutional healthcare systems in the region and for the improvement of social safety nets.*

During the interactive discussion, delegations from all regions called for the strengthening of the role of the Regional Commissions and requested them to coordinate more fully with the ECOSOC. Participants also asked for advice from the Commissions on how to tackle the impacts of the crisis.

C. Coordination Segment, 6-10 July 2007

The [Coordination Segment](#) adopted two resolutions: on "The role of the United Nations system in implementing the Ministerial Declaration on the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to sustainable development adopted at the high-level segment of

the 2008 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council”, which was the theme of the Coordination Segment this year; and on the “role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow up to major United Nations conferences and summits, in light of relevant General Assembly resolutions, including 61/16”.

The first resolution on the role of the UN system in implementing the 2008 Ministerial Declaration requests the United Nations to promote a comprehensive, coherent and integrated approach to further mainstream the sustainable development framework. It also requests the UN system to assist developing countries in formulating effective sustainable development strategies; mobilizing financial resources; and enhancing access to external resources and key technologies for sustainable development. The resolution also makes recommendations to specific parts of the UN system on issues such as climate change, energy, biodiversity, water, sustainable consumption and production patterns, urbanization and slum upgrading, and gender equality and empowerment.

The second resolution focused on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the major UN conferences and summits. In response to the proposal of the Secretary-General to quadrennialize the report on the integrated follow-up of conferences, in their resolution Mem-

ber States decided to review and make a decision on the periodicity of the report of the Secretary-General at the 2010 Substantive Session. The resolution also highlights that there is a need to ensure that there is no overlap in the consideration of the integrated follow-up report at the General and Coordination Segments of the ECOSOC Substantive Session.

Four panel discussions were also held during the Coordination Segment to enrich the debate. The panel discussion on [“The role of the UN system in promoting sustainable development in the context of current challenges”](#) highlighted the role of the Chief Executive Board for Coordination (CEB) in coordinating the UN system work in promoting sustainable development. Other examples of smaller-scale inter-agency coordination were also presented. At the panel discussion on [“The impacts of the financial and economic crises on sustainable development, particularly their social implications”](#), the executive heads of several key bodies of the UN system presented their analysis and their institutions’ work in weathering the impacts of the financial and economic crises in order to pursue sustainable development. The panel discussion on [“Towards a UN comprehensive response to the challenges of climate change”](#) covered the debate on how the inter-governmental process could help in advancing the implementation of the ECOSOC initiative and approach to climate change. Finally, the panel discussion on [“Effective sustainable development strategies: country level experience”](#)

focused on countries’ experiences in developing effective sustainable development strategies and in finding a balance between competing objectives and reconciling different short- and long-term priorities.

D. Operational Activities Segment, (15-17 July 2009)

The role of ECOSOC in coordinating and monitoring the implementation of policy guidance established by the General Assembly on operational activities is largely discharged through the Operational Activities Segment. The [2009 Operational Activities Segment](#), held from 15 to 17 July in Geneva, once again testified of the continued strong commitment of Member States to the 2007 General Assembly Triennial Comprehensive Policy Review (TCPR).

Maximizing the effectiveness of UN operational activities to help governments address the economic and food crises, climate change as well as health challenges was high on the Council’s agenda. Through several panels, the Council was informed that the success of the UN organizations in responding to crises rests with their willingness and ability to work together on the basis of comparative advantage and complementarities. The dialogue with Executive Heads of UN Funds and Programmes articulated several parameters that would enable the UN system to tackle both the imminent but also the long-term challenges more effectively. These included, among others improving development effectiveness in the new aid environment and building national capacity on data and technology.

The Council recognized the critical importance of instituting structures and working modalities to ensure effective and coherent delivery of results. Executive Heads pointed out that further progress at country level relies on the capacity of resident coordinators and harmonization of business practices. The experiences on funding shared during the dialogue session suggested that there is large scope for both Member States and the UN system to improve the current funding architecture as long as there is a willingness and commitment.

Building on its review of system-wide progress in implementing the 2007 TCP, the Council adopted a resolution which recognizes the progress made and gives impetus to advance the principles and recommendations of the TCP in a number of areas. In particular, the Council called on the UN development system to continue broadening its support to the resident coordinator system, while underscoring the importance of strengthening its management and accountability. The UN development system was also encouraged to adopt comprehensive policies to strengthen its country-level capacity. In response to the current economic crisis, the Council called for increased contributions for UN operational activities for development. The Council also voiced strong support for furthering the simplification and harmonization of business practices. The work of the segment served as a useful input into the informal consultations of the General Assembly on System-wide coherence.

The next Operational Activities Segment will take place in July 2010 in New York.

E. Humanitarian Affairs Segment, Geneva (20 - 22 July 2009)

The theme of the [Humanitarian Affairs Segment](#) was "Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian assistance: Present challenges and their impact on the future". At the end of its work, the Council adopted by consensus a resolution on "Strengthening of the coordination of the emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations".

The adopted resolution contains several elements that support humanitarian work. This year's resolution acknowledged ongoing humanitarian assistance efforts with references to the role of the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC), Resident Coordinator (RC) / Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) strengthening, gender mainstreaming and strengthened needs assessments, while reinforcing the need for humanitarian actors and donors to strengthen coordination with national governments. Recurring themes from last year's resolution include: the need to strengthen capacity building at all levels, disaster risk reduction and safety and security of humanitarian personnel. Finally, the resolution takes note of the impact of mega-trends such as climate change and the financial crisis, and calls for more adaptation measures and financial resources, respectively. It is worthwhile to note that for the first time since 2004 the resolution contains references to safe and unimpeded access for humanitarian workers and consignments.

53 Member States and eight UN agencies and international organizations participated in this year's Hu-

manitarian Affairs Segment. Calls for building capacities at all levels for timely humanitarian assistance, including disaster risk reduction and prevention permeated most of the discussions and was regarded as an important strategy to address the humanitarian implications of mega trends such as climate change, urbanization and the rise in extreme poverty. Further high on the agenda of Member States were humanitarian principles, access and the safety and security of humanitarian personnel. Member States and humanitarian organizations expressed concern with the diminishing respect for and adherence to the humanitarian principles, as demonstrated by increased attacks against humanitarian personnel, and continued limitations on timely access for humanitarian actors. Finally, there were some discussions on the timelines for the ECOSOC Humanitarian Resolution. Several Member States explored the advantages and disadvantages of this bi- or tri-annualizing the resolution negotiations. Under-Secretary-General Holmes in his statement to the closing session of the Humanitarian Affairs Segment underlined that it was Member States who should decide, affirming that the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and other members of the international humanitarian community regard the annual Humanitarian Affairs Segment as an important forum to generate debate among all stakeholders, listen to Member States concerns and showcase the international humanitarian system's concerns and achievements.

F. General Segment, Geneva (23-30 July 2009)

At the [General Segment](#), the Council reviewed the work of its subsidiary machinery and considered standing items on cross cutting issues, such as the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the work of the UN system, the integrated and coordinated follow-up to UN conferences and summits or Least Developed Countries. Key decisions by the Council include:

- » A resolution on the financing for development follow-up, in which the Council recommended to the General Assembly a strengthened intergovernmental process in this field, including the holding of the special high-level spring meeting of ECOSOC with the international financial and trade institutions for one to two days before the spring meetings of the Bretton Woods Institutions (BWIs), the allotment of up to two full days of the Council's annual substantive session to Financing for Development, and more preeminence to the General Assembly's consideration of this issue.
- » The recognition by the Council of the ILO Initiative called "Recovering from the Crisis: A Global Jobs Pact" and the request made to the Secretary-General to report on the follow-up and implementation of this Global Jobs Pact by all relevant actors at the 2010 ECOSOC session.
- » The endorsement by the Council of the recommendation made by the Committee on Development

Policy that Equatorial Guinea be graduated from the list of Least Developed Countries (LDCs); a resolution was also adopted that calls for preparations of the Fourth Conference on LDCs, to be held in 2011.

- » The recognition of the role of the Council in post-conflict recovery and peacebuilding, through a call made for increased relations between the Council and the Peacebuilding Commission.
- » The follow-up to the outcome document of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development, held in New York in June. Through a decision adopted late in the session, the Council requested the Secretariat to provide reports by 15 September on the system-wide follow-up to the outcome of the conference, the implementation of the agreements between the UN and the Bretton Woods Institutions and the possible establishment of an ad hoc panel of experts on the world economic crisis. This decision also entrusts the President of ECOSOC to conduct open-ended informal consultations on the matter and foresees that a review of progress made will be carried out at a resumed substantive session of the Council in 2009.
- » On the agenda item on non-governmental organizations, the Council granted consultative status to 100 NGOs, took note of 204 quadrennial reports submitted to it by NGOs already with consultative status. In separate decisions, the Council voted, in various rounds of

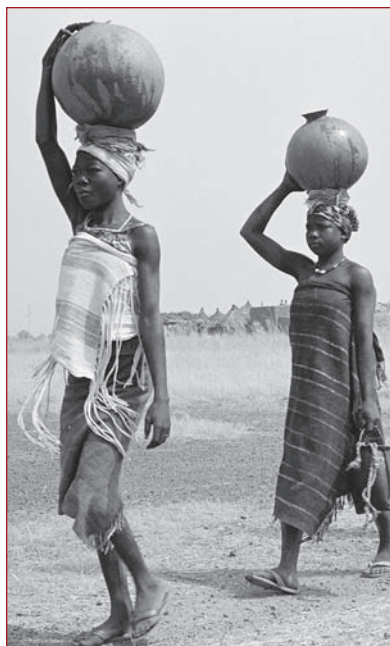
voting, to further grant special consultative status to the non-governmental organizations "Associação Brasileira de Gays, Lésbicas e Transgêneros" and the "Democracy Coalition Project." It voted against the granting of consultative status to the "Dynamic Christian World Foundation." It also suspended immediately, for a period of one year, the consultative status of 94 organizations for failing to comply with the provisions of its resolution 2008/4 in fulfilling their reporting obligations to the Council, and requested the Secretariat to advise the concerned organizations of their suspension.

II - INCOMING EVENTS / ACTIVITIES

A – ECOSOC

Preparation for the 2010 Annual Ministerial Review (AMR)

The theme of the 2010 [Annual Ministerial Review \(AMR\)](#) is "Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to gender equality and empowerment of women". The preparation has already begun. Fifteen countries have volunteered for national presentations: Australia, Brazil, Denmark, France, Greece, Guatemala, Moldova, Mongolia, Namibia, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Congo, Republic of Korea, and the U.S.A. Several regional meetings are also planned.



The 2010 AMR will be on gender equality and empowerment of women

Development Cooperation Forum (DCF)

In the context of the preparations for the [2010 Development Cooperation Forum \(DCF\)](#), the first preparatory symposium, organized in cooperation with the Government of Austria, will take place in Vienna, 12-13 November 2009 under the overall theme, [“Accountable and transparent development cooperation: Towards a more inclusive framework”](#).

Organized as a multi-stakeholder event, with the participation of senior officials and experts in aid management, the 2-day event will consist of a series of high-level panel discussions and interactive debate in the plenary. Meetings of the DCF Advisory Group on South-South cooperation will also be organized during the symposium.

This first preparatory symposium will provide an important opportunity to bring together Southern and Northern policy-makers to exchange experience and identify practical challenges in making mutual accountability mechanisms work better at the global and at the country level and to discuss possible common standards in mutual accountability and aid transparency. The Vienna High-level Symposium will also include interactive discussions on how to improve information and analysis of South-South development cooperation flows, including how such cooperation can promote other types of financing for development from the perspective of developing countries.

B – ECOSOC Subsidiary bodies

International Narcotics Control Board, ninety-sixth session, Vienna (27 Oct-13 Nov 2009)

The [International Narcotics Control Board \(INCB\)](#) will meet in its ninety-sixth session from 27 October to 13 November 2009.

At that session, the Board will adopt its annual report for 2009 which will be released early 2010.

In addition, through its Standing Committee on Estimates, the Board will review the supply and demand of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances used for medical purposes. The Board will examine the requirements of licit drugs for each country and, where necessary, make amendments to ensure that all patients in the world have access to the cure and care they need.

Since its last session in May 2009, the Board has sent missions to several countries, including Jordan, Spain and Sudan. The results of these missions will be presented and the Board will discuss ways to cooperate with those countries in their efforts to tackle illicit drug abuse and trafficking.

The Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and representatives of the World Health Organization, the World Customs Organization and the International Criminal Police Organization (Interpol) are also expected to share their latest information with the Board.

The Vienna-based INCB is an independent body, established by the 1961 Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs to monitor and promote Governments' compliance with the international drug control treaties. Its 13 members are elected by the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

The current President of the Board is [Sevil Atasoy](#) (Turkey). Its members are: [Joseph Bediako Asare](#) (Ghana), [Tatyana Borisovna Dmitrieva](#) (Russian Federation), [Philip O. Emafo](#) (Nigeria), [Hamid Ghodse](#) (Iran, (Islamic Rep. of)), [Carola Lander](#) (Germany), [Melvyn Levitsky](#) (United States), [Sri Suryawati](#) (Indonesia), [Camilo Uribe Granja](#) (Colombia), [Brian Watters](#) (Australia), [Raymond Yans](#) (Belgium), [Xin Yu](#) (China), and [Jorge Montaña](#) (Mexico).

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, forty-third session, Geneva (2-20 Nov 2009)

In its 43rd session, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights will consider five States parties reports, namely the third periodic report of Republic of Korea (E/C.12/ROK/3), the fifth periodic report of Poland (E/C.12/POL/5), the initial report of Chad (E/C.12/TCD/3), the second periodic report of Madagascar (E/C.12/MDG/2) and the combined second to fifth periodic reports of Democratic Republic of Congo.

During the session, the Committee will consider the adoption of the draft General Comment 21 on the right of everyone to take part in cultural life (Art. 15 1(a)) and an information session will be conducted by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) on 16 November on reproductive and sexual health rights.

Prior to the session, an expert seminar will be hosted for the Committee (28-30 October 2009) on the future work of the Committee on the application of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The Optional Protocol was opened for signature and ratification on 24 September.

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, pre-sessional working group, forty-fourth session, Geneva (23-26 Nov 2009)

During the [pre-sessional Working Group](#), the Committee will adopt Lists of Issues for the com-

bined third to fourth periodic reports of Uruguay (E/C.12/URY/4), the combined second to fourth periodic reports of Afghanistan ((E/C.12/AFG/4), the combined fourth to fifth periodic reports of the Netherlands ((E/C.12/NLD/5) and the fourth periodic report of the Netherlands Antilles E/C.12/NLD/5/Add.1), the combined second to third periodic reports of Switzerland (E/C.12/CHE/3) and the third periodic report of Dominican Republic.

Subcommittee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (TDG Subcommittee), Thirty-sixth session, Geneva (30 Nov-9 Dec 2009)

Subcommittee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS Subcommittee), Eighteenth session, Geneva (9-11 Dec 2009)

These two subcommittees are expert bodies of the Economic and Social Council which meet every six months within two-year cycles of work. They will hold their second session of the 2009-2010 biennium in Geneva from 30 November to 9 December 2009 (TDG Subcommittee, thirty-sixth session) and from 9-11 December 2009 (GHS Subcommittee, eighteenth session). The secretariat services are provided by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe.

The TDG Subcommittee will consider various proposals of

amendments to the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, Model Regulations concerning in particular transport of explosives and related matters; listing and classification of dangerous goods; packing issues; transport of electric storage systems. It will also discuss how to apply the GHS criteria for corrosive substances to the transport sector.

The GHS Subcommittee will discuss classification issues related to skin corrosion/irritation and serious eye damage/irritation, improvement of precautionary statements and labelling of small packagings containing chemicals. It will consider reports on the status of implementation of the GHS and reports on activities or projects undertaken in relation to the GHS.

All the information related to these meetings (agenda, meeting documents, reports, etc) may be found at the [UNECE Transport Division website](#)

The secretariat has just published the 16th revised edition of the "United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods. Model Regulations", the 3rd revised edition of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) and the 5th revised edition of the United Nations Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods. Manual of Tests and Criteria", reflecting the work of these two subcommittees in 2007-2008, pursuant to the Economic and Social Council's resolution [2009/19 of 29 July 2009] (see also unece.org/trans/danger/danger.htm)

Commission on Narcotics Drugs, reconvened fifty-second session, Vienna (1-2 Dec 2009)

Commission on Crime Pre- vention and Criminal Justice, resumed eighteenth session, Vienna (3-4 Dec 2009)

The [Commission on Narcotic Drugs](#) and the [Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice](#) will hold their reconvened fifty-second and reconvened eighteenth sessions in Vienna from 1 to 2 and from 3 to 4 December 2009, respectively. The main item on the agenda of the reconvened sessions is the consideration and approval of the technical cooperation budget of the United Nations drug control, and crime prevention and criminal justice programmes for the biennium 2010-2011.

Three out of the four subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs held their annual meetings in the September-October 2009 period. The Nineteenth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), Latin America and the Carib-

bean, took place in Isla Margarita, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, from 28 September to 2 October 2009. Pursuant to resolution 52/10, adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-second session, at the Meeting of HONLEA, Latin America and the Caribbean, a round-table discussion on strengthening cooperation among the bodies involved in tackling drug trafficking between the States of Latin America and the Caribbean and the States of Africa, in particular West Africa, will take place. Its focus will be on issues related to drug trafficking, in particular cocaine trafficking between the two regions and to destination countries in other regions. The Thirty-third Meeting of HONLEA, Asia and the Pacific, took place in Denpasar, Indonesia, from 6 to 9 October 2009, and the Nineteenth Meeting of HONLEA, Africa, was held in Windhoek, Namibia, from 12 to 16 October 2009. For more information on the meetings of subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, see: unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/06-subsidiarybodies-2009.html

MORE INFORMATION

This newsletter is published by the [Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination - OESC/DESA](#)

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