



United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Division for Social Policy and Development

Commission for Social Development 53rd Session, 4-13 February 2015

Informal Briefing

Division for Social Policy and Development (DSPD),
UNDESA

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New York*



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Social Development Network



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Highlights of the 53rd Session of CSocD

The Commission will open its 53rd Session on 4 Feb. and expect to complete its work on 13 Feb.

- Each day will be divided into two sessions, one from 10am-1pm and another one from 3-6 pm.
- Civil Society Forum: “Civil Society Perspective: Re-centering Social Development in a Sustainable World” on Tuesday 3rd Feb. 10am-6pm

High level panel discussion on the Priority Theme: “Rethinking and strengthening social development in the contemporary world” - Item 3(a) on Wednesday 4th Feb. 3-6pm.

- The ASG of UNDESA will address the Commission during the opening session.
- A youth representative from the ECOSOC Youth Forum (2-3 Feb.) will highlight the outcome of the Forum relevant to the priority theme of CSocD.



Priority Theme of the 53rd Session of CSocD

- The Priority Theme is: “Rethinking and strengthening social development in the contemporary world”.
- In the morning session of 4 Feb., the Commission will begin its general discussion on the substantive issues, starting with the priority theme (item 3a).





High Level Panel Discussions

This session will consist of three high level panel discussions:

1. High level panel discussion on the priority theme - item 3(a) on Wednesday 4th February from 3 to 6pm.

2. Commemorating of the 20th Anniversary of the World Summit for Social Development “2015 Time for Global Action, For Inclusion, For Equality, For People” on Thursday 5th February from 10am to 1pm.

3. Panel discussion on the Emerging issues “Contributions of social development to the transition from MDGs to the SDGs” - item 3(c) on Friday 6th February from 10am to 1pm.





Priority Theme of the 53rd Session of CSocD

DSPD hopes that the high level panel discussion can engage in a substantive dialogue, focusing on the following:

- 1) In which areas the progress has been achieved the most and what made this progress happen
- 2) What are the main social development challenges in the contemporary world (both existing and emerging)
- 3) What are the challenges social development has to address in the next 20 years, and how the Commission can address these challenges, taking into consideration of the post-2015 development agenda?





Commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the World Summit for Social Development

- In the morning of 5 Feb., the Commission will celebrate the commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the World Summit for Social Development, by hosting a roundtable entitled, “Social Development: From Copenhagen to the post-2015 development agenda.”





Emerging Issues of the 53rd Session of CSocD

- In the morning of Friday, 6 February, there will be a panel discussion on the emerging issues. The Bureau has chosen the topic of “Contributions of social development to the transition from Millennium Development Goals to the sustainable development goals.
- A background Note has been prepared by the Secretariat on this topic which is available on the Commission’s web site.





General Discussions of the 53rd Session of CSocD

- In the morning of 4 February, the Commission will begin its general discussion on the substantive issues during the opening session, starting with item 3(a): The priority theme.
- In the afternoon of 5 February, the general discussion on the priority theme will continue.
- In the afternoon of 6 February, the Commission will commence general discussion of agenda item 3 (b) – the review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups.





General Discussions of the 53rd Session of CSocD

- In the morning of 9 February, the Commission will continue its general discussion of the agenda item 3 (a), the priority theme.
- In the afternoon of 9 February, the Commission will have an interactive dialogue with Ms. Catalina Devandas Aguilar, Special Rapporteur on the Rights of persons with Disabilities of the Human Rights Council, under the agenda item 3 (b).
- The Commission will consider item 4 on its agenda to discuss program questions and other matters before resuming the general discussions of agenda item 3 (a) and 3 (b).





Reports and Notes of the 53rd session of CSocD

1. Rethinking and strengthening social development in the contemporary world
2. Celebration of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2014
3. Emerging issues: contributions of social development to the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the sustainable development goals
4. Further implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing 2002
5. Report of the Special Rapporteur on disability to the Commission for Social Development
6. Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development
7. Report of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
8. Nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development





Anticipated Resolutions of the 53rd session of CSocD

The Commission is expected to adopt four draft resolutions at this session:

1. “Social Dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD)” (facilitated by South Africa)
2. “Modalities for the third review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002” (facilitated by Germany)
3. “Policies and programmes involving youth” (facilitated by Portugal, Moldova and Senegal)
4. “Promoting the rights of persons with disabilities and strengthening the mainstreaming of disability in the post 2015 development agenda” (facilitated by Romania)





Informal Consultations and Side Events of CSocD53

- Informal consultations will commence officially in the morning of Tuesday, 10 February, with the deadlines for submission of draft proposals at 5:00 pm.
- There will be no formal meetings on Tuesday, 10 February through the morning of Friday, 13 February.
- We have received notification of 24 side-events as of today, covering a range of relevant topics. All delegations are of course invited to participate.
- Information on side-events will be posted on the Commission's web page, accessible through social.un.org/csocd.



Delegates with Disabilities

- Please inform the Secretariat in advance if there are delegates with disabilities that require particular support.
- Please contact Mr. Fred Doulton. His email is: doulton@un.org, telephone 212-963-4466.





Conclusion

- The afternoon of Friday, 13 February will be dedicated to the consideration of all the draft proposals before the Commission and the conclusion of the work of the 53rd session of the Commission.
- The 54th session of the Commission will open immediately after the official conclusion of the 53rd session.
- Interested delegations are encouraged to contact the facilitators or the Vice-Chairs who are responsible for draft resolutions (NEPAD: Nigeria and Youth: Peru) to actively engage in the negotiations of these draft resolutions.
- **The deadline for submission of draft proposals is 10 February at 5:00 PM.**





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Thank you

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<http://social.un.org/csocd>
www.unsdsn.org/forpeople

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