

**Informal Consultations of the UN General Assembly Plenary on
Follow-Up to 2005 World Summit Outcome on Development and
ECOSOC Reform**

Sixtieth session
Agenda items

26 January 2006

Draft Resolution for adoption by the General Assembly

Economic and Social Council Reform

The General Assembly,

PP1 *Recalling* the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

PP2 *Recalling* the United Nations General Assembly resolutions 45/264, 50/227, 57/270B, 60/1 and 60/180,

PP3 *Reaffirming* the role that the Charter and General Assembly have vested in the Economic and Social Council and recognizing the need for a more effective Economic and Social Council as a principal body for coordination, policy review, policy dialogue and recommendations on issues of economic and social development, as well as for the implementation of the international development goals agreed at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Development Goals,

PP4 *Reiterating* that the Economic and Social Council should continue to strengthen its role as the central mechanism for system-wide coordination and thus promoting the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences in the economic, social and related fields,

PP5 *In pursuance of* paragraphs 155 and 156 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome,

OP1 *Reaffirms* that the Council should promote global dialogue and partnership on global policies and trends in the economic, social, environmental and humanitarian fields by providing a quality platform for high-level engagement among Member States and with the international financial institutions, the private sector and civil society on emerging global trends, policies and action and develop its ability to respond better, and more rapidly to developments in the international economic, environmental and social fields;

OP2 *Recommends* that the promotion of global dialogue should, inter alia, consist of:
(a) the Special high-level meeting with the Bretton Woods Institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development as an

integrated part of the follow-up of the International Conference on Financing for Development, with a President's summary as the outcome;

(b) a high-level dialogue taking place in alternate years as part of the High Level Segment, which should include, as appropriate, the current policy dialogue with international financial and trade institutions and the thematic discussion held during the Segment. The Secretary-General should prepare a note identifying emerging global trends in the international economic, environmental social and humanitarian fields for a decision by the Council on the subject of the thematic discussion and subsequently, in full collaboration with all relevant institutions and actors, a report providing the necessary analysis for this thematic discussion;

OP 3 *Recommends* that the high-level policy dialogue should be organized with a view to facilitating full and active participation of key stakeholders, in accordance with the Economic and Social Council rules of procedure;

OP4 *Further recommends* that the outcome of the high-level dialogue should be a Ministerial Declaration;

OP5 *Reaffirms* that the Economic and Social Council should hold a biennial high-level Development Cooperation Forum to review trends in international development cooperation, including strategies, policies and financing, promote greater coherence among the development activities of different development partners and strengthen the links between the normative and operational work of the United Nations;

OP6 *Recommends* to the Economic and Social Council that the biennial Development Cooperation Forum to be held as part of the High-Level Segment, alternating with the high-level dialogue referred to above, should:

- (a) review trends in international development cooperation and promote dialogue to find effective ways to support it;
- (b) identify gaps and obstacles to the overall coherence of development activities;
- (c) provide a platform for Member States to exchange lessons learned and share experiences in supporting the formulation and implementation of national development strategies;
- (d) in accordance with the rules of procedure, be open to participation by all stakeholders, including the organizations of the United Nations, the international institutions, the international financial institutions, the World Trade Organization, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, the regional organizations, the civil society and private sector representatives;

(e) report its deliberations through a President's summary identifying areas for follow-up;

OP7 Requests the Economic and Social Council to take into account other relevant meetings, in particular the General Assembly High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development, when deciding on the scheduling of the Development Cooperation Forum;

OP8 *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prepare an analytical report, drafted in full collaboration with all relevant institutions and actors, containing specific recommendations, as appropriate, as background information for consideration by the Development Cooperation Forum;

OP9 *Reaffirms* that the Council should ensure follow-up of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, including the internationally agreed development goals and hold annual Ministerial-level substantive reviews to assess progress, drawing on the functional and regional commissions and other international institutions in accordance with their respective mandates;

OP10 *Recommends* that such a review:

- (a) be part of the High-Level Segment and focus on thematic clusters built around the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, including the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals, taking into account General Assembly resolution 57/270B;
- (b) provide an opportunity for countries to make voluntary national presentations on/undertake voluntary reviews of the implementation of these outcomes;

OP11 *Recommends* that the Economic and Social Council establishes a multiyear programme of work for the Ministerial-level substantive reviews;

OP12 *Recommends* that the Economic and Social Council devotes adequate time to the high-level dialogue, Development Cooperation Forum and the annual Ministerial review by adjusting its high level and coordination segment, as well as its general segment as appropriate;

OP13 *Further recommends* that the Economic and Social Council encourages its subsidiary bodies to organize their work so as to contribute to the preparation for the annual Ministerial reviews;

OP14 *Recommends in particular* that the functional commissions and relevant follow-up mechanisms, as appropriate, contribute, from their specific perspectives, to the

assessment by the Economic and Social Council of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, bearing in mind that the functional commissions, as mandated, should continue to have the primary responsibility for the review and assessment of progress made in implementing the outcomes of United Nations conferences and summits in these fields;

OP15 *Invites also* the organizations of the United Nations system, including the Bretton Woods institutions, and the World Trade Organization to contribute within their respective mandates, to the consideration by the Economic and Social Council of the thematic clusters;

OP16 *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, in full collaboration with all relevant institutions and actors, an annual analytical report providing an assessment of progress in the relevant thematic clusters in the overall context of implementation, identifying gaps and obstacles and making recommendations to overcome these gaps and obstacles;

OP17 *Recommends* that the outcome of the review should be a Ministerial declaration;

OP18 *Reaffirms* that the Council should support and complement international efforts aimed at addressing humanitarian emergencies, including natural disasters, in order to promote an improved, coordinated response from the United Nations;

OP19 To this end, while stressing the importance of the humanitarian segment of the Council in strengthening the coordination of United Nations humanitarian assistance, *recommends* that, in addition to this segment, the Council consider convening ad-hoc meetings on humanitarian emergencies upon recommendation of the Bureau. Such meetings should serve to raise awareness and encourage engagement of all stakeholders in support of international efforts aimed at addressing humanitarian emergencies;

OP20 *Recommends* that the outcome of these meetings should be a President's summary;

OP21 *Further recommends* that the Council reviews, as appropriate, follow-up to its ad-hoc meetings on humanitarian emergencies during the humanitarian segment of its annual substantive session, which will address coordination, broad policy implications and capacities to respond to these emergencies;

OP22 *Reaffirms* that the Council should play a major role in the overall coordination of funds, programmes and agencies, ensuring coherence among them and avoiding duplication of mandates and activities;

OP23 To this end, *recommends* that the Council, in accordance with resolution 57/270 B

and 59/250 of the General Assembly should promote the implementation of current reforms aimed at a more effective, efficient, coherent, coordinated and better-performing United Nations country presence with a strengthened role for the senior resident official, including appropriate authority, resources, and accountability, and a common management, programming and monitoring framework;

OP24 *Recalls its invitation to* the Secretary General to launch work to further strengthen the management and coordination of United Nations operational activities so that they can make an even more effective contribution to the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, including proposals for consideration by Member States for more tightly managed entities in the field of development, humanitarian assistance, and the environment;

OP 25 *Requests* the Secretary- General to ensure that the Economic and Social Council meetings and activities are given high priority in the allocation of resources;

OP26 *Encourages* the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council to review the current distribution of work between the General Assembly, its Committees and the Economic and Social Council, acknowledging the distinct function of each body in accordance with their mandates, and recommend changes for consideration by each body to ensure full and proper coverage of all important areas of work whilst avoiding duplication. The review should also take into account ongoing work on General Assembly revitalization, and should examine the scope for reducing duplication in the preparation of documents, as well as maximizing the value of documents provided to the General Assembly, its Committees and the Economic and Social Council by the Secretariat in preparing focused and actionable outcomes;

OP 27 *Emphasizes* the importance of interaction between the Economic and Social Council and the Peace Building Commission as set out in resolution 60/180;

OP 28 *Underlines* the importance of the invitation to the Economic and Social Council, as a relevant United Nations body, to take action on the advice of the Peace Building Commission, as appropriate and in accordance with its mandate;

OP 29 *Further underlines* the valuable role in peace building played by the Economic and Social Council's Ad Hoc Advisory Groups on Guinea Bissau, Burundi, and Haiti.

