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Report of the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Economic and Social Council on its 2020 session**

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* [A/75/150](#).

** The present report is a preliminary version of the report of the Economic and Social Council on its 2020 session. Annex III, on the composition of the Council and its subsidiary and related bodies, will be issued separately in document [A/75/3 \(Part II\)](#). The entire report will be issued in final form as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventy-fifth Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/75/3/Rev.1)*. The resolutions adopted by the Council at its 2020 session have been issued initially in documents [E/RES/2020/1](#) to [E/RES/2020/23](#). The advance unedited texts of the decisions of the Council are provided in the e-deleGATE portal (<https://delegate.un.int>) for ease of reference. The list of resolutions and decisions adopted at the 2020 session will be issued in document [E/2020/INF/2](#). The resolutions and decisions will be issued in final form as *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2020, Supplement No. 1 (E/2020/99)*.



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Chapter I

Matters calling for action by or brought to the attention of the General Assembly

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (item 19 (e))

Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

1. By its decision 2020/204, the Council, recalling General Assembly resolution [1166 \(XII\)](#) of 26 November 1957, in which the Assembly requested the Council to establish the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as subsequent Assembly resolutions by which the membership of the Executive Committee was increased:

(a) Took note of the request to enlarge the membership of the Executive Committee, contained in the note verbale dated 26 July 2019 from the Permanent Mission of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ([E/2020/3](#));

(b) Recommended that the General Assembly, at its seventy-fourth session, decide on the question of enlarging the membership of the Executive Committee from 105 to 106 States.

Chapter II

Special meetings of the Economic and Social Council at the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly

Ecosystem approaches for shifting the world onto a sustainable pathway

1. The Council held its 3rd plenary meeting, on 15 October 2019, jointly with the Second Committee of the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly, on the theme “Ecosystem approaches for shifting the world onto a sustainable pathway”. An account of the proceedings is contained in the relevant summary record ([A/C.2/74/SR.13-E/2020/SR.3](#)).
2. The joint meeting was co-chaired by the President of the Economic and Social Council, Mona Juul (Norway), and the Chair of the Second Committee, Cheikh Niang (Senegal) who made opening statements.
3. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Global Coordinator, Climate Change Portfolio, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Sandeep Sengupta; Innovation Catalyst, Centre for Social Innovation at Trinity College Dublin, Siobhan McQuaid; and Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Conservation Investment Management, Ben Guillon.
4. In the ensuing discussion, the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Norway, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Armenia, Ethiopia and China.
5. The observers for the European Union and the International Renewable Energy Agency also participated in the discussion.
6. The President of the Economic and Social Council and the Chair of the Second Committee made closing statements.

Joining forces: effective policy solutions for the coronavirus disease COVID-19 response

7. The Council held an online informal meeting on 11 May 2020 on the theme “Joining forces: effective policy solutions for the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) response”. The proceedings of the meeting are reflected in annex IV to the present document.

Chapter III

Special meeting of the Economic and Social Council on international cooperation in tax matters

1. The Council, in its resolution [2017/2](#), decided, in accordance with General Assembly resolutions [68/1](#) and [69/313](#), in which the Assembly adopted the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, that, starting in 2017, one session of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters would be held in New York in the spring and one in Geneva in the autumn, with the session in New York held back-to-back with the special meeting of the Council on international cooperation in tax matters, in order to increase the Committee's engagement with the Council, with a view to enhancing intergovernmental consideration of tax issues.
2. The Council, in its resolution [2020/1](#), decided that the one-day special meeting of the Council on international cooperation in tax matters would be held on 1 May 2020, following the twentieth session of the Committee.
3. The Council, taking into account the impact of COVID-19 on the working arrangements for its 2020 session, decided in its resolution [2020/3](#), to defer the one-day special meeting to its 2021 session.

Chapter IV

Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up

1. Pursuant to the commitment made in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (General Assembly resolution [69/313](#), annex, para. 132), the financing for development follow-up process would include an annual Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up with universal, intergovernmental participation, and the modalities of participation in the forum would be those utilized at the international conferences on financing for development. The forum would be held for up to five days, up to four days of which would be dedicated to discussing the follow-up and review of the financing for development outcomes and the means of implementation of the post-2015 development agenda, and one of which would be devoted to the special high-level meeting of the Council with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, as well as additional institutional and other stakeholders, depending on the priorities and scope of the meeting. The intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations of the forum would be fed into the overall follow-up and review of the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda in the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council.

2. The General Assembly, in its resolution [70/192](#), reaffirmed that the forum on financing for development follow-up would hold its meetings at United Nations Headquarters in New York in the second quarter of the year and would be chaired by the President of the Council. The Council, in its resolution [2020/1](#), recalled that it had been decided at the 2019 forum on financing for development follow-up that the fifth forum would be held from 20 to 23 April 2020.

3. The Council, taking into account the impact of COVID-19 on the working arrangements for its 2020 session, decided in its resolution [2020/3](#), to hold the forum in a scaled-down and abbreviated format, with modalities decided by the Bureau of the Council following consultations with Member States.

4. The proceedings of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up in 2020 are contained in the report of the forum ([E/FFDF/2020/3](#)).

5. The summary by the President of the Council of the proceedings of the forum on financing for development follow-up is contained in document [A/75/93-E/2020/64](#).

Intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations

6. On 27 April 2020, the forum adopted the revised draft intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations of the forum ([E/FFDF/2020/L.1/Rev.1](#)) pursuant to Council decision 2020/205 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic (see [E/FFDF/2020/3](#), sect. III).

7. Statements in connection with the draft intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations of the forum were submitted by the representatives of Belize (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), the European Union, Guyana (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Hungary, Malawi (on behalf of the Group of Least Developed Countries), the Philippines (on behalf of the Like-minded Group of Supporters of Middle-Income Countries (Armenia, Belarus, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama and the Philippines)), the Russian Federation and the United States of America.

Chapter V

Multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals

1. Pursuant to General Assembly resolutions [69/313](#) and [70/1](#), the President of the Council would convene the annual multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals for a period of two days to discuss science, technology and innovation cooperation around thematic areas for the implementation of the Goals, congregating all relevant stakeholders to actively contribute in their area of expertise. The forum would provide a venue for facilitating interaction, matchmaking and the establishment of networks between relevant stakeholders and multi-stakeholder partnerships to identify and examine technology needs and gaps, including on scientific cooperation, innovation and capacity-building and to help to facilitate the development, transfer and dissemination of relevant technologies for the implementation of the Goals.
2. The Council, by its resolution [2020/1](#), decided that the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals would be held on 12 and 13 May 2020. The President of the Council appointed the Permanent Representative of Ghana to the United Nations, Martha Pobee, and the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations, Danny Danon, as Co-Chairs of the forum.
3. The Council, taking into account the impact of COVID-19 on the working arrangements for its 2020 session, decided in its resolution [2020/3](#), to defer the multi-stakeholder forum to its 2021 session.

Chapter VI

High-level segment

1. The high-level segment (agenda item 5) of the 2020 session of the Council, including the three-day ministerial meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council (agenda item 5 (a)), was convened pursuant to the provisions of General Assembly resolutions [67/290](#) and [68/1](#) and Council resolution [2020/1](#).
2. Pursuant to Council resolution [2020/4](#), in which the Council further revised the working arrangements for its 2020 session and the sessions of its subsidiary bodies, and decisions [2020/205](#), [2020/206](#) and [2020/219](#) on the procedure for taking decisions during the COVID-19 pandemic, and taking into account the prevailing conditions relating to COVID-19 affecting the working arrangements and the available technological and procedural solutions, the high-level segment held online informal meetings from 14 to 17 July 2020.
3. The General Assembly, in its decision [74/508](#), decided that the theme for the 2020 high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council would be “Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development”.
4. The Council considered the following documents at its high-level segment:
 - (a) Report of the Secretary-General on accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development ([E/2020/59](#));
 - (b) Report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals ([E/2020/57](#));
 - (c) Report of the Secretary-General on long-term future scenarios and the impact of current trends on the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals ([E/2020/60](#));
 - (d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the progress report on the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns ([E/2020/56](#));
 - (e) World economic situation and prospects as of mid-2020 ([E/2020/58](#));
 - (f) Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twenty-second session ([E/2020/33](#));
 - (g) Summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the forum on financing for development follow-up (New York, 23 April 2020 and 2 June 2020) ([E/2020/64](#));
 - (h) Report of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up ([E/FFDF/2020/3](#));
 - (i) Statements submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council ([E/2020/NGO/1](#) and [E/2020/NGO/2](#)).
5. The proceedings of the online informal meetings of the high-level segment are reflected in annex IV to the present document.

A. Ministerial meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council

6. The General Assembly, in its resolution [67/290](#), decided that meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Council would be convened annually by the President of the Council for a period of eight days, including a three-day ministerial segment.

7. Pursuant to paragraph 11 (c) of the annex to General Assembly resolution [68/1](#), the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum (agenda item 5 (a)) would be held during the high-level segment of the Council. In its resolution [2020/1](#), the Council decided that the high-level segment of its 2020 session, including the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum, would be held from 14 to 17 July 2020.

8. During the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum, held from 14 to 16 July 2020, as well as at the meeting of the forum on 10 and 13 July, a total of 47 voluntary national reviews were held. An account of the proceedings is set out in the report of the forum ([E/HLPF/2020/6](#)).

B. High-level policy dialogue on future trends and scenarios and the long-term impact of current trends on the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

9. Pursuant to the mandate for the high-level policy dialogue on future trends and scenarios and the long-term impact of current trends on the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (agenda item 5 (b)), the Council held two dialogues on 17 July 2020. The proceedings of the dialogues are reflected in annex IV to the present document.

C. Development Cooperation Forum

10. The Council, in its resolution [2020/1](#), decided that the biennial Development Cooperation Forum would be held on 14 and 15 May 2020.

11. The Council, taking into account the impact of COVID-19 on the working arrangements for its 2020 session, decided in its resolution [2020/3](#), to defer the Development Cooperation Forum to its 2021 session.

D. General debate of the high-level segment

12. In accordance with the invitation of the President of the Council to submit official statements for the general debate in writing or via video recordings, communicated in her letter dated 22 June 2020, general statements and videos received by the secretariat for posting can be accessed on the web page of the high-level political forum on sustainable development (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2020#debate>).

E. Ministerial declaration of the high-level segment

13. The Council had before it the draft ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of its 2020 session, on the theme “Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development” ([E/2020/L.20](#)).

14. In a letter dated 17 July 2020, the President of the Council informed that the draft ministerial declaration contained no programme budget implications. In the same letter, the President of the Council placed the draft ministerial declaration under silence procedure until Wednesday, 22 July 2020, at 5 p.m., pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205, 2020/206 and 2020/219.

15. In a letter dated 22 July 2020, the President of the Council informed that the silence procedure had been broken on the draft ministerial declaration.

Chapter VII

High-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution [67/290](#), decided that the meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Council (agenda item 6) should be convened annually by the President of the Council for a period of eight days, including a three-day ministerial segment. The Assembly also decided, in reviewing the implementation of its resolution [61/16](#), contained in the annex to its resolution [68/1](#), that the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum would be included in the high-level segment of the Council.
2. The General Assembly, in its decision [74/508](#), decided that the theme for the 2020 high-level political forum convened under the auspices of the Council would be “Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development”.
3. The Council, in its resolution [2020/1](#), decided that the forum would be held from 7 to 13 July 2020. The Council also decided that the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum would be held from 14 to 17 July 2020.
4. The proceedings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council at its 2020 session, including the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum, are contained in the report of the forum ([E/HLPF/2020/6](#)).

Chapter VIII

Operational activities for development segment

Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation

1. Pursuant to the provisions of General Assembly resolution [68/1](#) and Economic and Social Council resolution [2020/1](#), the operational activities for development segment of the 2020 session of the Council was scheduled from 19 to 21 May 2020.
2. Pursuant to Council resolution [2020/3](#), and taking into account the prevailing conditions relating to COVID-19 on the working arrangements for its 2020 session and the available technological and procedural solutions in the interim period, the Council convened the operational activities for development segment (agenda item 7) from 19 to 22 and on 27 May 2020, in the course of which it held five online informal meetings.
3. The proceedings of the online informal meetings of the operational activities for development segment are reflected in annex IV to the present document.

A. Follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly and the Council

4. Under agenda item 7 (a), the Council considered the following reports:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution [71/243](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system ([A/75/79-E/2020/55](#));

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of General Assembly resolution [71/243](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system: funding analysis ([A/75/79/Add.1-E/2020/55/Add.1](#));

(c) Report of the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group of the Development Cooperation Office ([E/2020/54](#)).

B. Reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund/United Nations Office for Project Services, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, and the World Food Programme

5. Under agenda item 7 (b), the following reports were submitted to the Council:

(a) Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund on its first and second regular sessions and annual session of 2019 ([E/2019/34/Rev.1](#));

(b) Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Population Fund and the United Nations Office for Project Services on its work during 2019 ([E/2019/35](#));

(c) Report of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme on its first and second regular sessions and annual session of 2019 ([E/2020/36](#));

(d) Reports of the Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women on its first and second regular sessions and its annual session of 2019 ([E/2020/13](#)).

C. South-South cooperation for development

6. There was no advance documentation and no proposal submitted under agenda item 7 (c) (South-South cooperation for development).

Action taken by the Council

7. Under agenda item 7 as a whole, the Council adopted resolution [2020/23](#).

Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution [71/243](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

8. On 1 July 2020, the observer for Guyana (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) submitted a draft resolution entitled “Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution [71/243](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system” ([E/2020/L.18](#)).

9. In her letter dated 19 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the President of the Council circulated under silence procedure until 22 July 2020, a draft resolution entitled “Progress in the implementation of General Assembly resolution [71/243](#) on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system” ([E/2020/L.28](#)), as submitted by her on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution [E/2020/L.18](#).

10. In her letter dated 22 July 2020, the President of the Council announced the adoption of draft resolution [E/2020/L.28](#) following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council resolution [2020/23](#)).

11. Statements in connection with the draft resolution were submitted by the observers for Fiji (on behalf of the Pacific Small Island Developing States (Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Micronesia Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu), Guyana (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) and Turkey.

Chapter IX

Integration segment

1. Pursuant to the provisions of General Assembly resolutions [68/1](#) and [72/305](#) and Council resolution [2020/1](#), the Council held the integration segment (item 8) of its 2020 session on 6 July 2020.
2. Pursuant to Council resolution [2020/4](#) and taking into account the prevailing conditions relating to COVID-19 on the working arrangements for its 2020 session and the available technological and procedural solutions in the interim period, the Council held a half-day online informal meeting of the integration segment.
3. Under agenda item 8, the Council considered the annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2019 ([E/2020/5](#)).
4. The proceedings of the online informal meetings of the integration segment are reflected in annex IV to the present document.

Chapter X

Humanitarian affairs segment

Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

1. Pursuant to the provisions of General Assembly resolution [68/1](#) and Council resolution [2020/1](#), the Council held the humanitarian affairs segment of its 2020 session from 9 to 11 June 2020.
2. Pursuant to Council resolution [2020/4](#) and taking into account the prevailing conditions relating to COVID-19 on the working arrangements for its 2020 session and the available technological and procedural solutions in the interim period, the Council convened the humanitarian affairs segment (agenda item 9) from 9 to 11 June 2020, in the course of which it held four online informal meetings.
3. Under agenda item 9, the Council considered the report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations ([A/75/75-E/2020/48](#)).
4. The proceedings of the online informal meetings of the humanitarian affairs segment are reflected in annex IV to the present document.

Action taken by the Council

5. On 4 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council submitted a draft resolution entitled “Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations” ([E/2020/L.13](#)) on the basis of informal consultations.
6. Subsequently, action on the draft resolution was postponed.¹

¹ Owing to circumstances relating to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) that did not allow for the convening of an in-person meeting, the consideration of draft proposals by a vote was not possible.

Chapter XI

Management segment

1. Pursuant to the provisions of General Assembly resolution [68/1](#) and [72/305](#) and Council resolution [2020/1](#), the management segment of the 2020 session of the Council was scheduled on 2 and 3 June and on 21 and 22 July 2020.
2. Pursuant to Council resolution [2020/4](#) and taking into account the prevailing conditions relating to COVID-19 on the working arrangements for its 2020 session and the available technological and procedural solutions in the interim period, the Council held its management segment on 3 June and 21 July 2020, in the course of which it held three online informal meetings chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Munir Akram (Pakistan).
3. The proceedings of the online informal meetings of the management segment relating to the relevant items are reflected in annex IV to the present document.
4. Pursuant to Council decisions [2020/205](#), [2020/206](#) and [2020/209](#), the Council also conducted its work through correspondence and took action under silence procedure on the items of the management segment, as follows:
 - (a) Letters dated 1 and 3 April 2020 circulating a draft decision and announcing the conclusion of the silence procedure without objection (decision [2020/205](#));
 - (b) Letters dated 8 and 14 April 2020 circulating a draft resolution and announcing the conclusion of the silence procedure without objection (resolution [2020/3](#));
 - (c) Letters dated 19 and 22 May 2020 circulating a draft decision and announcing the conclusion of the silence procedure without objection (decision [2020/206](#));
 - (d) Letters dated 1 and 4 June 2020 circulating a draft resolution and announcing the conclusion of the silence procedure without objection (resolution [2020/4](#));
 - (e) Letters dated 11 and 18 June 2020 circulating draft resolutions and decisions and announcing the conclusion of the silence procedure without objection (resolutions [2020/5](#) to [2020/8](#), and decisions [2020/201 D](#), [2020/207](#) to [2020/218](#));
 - (f) Letters dated 19 and 24 June 2020 circulating a draft decision and announcing the conclusion of the silence procedure without objection (decision [2020/219](#));
 - (g) Letters dated 29 June and 2 July 2020 circulating draft resolutions and announcing the conclusion of the silence procedure without objection (resolutions [2020/9](#) and [2020/10](#));
 - (h) Letters dated 13 and 17 July 2020 circulating draft resolutions and decisions and announcing the conclusion of the silence procedure without objection (resolutions [2020/11](#) to [2020/15](#) and decisions [2020/220](#) to [2020/224](#));
 - (i) Letters dated 17 and 22 July 2020 circulating draft resolutions and decisions and announcing the conclusion of the silence procedure without objection (resolutions [2020/16](#) to [2020/21](#) and decisions [2020/225](#) to [2020/230](#));
 - (j) Letters dated 18 and 22 July 2020 circulating a draft resolution and draft decisions announcing the conclusion of the silence procedure without objection (resolution [2020/22](#) and decisions [2020/231](#) to [2020/233](#));

(k) Letters dated 19 and 22 July 2020 circulating a draft resolution and announcing the conclusion of the silence procedure without objection (resolution [2020/23](#)).

A. The role of the United Nations system in the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development into the implementation of and follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

5. The Council considered agenda item 10 (The role of the United Nations system in the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development into the implementation of and follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development) jointly with agenda item 11 (Implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits) and agenda item 13 (Implementation of General Assembly resolutions [50/227](#), [52/12 B](#), [57/270 B](#), [60/265](#), [61/16](#), [67/290](#), [68/1](#) and [72/305](#)) at the virtual meeting on 3 June 2020.

6. There was no advance documentation and no proposal submitted under agenda item 10.

B. Implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits

7. The Council considered agenda item 11 (Implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits) and its sub-items (a) and (b) as summarized below.

8. Under agenda item 11, the Council considered the report on the main decisions, outcomes and policy recommendations of the Committee on World Food Security ([A/75/77-E/2020/49](#)) and the report of the United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition ([E/2020/47](#)).

Action taken by the Council

9. Under agenda item 11, the Council adopted decision 2020/207.

Report on the main decisions, outcomes and policy recommendations of the Committee on World Food Security and report of the United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition

10. On 11 June 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/206 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 18 June 2020, a proposal for the Council to take note of the report on the main decisions, outcomes and policy recommendations of the Committee on World Food Security ([A/75/77-E/2020/49](#)) and the report of the United Nations System Standing Committee on Nutrition ([E/2020/47](#)).

11. On 18 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/207).

1. Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development

12. Under agenda item 11 (a), the Council considered the report of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up ([E/FFDF/2020/3](#)).

13. For action taken by the Council, see chapter IV.

2. Review and coordination of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020

14. Under agenda item 11 (b), the Council considered the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 ([A/75/72-E/2020/14](#)).

Action taken by the Council

15. Under agenda item 11 (b), the Council adopted resolution [2020/16](#).

Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020

16. On 5 June 2020, the observer for Guyana (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) submitted a draft resolution entitled “Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020” ([E/2020/L.14](#)).

17. On 14 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) submitted a draft resolution entitled “Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020” ([E/2020/L.21](#)) on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution [E/2020/L.14](#).

18. On 17 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council circulated draft resolution [E/2020/L.21](#) under silence procedure until 22 July 2020.

19. On 22 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of draft resolution [E/2020/L.21](#) following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council resolution [2020/16](#)).

20. A statement in connection with the draft resolution was submitted by the observer for Hungary.

C. Coordination, programme and other questions

21. The Council considered agenda item 12 (Coordination, programme and other questions) and its sub-items (a) to (f) as summarized below.

22. Under agenda item 12, the Council considered the relevant section of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of integrated, coherent and coordinated support for South Sudan and the Sahel region by the United Nations system ([E/2020/65](#), sect. III).

Action taken by the Council

23. Under agenda item 12, the Council adopted decision [2020/231](#).

Sustainable development in the Sahel

24. On 17 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) submitted a draft decision entitled “Sustainable development in the Sahel” ([E/2020/L.26](#)).

25. On 18 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council circulated the draft decision under silence procedure until 22 July 2020.

26. On 22 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/231).

1. Reports of coordination bodies

27. Under agenda item 12 (a), the Council considered the relevant section of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its sixtieth session ([A/75/16](#)).

Action taken by the Council

28. Under agenda item 12 (a), the Council adopted decision 2020/225.

Report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its sixtieth session

29. On 17 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 22 July 2020, a proposal for the Council to take note of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on its sixtieth session ([A/75/16](#)).

30. On 22 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/225).

31. A statement in connection with the draft decision was submitted by the representative of the Russian Federation.

2. Proposed programme budget for 2021

32. Under agenda item 12 (b), the Council considered the relevant sections of the proposed programme budget for 2021 (relevant fascicles of [A/75/6](#)).

Action taken by the Council

33. Under agenda item 12 (b), the Council adopted decision 2020/226.

Proposed programme budget for 2021

34. On 17 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 22 July 2020, a proposal for the Council to take note of the relevant fascicles of the proposed programme budget for 2021 ([A/75/6](#)).

35. On 22 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/226).

3. Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

36. Under agenda item 12 (c), the Council considered the report of the Secretary-General on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system ([E/2020/50](#)).

Action taken by the Council

37. Under agenda item 12 (c), the Council adopted resolution [2020/9](#).

Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

38. On 16 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) submitted a draft resolution entitled “Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system” ([E/2020/L.15](#)) on the basis of informal consultations.

39. On 29 June 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205, 2020/206 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council circulated the draft resolution under silence procedure until 2 July 2020.

40. On 2 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft resolution following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council resolution [2020/9](#)).

4. Long-term programme of support for Haiti

41. Under agenda item 12 (d), the Council considered the report of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti ([E/2020/66](#)).

Action taken by the Council

42. Under agenda item 12 (d), the Council adopted resolution [2020/11](#).

Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti

43. On 10 July 2020, the representative of Canada submitted, also on behalf of Argentina,¹ Bahamas,¹ Belize,¹ Brazil, Canada, Chile,¹ Colombia, France, Haiti,¹ Malta, Mexico, Peru,¹ Spain, Trinidad and Tobago,¹ United States of America and Uruguay, a draft resolution entitled “Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti” ([E/2020/L.19](#)).

44. On 13 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated the draft resolution under silence procedure until 17 July 2020.

45. A statement of programme budget implications of the draft resolution was also circulated.

46. On 17 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft resolution following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council resolution [2020/11](#)).

5. African countries emerging from conflict

47. Under agenda item 12 (e), the Council considered the relevant section of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of integrated, coherent and coordinated support for South Sudan and the Sahel region by the United Nations system ([E/2020/65](#), sect. II).

¹ In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

Action taken by the Council

48. Under agenda item 12 (e), the Council adopted decision 2020/232.

African countries emerging from conflict

49. On 17 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) submitted a draft decision entitled “African countries emerging from conflict” ([E/2020/L.27](#)).

50. On 18 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council circulated the draft decision under silence procedure until 22 July 2020.

51. On 22 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/232).

6. Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases

52. Under agenda item 12 (f), the Council considered the note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director General of the World Health Organization on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases ([E/2020/51](#)).

Action taken by the Council

53. Under agenda item 12 (f), the Council adopted resolution [2020/22](#).

United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases

54. On 15 July 2020, the representative of the Russian Federation submitted a draft resolution entitled “United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases” ([E/2020/L.23](#)).

55. On 18 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated the draft resolution under silence procedure until 22 July 2020.

56. On 22 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft resolution following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council resolution [2020/22](#)).

D. Implementation of General Assembly resolutions [50/227](#), [52/12 B](#), [57/270 B](#), [60/265](#), [61/16](#), [67/290](#), [68/1](#) and [72/305](#)

57. The Council considered agenda item 13 (Implementation of General Assembly resolutions [50/227](#), [52/12 B](#), [57/270 B](#), [60/265](#), [61/16](#), [67/290](#), [68/1](#) and [72/305](#)) jointly with agenda item 10 (The role of the United Nations system in the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development into the implementation of and follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development) and agenda item 11 (Implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits).

58. There was no advance documentation and no proposal submitted under agenda item 13.

E. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

59. The Council considered agenda item 14 (Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations) as summarized below.

60. Under agenda item 14, the Council considered the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations ([A/75/73](#));

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to the Palestinian people ([E/2020/61](#));

(c) Report of the President of the Council on information submitted by the specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system on their activities with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations ([E/2020/52/Rev.1](#)).

Action taken by the Council

61. On 15 July 2020, the Chair (Grenada²) of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence of Colonial Countries and Peoples, submitted a draft resolution entitled “Support to Non-Self-Governing Territories by the specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations” ([E/2020/L.22](#) and [E/2020/L.22/Corr.1](#)) on behalf of Angola, Antigua and Barbuda,² Botswana, Cuba,² Dominica,² Ecuador, Fiji,² Gambia,² Grenada,² India, Indonesia,² Iraq,² Lesotho,² Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea,² Saint Kitts and Nevis,² Saint Lucia,² Saint Vincent and the Grenadines,² Sierra Leone,² Syrian Arab Republic,² Uganda² and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

62. On 20 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated the draft resolution under silence procedure until 22 July 2020.

63. Subsequently, action on the draft resolution was postponed.³

F. Regional cooperation

64. The Council considered agenda item 15 (Regional cooperation) as summarized below.

65. Under agenda item 15, the Council considered the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields ([E/2020/15](#));

² In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

³ Owing to circumstances relating to COVID-19 that did not allow for the convening of an in-person meeting, the consideration of draft proposals by a vote was not possible.

(b) Addendum to the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields: matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council or brought to its attention: Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, Economic Commission for Africa and Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific ([E/2020/15/Add.1](#));

(c) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the summary of the work of the Economic Commission for Europe, 2019–2020 ([E/2020/16](#));

(d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the summary of the work of the Economic Commission for Africa, 2019–2020 ([E/2020/17](#));

(e) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the summary of the work of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, 2019–2020 ([E/2020/18](#));

(f) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the summary of the work of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, 2019–2020 ([E/2020/19](#));

(g) Summary of the work of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia for the period 2019-2020 ([E/2020/20](#)).

Action taken by the Council

66. Under agenda item 15, the Council adopted resolutions [2020/17](#), [2020/18](#), [2020/19](#), [2020/20](#) and decision [2020/227](#).

Revised terms of reference of the Committee on Environmental Policy of the Economic Commission for Europe

67. On 17 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions [2020/205](#) and [2020/219](#) on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 22 July 2020, a draft resolution entitled “Revised terms of reference of the Committee on Environmental Policy” as recommended by the Economic Commission for Europe ([E/2019/15/Add.2](#), chap. I, draft resolution I).⁴

68. On 22 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft resolution following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council resolution [2020/17](#)).

Revised terms of reference of the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards of the Economic Commission for Europe

69. On 17 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions [2020/205](#) and [2020/219](#) on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 22 July 2020, a draft resolution entitled “Revised terms of reference of the Steering Committee on Trade Capacity and Standards” as recommended by the Economic Commission for Europe ([E/2019/15/Add.2](#), chap. I, draft resolution II).⁴

70. On 22 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft resolution following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council resolution [2020/18](#)).

⁴ Deferred from the 2019 session pursuant to Council decision [2019/253](#).

Change of name and revised terms of reference of the Working Group on Ageing of the Economic Commission for Europe

71. On 17 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 22 July 2020, a draft resolution entitled “Change of name and revised terms of reference of the Working Group on Ageing” as recommended by the Economic Commission for Europe (E/2019/15/Add.2, chap. I, draft resolution IV).⁴

72. On 22 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft resolution following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council resolution 2020/19).

Further deferral of the consideration of the draft resolution entitled “Revised terms of reference of the Inland Transport Committee” of the Economic Commission for Europe

73. On 17 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 22 July 2020, a proposal for the Council to further defer consideration of the draft resolution entitled “Revised terms of reference of the Inland Transport Committee” as recommended by the Economic Commission for Europe (E/2019/15/Add.2, chap. I, draft resolution VI).⁴

74. On 22 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the proposal following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/227).

Admission of Algeria and Somalia to membership in the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

75. On 17 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 22 July 2020, a draft resolution entitled “Admission of Algeria and Somalia to membership in the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia” as recommended by the Commission (E/2020/15/Add.1, chap. I, draft resolution).

76. On 22 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft resolution following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council resolution 2020/20).

G. Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan

77. The Council considered agenda item 16 (Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan) as summarized below.

78. Under agenda item 16, the Council considered the note by the Secretary-General on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including

East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan ([A/75/86-E/2020/62](#)).

Action taken by the Council

79. On 17 July 2020, the observer for Guyana (on behalf of the States that are members of the Group of 77 and China, taking into account also the provisions of General Assembly resolution [52/250](#) of 7 July 1998), submitted a draft resolution entitled “Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan” ([E/2020/L.24](#)).

80. Subsequently, action on the draft resolution was postponed.⁵

81. Also on 17 July 2020, the observer for Guyana (on behalf of the States that are members of the Group of 77 and China, taking into account also the provisions of General Assembly resolution [52/250](#) of 7 July 1998), submitted a draft resolution entitled “Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women” ([E/2020/L.25](#)).

82. Subsequently, action on the draft resolution was postponed.⁶

H. Non-governmental organizations

83. The Council considered agenda item 17 (Non-governmental organizations) as summarized below.

84. The Council, in its decision 2019/246, decided that the 2020 regular session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations would be held from 20 to 29 January and on 7 February 2020, and that its resumed session would be held from 18 to 28 May and on 5 June 2020.

85. Following consultations with the Chair of the Committee and taking into account the continued impact of COVID-19 on the working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Council and sessions of its subsidiary bodies, the Council, in its resolution [2020/4](#), decided that the Committee would, on an exceptional basis, hold its 2020 resumed session in August 2020, during the 2021 session of the Council, should conditions allow for the convening of in-person meetings at United Nations Headquarters, and taking into account the availability of conference services.

Action taken by the Council

86. Under agenda item 17, the Council adopted decisions 2020/208 to 2020/210.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2020 regular session

Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations

87. On 11 June 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/206 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 18 June 2020 the draft decision entitled “Applications for consultative status and

⁵ Owing to circumstances relating to COVID-19 that did not allow for the convening of an in-person meeting, the consideration of draft proposals by a vote was not possible.

⁶ Owing to circumstances relating to COVID-19 that did not allow for the convening of an in-person meeting, the consideration of draft proposals by a vote was not possible.

requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations” as recommended by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations (E/2020/32 (Part I), sect. I, draft decision I).

88. On 18 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/208).

Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2020 regular session

89. On 11 June 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/206 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council circulated under silence procedure until 18 June 2020 the draft decision entitled “Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations on its 2020 regular session”, as recommended by the Committee (E/2020/32 (Part I) sect. I, draft decision II).

90. On 18 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/209).

Deadline for the submission of quadrennial reports by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

91. On 4 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) submitted a draft decision entitled “Deadline for the submission of quadrennial reports by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council” (E/2020/L.9).

92. On 11 June 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/206 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council circulated the draft decision under silence procedure until 18 June 2020.

93. On 18 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/210).

I. Economic and environmental questions

94. The Council considered agenda item 18 (Economic and environmental questions) and its sub-items (a) to (l) (see annex IV).

1. Sustainable development

95. Under agenda item 18 (a), the Council considered the report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twenty-second session (E/2020/33).

Action taken by the Council

96. Under agenda item 18 (a), the Council adopted resolution [2020/10](#).

Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twenty-second session

97. On 24 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) submitted a draft resolution entitled “Report of the Committee for Development Policy on its twenty-second session” (E/2020/L.17) on the basis of informal consultations.

98. On 29 June 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205, 2020/206 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council circulated the draft resolution under silence procedure until 2 July 2020.

99. On 2 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft resolution following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council resolution [2020/10](#)).

2. Science and technology for development

100. Under agenda item 18 (b), the Council considered the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its twenty-third session ([E/2020/31](#)) and the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels ([A/75/62-E/2020/11](#)).

Action taken by the Council

101. Under agenda item 18 (b), the Council adopted resolutions [2020/12](#) and [2020/13](#) and decision 2020/220.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its twenty-third session

Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

102. On 13 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 17 July 2020 a draft resolution entitled “Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society”, as recommended by the Commission ([E/2020/31](#), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I).

103. On 17 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft resolution following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council resolution [2020/12](#)).

Science, technology and innovation for development

104. On 13 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council circulated under silence procedure until 17 July 2020 a draft resolution entitled “Science, technology and innovation for development”, as recommended by the Commission ([E/2020/31](#), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution II).

105. On 17 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft resolution following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council resolution [2020/13](#)).

Report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its twenty-third session and provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-fourth session of the Commission

106. On 13 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council circulated under silence procedure until 17 July 2020 a

draft decision entitled “Report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its twenty-third session and provisional agenda and documentation for the twenty-fourth session of the Commission”, as recommended by the Commission (E/2020/31, chap. I, sect. B, draft decision).

107. On 17 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/220.)

3. Statistics

108. Under agenda item 18 (c), the Council considered the report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session (E/2020/24).

Action taken by the Council

109. Under agenda item 18 (c), the Council adopted resolution 2020/5 and decision 2020/211.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session

Strengthening coordination of the statistical programmes in the United Nations system

110. On 11 June 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/206 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 18 June 2020 a draft resolution entitled “Strengthening coordination of the statistical programmes in the United Nations system”, as recommended by the Commission (E/2020/24, chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution).

111. On 18 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft resolution following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council resolution 2020/5).

Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session and the provisional agenda and dates for the fifty-second session of the Commission

112. On 11 June 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/206 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council circulated under silence procedure until 18 June 2020 a draft decision entitled “Report of the Statistical Commission on its fifty-first session and the provisional agenda and dates for the fifty-second session of the Commission”, as recommended by the Commission (E/2020/24, chap. I, sect. B, draft decision).

113. On 18 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/211).

4. Human settlements

114. There was no advance documentation and no proposal submitted under agenda item 18 (d) (Human settlements).

5. Environment

115. There was no advance documentation and no proposal submitted under agenda item 18 (e) (Environment).

6. Population and development

116. Under agenda item 18 (f), the Council considered the report of the Commission on Population and Development on its fifty-third session ([E/2020/25](#)).

Action taken by the Council

117. Under agenda item 18 (f), the Council adopted decision 2020/221.

Recommendation contained in the report of the Commission on Population and Development on its fifty-third session

Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its fifty-third session and provisional agenda for its fifty-fourth session

118. On 13 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 17 July 2020 a draft decision entitled “Report of the Commission on Population and Development on its fifty-third session and provisional agenda for its fifty-fourth session”, as recommended by the Commission ([E/2020/25](#), chap. I, sect. A, draft decision).

119. On 17 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/221).

7. Public administration and development

120. Under agenda item 18 (g), the Council considered the report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its nineteenth session ([E/2020/44](#)).

Action taken by the Council

121. Under agenda item 18 (g), the Council adopted resolution 2020/21 and decision 2020/228.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its nineteenth session

Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its nineteenth session

122. On 17 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 22 July 2020 a draft resolution entitled “Report of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration on its nineteenth session”, as recommended by the Committee ([E/2020/44](#), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution).

123. On 22 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft resolution following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council resolution 2020/21).

Dates and provisional agenda of the twentieth session of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration

124. On 17 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council circulated under silence procedure until 22 July 2020 a draft decision entitled “Dates and provisional agenda of the twentieth session of the

Committee of Experts on Public Administration”, as recommended by the Committee (E/2020/44, chap. I, sect. B, draft decision).

125. On 22 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/228).

8. International cooperation in tax matters

126. Under agenda item 18 (h), the Council considered the report of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters on its nineteenth session (E/2020/45).

Action taken by the Council

127. Under agenda item 18 (h), the Council adopted decision 2020/233.

Dates of and provisional agenda for the twenty-first session of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters

128. On 18 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 22 July 2020 a draft decision contained in an informal paper in English only, entitled “Dates of and provisional agenda for the twenty-first session of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters”, as recommended by the Committee.

129. On 22 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/233).

9. Geospatial information

130. Under agenda item 18 (i), the Council considered the report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management on its ninth session (E/2020/46).

Action taken by the Council

131. On 3 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) submitted a draft decision entitled “Report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management on its ninth session and provisional agenda and dates of its tenth session” (E/2020/L.10).

132. Subsequently, action on the draft decision was postponed.⁷

10. Women and development

133. There was no advance documentation and no proposal submitted under agenda item 18 (j) (Women and development).

11. United Nations Forum on Forests

134. Under agenda item 18 (k), the Council considered the report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its fifteenth session (E/2020/42).

⁷ Owing to circumstances relating to COVID-19 that did not allow for the convening of an in-person meeting, the consideration of draft proposals by a vote was not possible.

Action taken by the Council

135. Under agenda item 18 (k), the Council adopted resolution [2020/14](#) and decision [2020/222](#).

Recommendations contained in the report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its fifteenth session

Outcome of the fifteenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests

136. On 13 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions [2020/205](#) and [2020/219](#) on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 17 July 2020 a draft resolution entitled “Omnibus resolution”, as recommended by the Forum ([E/2020/42](#), chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution).

137. On 17 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft resolution following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection. Subsequently, the title of the draft resolution was changed to read “Outcome of the fifteenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests” (see Council resolution [2020/14](#)).

Report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its fifteenth session and provisional agenda for its sixteenth session

138. On 13 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions [2020/205](#) and [2020/219](#) on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council circulated under silence procedure until 17 July 2020 a draft decision entitled “Report of the United Nations Forum on Forests on its fifteenth session and provisional agenda for its sixteenth session”, as recommended by the Forum ([E/2020/42](#), chap. I, sect. B, draft decision).

139. On 17 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision [2020/222](#)).

12. Assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions

140. There was no advance documentation and no proposal submitted under agenda item 18 (l) (Assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions).

J. Social and human rights questions

141. The Council considered agenda item 19 (Social and human rights questions) and its sub-items (a) to (h) (see annex IV).

1. Advancement of women

142. Under agenda item 19 (a), the Council considered the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its sixty-fourth session ([E/2020/27](#)) and the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its seventy-third, seventy-fourth and seventy-fifth sessions ([A/75/38](#)).

Action taken by the Council

143. Under agenda item 19 (a), the Council adopted resolution [2020/15](#) and decisions [2020/223](#) and [2020/229](#).

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its sixty-fourth session

Multi-year programme of work of the Commission on the Status of Women

144. On 13 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 17 July 2020 a draft resolution entitled “Multi-year programme of work of the Commission on the Status of Women”, as recommended by the Commission (E/2020/27, chap. I, sect. B, draft resolution).

145. On 17 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft resolution following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council resolution 2020/15).

Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its sixty-fourth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the sixty-fifth session of the Commission

146. On 13 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council circulated under silence procedure until 17 July 2020 a draft decision entitled “Report of the Commission on the Status of Women on its sixty-fourth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the sixty-fifth session of the Commission”, as recommended by the Commission (E/2020/27, chap. I, sect. C, draft decision).

147. On 17 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/223).

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its seventy-third, seventy-fourth and seventy-fifth sessions

148. On 17 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 22 July 2020 a proposal for the Council to take note of the report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its seventy-third, seventy-fourth and seventy-fifth sessions (A/75/38).

149. On 22 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the proposal following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/229).

2. Social development

150. Under agenda item 19 (b), the Council considered the report of the Commission for Social Development on its fifty-eighth session (E/2020/26) and the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes (A/75/61-E/2020/4).

Action taken by the Council

151. Under agenda item 19 (b), the Council adopted resolutions 2020/6, 2020/7 and 2020/8 and decisions 2020/201 D and 2020/212.

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission for Social Development on its fifty-eighth session

Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

152. On 11 June 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/206 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 18 June 2020 a draft resolution entitled "Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development", as recommended by the Commission (E/2020/26, chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution I).

153. On 18 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft resolution following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council resolution 2020/6).

Affordable housing and social protection systems for all to address homelessness

154. On 11 June 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/206 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council circulated under silence procedure until 18 June 2020 a draft resolution entitled "Affordable housing and social protection systems for all to address homelessness", as recommended by the Commission (E/2020/26, chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution II).

155. On 18 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft resolution following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council resolution 2020/7).

Modalities for the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002

156. On 11 June 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/206 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council circulated under silence procedure until 18 June 2020 a draft resolution entitled "Modalities for the fourth review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002", as recommended by the Commission (E/2020/26, chap. I, sect. A, draft resolution III).

157. On 18 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft resolution following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council resolution 2020/8).

Report of the Commission for Social Development on its fifty-eighth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-ninth session

158. On 11 June 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/206 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council circulated under silence procedure until 18 June 2020 a draft decision entitled "Report of the Commission for Social Development on its fifty-eighth session and provisional agenda and documentation for the fifty-ninth session", as recommended by the Commission (E/2020/26, chap. I, sect. B, draft decision).

159. On 18 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/212).

Nomination of a member of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

160. On 11 June 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/206 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council circulated under silence procedure until 18 June 2020 a draft decision entitled “Nomination of members of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development”, as recommended by the Commission (E/2020/26, chap. I, sect. C, decision 58/101).

161. On 18 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/201 D).

3. Crime prevention and criminal justice

162. Under agenda item 19 (c), the Council considered the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its reconvened twenty-eighth session (E/2019/30/Add.1) and the report of the Secretary-General on capital punishment and implementation of the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty (E/2020/53).

Action taken by the Council

163. Under agenda item 19 (c), the Council adopted decisions 2020/224 and 2020/230.

Recommendation contained in the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its reconvened twenty-eighth session

Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its reconvened twenty-eighth session

164. On 13 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 17 July 2020 a draft decision entitled “Report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its reconvened twenty-eighth session”, as recommended by the Commission (E/2019/30/Add.1, chap. I, sect. A, draft decision).

165. On 17 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/224).

Revised provisional agenda for the twenty-ninth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

166. On 17 July 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 22 July 2020 a draft decision entitled “Revised provisional agenda for the twenty-ninth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice”, as contained in an informal paper in English only and annexed to the letter dated 16 July 2020 from the Chair of the Commission (Brazil) addressed to the President of the Council.

167. On 22 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/230).

4. Narcotic drugs

168. Under agenda item 19 (d), the Council considered the reports of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened sixty-second session ([E/2019/28/Add.1](#)) and its sixty-third session ([E/2020/28](#)) and the report of the International Narcotics Control Board for 2019 ([E/INCB/2019/1](#)).

Action taken by the Council

169. Under agenda item 19 (d), the Council adopted decisions 2020/213 to 2020/215.

Recommendation contained in the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened sixty-second session

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened sixty-second session

170. On 11 June 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/206 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 18 June 2020 a draft decision entitled “Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its reconvened sixty-second session”, as recommended by the Commission ([E/2019/28/Add.1](#), chap. I, sect. A, draft decision).

171. On 18 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/213).

Recommendations contained in the report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its sixty-third session

Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its sixty-third session and provisional agenda for its sixty-fourth session

172. On 11 June 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/206 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 18 June 2020 a draft decision entitled “Report of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on its sixty-third session and provisional agenda for its sixty-fourth session”, as recommended by the Commission ([E/2020/28](#), chap. I, sect. A, draft decision I).

173. On 18 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/214).

Report of the International Narcotics Control Board

174. On 11 June 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/206 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council circulated under silence procedure until 18 June 2020 a draft decision entitled “Report of the International Narcotics Control Board”, as recommended by the Commission ([E/2020/28](#), chap. I, sect. A, draft decision II).

175. On 18 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/215).

5. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

176. For its consideration of agenda item 19 (e), the Council had before it the note verbale dated 26 July 2019 from the Permanent Mission of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ([E/2020/3](#)).

Action taken by the Council

177. Under agenda item 19 (e), the Council adopted decision 2020/204.

Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

178. At the 2nd meeting, on 15 October 2019, the representative of Mali introduced a draft decision entitled “Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees” ([E/2020/L.2](#)).

179. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft decision ([E/2020/SR.2](#)) (see Council decision 2020/204).

6. Human rights

180. For its consideration of agenda item 19 (f), the Council considered the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixty-fifth and sixty-sixth sessions ([E/2020/22](#)).

Action taken by the Council

181. Under agenda item 19 (f), the Council adopted decision 2020/216.

Report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixty-fifth and sixty-sixth sessions

182. On 11 June 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/206 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 18 June 2020 a proposal for the Council to take note of the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixty-fifth and sixty-sixth sessions ([E/2020/22](#)).

183. On 18 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the proposal following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/216).

7. Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

184. Under agenda item 19 (g), the Council considered the letter dated 29 April 2020 from the Chair of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (Finland) addressed to the President of the Council.

Action taken by the Council

185. Under agenda item 19 (g), the Council adopted decisions 2020/217 and 2020/218.

International expert group meeting on the theme “Indigenous peoples and pandemics”

186. On 3 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) submitted a draft decision entitled “International expert group meeting on the theme ‘Indigenous peoples and pandemics’” (E/2020/L.11).

187. On 11 June 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/206 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council circulated the draft decision under silence procedure until 18 June 2020.

188. A statement of programme budget implications of the draft decision was also circulated.

189. On 18 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/217).

Venue, dates and provisional agenda of the twentieth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

190. On 3 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) submitted a draft decision entitled “Venue, dates and provisional agenda of the twentieth session of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues” (E/2020/L.12).

191. On 11 June 2020, pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205 and 2020/206 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Vice-President of the Council circulated the draft decision under silence procedure until 18 June 2020.

192. On 18 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/218).

8. Comprehensive implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

193. There was no advance documentation and no proposal submitted under agenda item 19 (h) (Comprehensive implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action).

Chapter XII

Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments

1. The Economic and Social Council considered the question of elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments under agenda item 4 (Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments) at its 5th and 6th meetings, on 10 and 20 December 2019. An account of the proceedings is contained in the relevant summary records ([E/2020/SR.5](#) and [E/2020/SR.6](#)).

2. Pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205, 2020/206 and 2020/219 on the procedure for taking decisions of the Council during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council also took action under agenda item 4 on 21 April and 21 July 2020, and under agenda item 19 (b) (Social and human rights questions: social development) on 18 June 2020.

3. The following documents were submitted to the Council for its consideration of the item:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of members of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council ([E/2020/9](#) and [E/2020/9/Corr.1](#));

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on the nomination of 20 members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination ([E/2020/9/Add.1](#));

(c) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of 21 members of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting ([E/2020/9/Add.2](#));

(d) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of nine members of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights ([E/2020/9/Add.3](#));

(e) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of nine members of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights: biographical information on candidates ([E/2020/9/Add.4](#));

(f) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of 11 members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund ([E/2020/9/Add.5](#));

(g) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of 11 members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund/United Nations Office for Project Services ([E/2020/9/Add.6](#));

(h) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of six members of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme ([E/2020/9/Add.7](#));

(i) Note by the Secretary-General on the election of five members of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS ([E/2020/9/Add.8](#));

(j) Note by the Secretary-General on the appointment of two members to the Committee of Experts on Public Administration ([E/2020/9/Add.9](#));

(k) Note by the Secretary-General on the election to fill a vacancy in the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights ([E/2020/9/Add.10](#));

(l) Addendum to the annotated agenda for the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council ([E/2020/100/Add.1](#));

(m) Conference room papers ([E/2020/CRP.1-12](#)), as circulated in CandiWeb.

Action taken by the Council

4. Under agenda item 4, the Council adopted decisions 2020/201 A to C and 2020/201 E.

5. Under agenda item 19 (b), the Council adopted decision 2020/201 D.

Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments to subsidiary and related bodies of the Economic and Social Council

6. At its 5th meeting, on 10 December 2019, the Council elected candidates, by acclamation, to the Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), the Commission on Population and Development, the Commission for Social Development, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting, and the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (see Council decision 2020/201 A).

7. At its 6th meeting, on 20 December 2019, the Council elected candidates by secret ballot to the Executive Board of UN-Women. The Council also elected candidates, by acclamation, to fill the four new seats on the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (see Council decision 2020/201 B).

8. On 16 April 2020, the President of the Council circulated under silence procedure until 21 April a letter containing conference room papers (E/2020/CRP.1-6) detailing the candidatures and terms for the election of members to six subsidiary and related bodies of the Council, for which the number of candidatures was equal to or less than the number of vacancies to be filled for all the regional categories, and for which no objection was raised pursuant to rule 68 of the rules of procedure of the Council.

9. Subsequently, on 21 April 2020, the President announced that the Council had elected new members, by acclamation, to the Commission for Social Development, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, the Executive Board of the World Food Programme and the Executive Board of UN-Women. The Council also confirmed the appointments of the nominees by the Secretary-General to the Committee of Experts on Public Administration (see Council decision 2020/201 C).

10. On 11 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) circulated under silence procedure until 18 June 2020, a draft decision entitled "Nomination of a member of the Board of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development" as recommended by the Commission for Social Development (E/2020/26, chap. I, sect. C, decision 58/101). Subsequently, the Vice-President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection on 18 June 2020 (see Council decision 2020/201 D).

11. On 16 July 2020, the President of the Council circulated under silence procedure until 21 July 2020 conference room papers (E/2020/CRP.7-12) containing proposals detailing the candidatures and terms for the election of members to six subsidiary and related bodies of the Council, for which the number of candidatures was equal to or less than the number of vacancies to be filled for all the regional categories, and for which no objection was raised pursuant to rule 68 of the rules of procedure of the Council.

12. Subsequently, on 21 July 2020, the President announced that the Council had elected new members, by acclamation, to the Commission on Population and Development, the Commission for Social Development, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund and the Executive Board of the World Food Programme (see Council decision 2020/201 E).

Chapter XIII

Organizational matters

1. Pursuant to the provisions of General Assembly resolution [68/1](#), the programme of work of the Council was adjusted to a July-to-July cycle. In accordance with Assembly resolution [72/305](#) and Council resolution [2020/1](#), the organizational session of the 2020 session of the Council was held at Headquarters on 25 July 2019 (1st meeting).
2. A number of plenary meetings were also held in order to take action on organizational and other urgent matters relating to its programme of work as follows: 15 October 2019 (2nd meeting); and 3, 10 and 20 December 2019 (4th to 6th meetings).
3. Taking into account the prevailing conditions relating to COVID-19 on the working arrangements for its 2020 session and the available technological and procedural solutions in the interim period, the Council, in its resolutions [2020/3](#) and [2020/4](#), revised the working arrangements for its 2020 session.
4. Pursuant to Council decisions [2020/205](#), [2020/206](#) and [2020/219](#), the Council also conducted its work through correspondence and took action on draft proposals, including on matters relating to elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments to fill vacancies in the subsidiary and related bodies of the Council.
5. The Council also held a special meeting jointly with the Second Committee of the seventy-fourth session of the General Assembly (see chap. II) on 15 October 2019 (3rd meeting).
6. The Council also held the 2020 forum on financing for development follow-up (see chap. IV) on 23 April and 2 June 2020 (two online meetings), the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council (see chap. VII) from 7 to 13 July 2020 (ten online meetings) and the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum (see chap. VI, sect. A) from 14 to 16 July 2020 (six online meetings).

Action taken by the Council

7. Under agenda item 1 (Election of the Bureau), the Council adopted three decisions (see Council decisions [2020/200 A to C](#)).
8. Under agenda item 2 (Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters), the Council adopted three resolutions and five decisions (see Council resolutions [2020/1](#), [2020/3](#) and [2020/4](#), and decisions [2020/202](#) and [2020/203](#), [2020/205](#) and [2020/206](#), and [2020/219](#)).

Opening of the 2020 session

9. At the 1st meeting, on 25 July 2019, the outgoing President of the Council, Inga Rhonda King (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines), opened the 2020 session of the Council and made a statement ([E/2020/SR.1](#)).

A. Election of the Bureau

10. At its 1st meeting, on 25 July 2019, the Council elected, by acclamation: Mona Juul (Norway) as President of the Council for its 2020 session and Maleeha Lodhi (Pakistan), Mher Margaryan (Armenia) and Juan Sandoval Mendiola (Mexico) as Vice-Presidents of the Council for its 2020 session ([E/2020/SR.1](#)) (see Council decision [2020/200 A](#)).

11. Following the election of the Bureau of the Council for its 2020 session, the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) made a statement.
12. Also at the 1st meeting, the President of the Council addressed the Council.
13. At the same meeting, the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations made a statement.
14. At its 2nd meeting, on 15 October 2019, the Council elected, by acclamation, Omar Hilale (Morocco) as Vice-President of the Council for its 2020 session (E/2020/SR.2) (see Council decision 2020/200 B).
15. At the same meeting, the Vice-President of the Council (Morocco) made a statement.
16. At its 4th meeting, on 3 December 2019, the Council elected, by acclamation, Munir Akram (Pakistan) as Vice-President of the Council for its 2020 session to complete the unexpired term of Ms. Lodhi, in accordance with rule 22 of its rules of procedure (E/2020/SR.4) (see Council decision 2020/200 C).

B. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Provisional agenda for the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council

17. At its 1st meeting, on 25 July 2019, the Council had before it the provisional agenda (E/2020/1) for its 2020 session. The Council adopted the provisional agenda (see annex I) (E/2020/SR.1) (see Council decision 2020/202).

Working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council

18. At its 1st meeting, on 25 July 2019, the Council had before it a draft resolution entitled “Working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council” (E/2020/L.1), submitted by the President of the Council.
19. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft resolution (E/2020/SR.1) (see Council resolution 2020/1).

Special responsibilities of the Bureau of the Economic and Social Council for its 2020 session

20. At its 2nd meeting, on 15 October 2019, in its decision 2020/203, the Council decided that the special responsibilities of the Bureau of the Council for its 2020 session would be as follows:

(a) The high-level segment and the high-level political forum on sustainable development for 2020, convened under the auspices of the Council, the Council forum on financing for development follow-up, the Development Cooperation Forum and the special meeting on international cooperation in tax matters, as well as any joint meetings and other special meetings that may be convened should the need arise would be the responsibility of the President of the Council;

(b) The operational activities for development segment would be the responsibility of the Vice-President (Mexico);

(c) The integration segment would be the responsibility of the Vice-President (Armenia);

(d) The humanitarian affairs segment would be the responsibility of the Vice-President (Morocco);

(e) The management segment, including meetings to hold elections to fill the vacancies in the Council's subsidiary and related bodies, would be the responsibility of the Vice-President (Pakistan) ([E/2020/SR.2](#)).

Procedure for taking decisions of the Economic and Social Council during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic

21. On 1 April 2020, the President of the Council circulated under silence procedure until 3 April 2020 a draft decision entitled "Procedure for taking decisions of the Economic and Social Council during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic".

22. On 3 April 2020, the President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/205).

23. A letter dated 2 April 2020 from the Philippines was circulated in connection with the draft decision.

Revised working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council and sessions of its subsidiary bodies

24. On 8 April 2020, the President of the Council circulated under silence procedure until 14 April 2020 a draft resolution entitled "Revised working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council and sessions of its subsidiary bodies" ([E/2020/L.6](#)).

25. A statement of programme budget implications of the draft resolution was also circulated.

26. On 14 April 2020, the President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft resolution following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council resolution [2020/3](#)).

Extension of the procedure for taking decisions of the Economic and Social Council during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic

27. On 19 May 2020, the President of the Council circulated under silence procedure until 22 May 2020 a draft decision entitled "Extension of the procedure for taking decisions of the Economic and Social Council during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic" ([E/2020/L.7](#)).

28. On 22 May 2020, the President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/206).

Further revised working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council and sessions of its subsidiary bodies

29. On 1 June 2020, the President of the Council circulated under silence procedure until 4 June 2020 a draft resolution entitled "Further revised working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council and sessions of its subsidiary bodies" ([E/2020/L.8](#)).

30. A statement of programme budget implications of the draft resolution was also circulated.

31. On 4 June 2020, the President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft resolution following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council resolution [2020/4](#)).

Extension of the procedure for taking decisions of the Economic and Social Council during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic until the end of July 2020

32. On 19 June 2020, the President of the Council circulated under silence procedure until 24 June 2020 a draft decision entitled “Extension of the procedure for taking decisions of the Economic and Social Council during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic until the end of July 2020” ([E/2020/L.16](#)).

33. On 24 June 2020, the President of the Council announced the adoption of the draft decision following the expiration of the silence procedure without objection (see Council decision 2020/219).

Annex I

Agenda for the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council

Adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its 1st meeting, on 25 July 2019 (E/2020/SR.1) (see decision 2020/202)

1. Election of the Bureau.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Basic programme of work of the Council.
4. Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments.
5. High-level segment:
 - (a) Ministerial meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council;
 - (b) High-level policy dialogue on future trends and scenarios and the long-term impact of current trends on the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
 - (c) Development Cooperation Forum.
6. High-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council.
7. Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation:
 - (a) Follow-up to policy recommendations of the General Assembly and the Council;
 - (b) Reports of the Executive Boards of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund/United Nations Office for Project Services, the United Nations Children's Fund, the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, and the World Food Programme;
 - (c) South-South cooperation for development.
8. Integration segment.
9. Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance.
10. The role of the United Nations system in the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development into the implementation of and follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
11. Implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits:
 - (a) Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development;
 - (b) Review and coordination of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020.
12. Coordination, programme and other questions:
 - (a) Reports of coordination bodies;

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- (b) Proposed programme budget for 2021;
 - (c) Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system;
 - (d) Long-term programme of support for Haiti;
 - (e) African countries emerging from conflict;
 - (f) Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases.
13. Implementation of General Assembly resolutions [50/227](#), [52/12 B](#), [57/270 B](#), [60/265](#), [61/16](#), [67/290](#), [68/1](#) and [72/305](#).
 14. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations.
 15. Regional cooperation.
 16. Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan.
 17. Non-governmental organizations.
 18. Economic and environmental questions:
 - (a) Sustainable development;
 - (b) Science and technology for development;
 - (c) Statistics;
 - (d) Human settlements;
 - (e) Environment;
 - (f) Population and development;
 - (g) Public administration and development;
 - (h) International cooperation in tax matters;
 - (i) Geospatial information;
 - (j) Women and development;
 - (k) United Nations Forum on Forests;
 - (l) Assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions.
 19. Social and human rights questions:
 - (a) Advancement of women;
 - (b) Social development;
 - (c) Crime prevention and criminal justice;
 - (d) Narcotic drugs;
 - (e) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;
 - (f) Human rights;
 - (g) Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues;
 - (h) Comprehensive implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

Annex II

Intergovernmental organizations designated by the Economic and Social Council under rule 79 of the rules of procedure¹ for participation in the deliberations of the Council on questions within the scope of their activities

Organizations and other entities accorded permanent observer status by the General Assembly

African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (General Assembly resolution 36/4)

African Development Bank (General Assembly resolution 42/10)

African Union (General Assembly resolution 2011 (XX) and Assembly decision 56/475)

Agency for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (General Assembly resolution 43/6)

Andean Community (General Assembly resolution 52/6)

Andean Development Corporation (General Assembly resolution 67/101)

ASEAN+3 Macroeconomic Research Office (General Assembly resolution 72/126)

Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization (General Assembly resolution 35/2)

Asian Development Bank (General Assembly resolution 57/30)

Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (General Assembly resolution 73/216)

Association of Caribbean States (General Assembly resolution 53/5)

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (General Assembly resolution 61/44)

Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization (General Assembly resolution 54/5)

Caribbean Community (General Assembly resolution 46/8)

Central American Bank for Economic Integration (General Assembly resolution 71/157)

Central American Integration System (General Assembly resolution 50/2)

Central European Initiative (General Assembly resolution 66/111)

Collective Security Treaty Organization (General Assembly resolution 59/50)

Common Fund for Commodities (General Assembly resolution 60/26)

Commonwealth (General Assembly resolution 31/3)

Commonwealth of Independent States (General Assembly resolution 48/237)

Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (General Assembly resolution 54/10)

Community of Sahelo-Saharan States (General Assembly resolution 56/92)

¹ The text of rule 79, entitled "Participation of other intergovernmental organizations", reads: "Representatives of intergovernmental organizations accorded permanent observer status by the General Assembly and of other intergovernmental organizations designated on an ad hoc or a continuing basis by the Council on the recommendation of the Bureau may participate, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Council on questions within the scope of the activities of the organizations".

Conference of Ministers of Justice of the Ibero-American Countries (General Assembly resolution [71/153](#))

Conference on Interaction and Confidence-building Measures in Asia (General Assembly resolution [62/77](#))

Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf (General Assembly resolution [62/78](#))

Council of Europe (General Assembly resolution [44/6](#))

Customs Cooperation Council (General Assembly resolution [53/216](#))

Developing Eight Countries Organization for Economic Cooperation (General Assembly resolution [69/129](#))

East African Community (General Assembly resolution [58/86](#))

Economic Community of Central African States (General Assembly resolution [55/161](#))

Economic Community of West African States (General Assembly resolution [59/51](#))

Economic Cooperation Organization (General Assembly resolution [48/2](#))

Energy Charter Conference (General Assembly resolution [62/75](#))

Eurasian Development Bank (General Assembly resolution [62/76](#))

Eurasian Economic Community (General Assembly resolution [58/84](#))

Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (General Assembly resolution [72/127](#))

European Organization for Nuclear Research (General Assembly resolution [67/102](#))

European Public Law Organization (General Assembly resolution [73/215](#))

European Union (General Assembly resolutions [3208 \(XXIX\)](#) and [65/276](#))

Fund for the Development of the Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean (General Assembly resolution [72/128](#))

Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (General Assembly resolution [64/122](#))

Global Green Growth Institute (General Assembly resolution [68/124](#))

Group of Seven Plus (General Assembly resolution [74/196](#))

Hague Conference on Private International Law (General Assembly resolution [60/27](#))

Holy See (General Assembly resolution [58/314](#))

Ibero-American Conference (General Assembly resolution [60/28](#))

Indian Ocean Commission (General Assembly resolution [61/43](#))

Indian Ocean Rim Association (General Assembly resolution [70/123](#))

Inter-American Development Bank (General Assembly resolution [55/160](#))

Intergovernmental Authority on Development (General Assembly resolution [66/112](#))

International Anti-Corruption Academy (General Assembly resolution [68/122](#))

International Centre for Migration Policy Development (General Assembly resolution [57/31](#))

International Chamber of Commerce (General Assembly resolution [71/156](#))

International Civil Defence Organization (General Assembly resolution [70/122](#))

International Committee of the Red Cross (General Assembly resolution [45/6](#))

International Conference on the Great Lakes Region of Africa (General Assembly resolution [64/123](#))

International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (General Assembly resolution [73/214](#))

International Criminal Court (General Assembly resolution [58/318](#))

International Criminal Police Organization (General Assembly resolution [51/1](#))

International Development Law Organization (General Assembly resolution [56/90](#))

International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (General Assembly resolution [49/2](#))

International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea (General Assembly resolution [63/133](#))

International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission (General Assembly resolution [64/121](#))

International Hydrographic Organization (General Assembly resolution [56/91](#))

International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (General Assembly resolution [58/83](#))

International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (General Assembly resolution [68/121](#))

International Network for Bamboo and Rattan (General Assembly resolution [72/125](#))

International Olympic Committee (General Assembly resolution [64/3](#))

International Organization for Migration (General Assembly resolution [47/4](#))

International Organization of la Francophonie (General Assembly resolution [33/18](#))

International Renewable Energy Agency (General Assembly resolution [66/110](#))

International Seabed Authority (General Assembly resolution [51/6](#))

International Think Tank for Landlocked Developing Countries (General Assembly resolution [73/217](#))

International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (General Assembly resolution [51/204](#))

International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (General Assembly resolution [54/195](#))

International Youth Organization for Ibero-America (General Assembly resolution [71/154](#))

Inter-Parliamentary Union (General Assembly resolution [57/32](#))

Islamic Development Bank Group (General Assembly resolution [61/259](#))

Italian-Latin American Institute (General Assembly resolution [62/74](#))

Latin American and Caribbean Economic System (resolution [35/3](#))

Latin American Integration Association (General Assembly resolution [60/25](#))

Latin American Parliament (General Assembly resolution [48/4](#))

League of Arab States (General Assembly resolution [477 \(V\)](#))

New Development Bank (General Assembly resolution [73/213](#))

OPEC Fund for International Development (General Assembly resolution [61/42](#))

Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (General Assembly resolution [59/52](#))

Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM (General Assembly resolution [58/85](#) and decision 71/556)

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (General Assembly resolution [53/6](#))

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (General Assembly resolution [48/5](#))

Organization of American States (General Assembly resolution [253 \(III\)](#))

Organization of Islamic Cooperation (General Assembly resolution [3369 \(XXX\)](#))

Pacific Community (General Assembly resolution [69/130](#))

Pacific Islands Development Forum (General Assembly resolution [71/155](#))

Pacific Islands Forum (General Assembly resolution [49/1](#))

Pan African Intergovernmental Agency for Water and Sanitation for Africa (General Assembly resolution [68/123](#))

Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (General Assembly resolution [64/124](#))

Partners in Population and Development (General Assembly resolution [57/29](#))

Permanent Court of Arbitration (General Assembly resolution [48/3](#))

Regional Centre on Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region, the Horn of Africa and Bordering States (General Assembly resolution [62/73](#))

Shanghai Cooperation Organization (General Assembly resolution [59/48](#))

South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (General Assembly resolution [59/53](#))

South Centre (General Assembly resolution [63/131](#))

Southern African Development Community (General Assembly resolution [59/49](#))

Sovereign Order of Malta (General Assembly resolution [48/265](#))

State of Palestine (General Assembly resolutions [3237 \(XXIX\)](#), [43/160 A](#), [43/177](#), [52/250](#) and [67/19](#))

Union for the Mediterranean (General Assembly resolution [70/124](#))

Union of South American Nations (General Assembly resolution [66/109](#))

University for Peace (General Assembly resolution [63/132](#))

West African Economic and Monetary Union (General Assembly resolution [66/113](#))

Organizations designated by the Economic and Social Council

Participation on a continuing basis

African Regional Centre for Technology (Council decision 1980/151)

Asian and Pacific Development Centre (Council decision 2000/213)

Asian Productivity Organization (Council decision 1980/114)

Council of Arab Economic Unity (Council decision 109 (LIX))

Global Water Partnership (Council decision 2005/233)

Helsinki Commission (Council decision 2003/312)

Institution for the Use of Micro-alga Spirulina against Malnutrition (Council decision 2003/212)

Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (Council decision 2006/204)

Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research (Council decision 2018/226)

Intergovernmental Forum on Mining, Minerals, Metals and Sustainable Development (Council decision 2006/244)

International Association of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions (Council decision 2001/318)

International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (Council decision 1997/215)

International Centre for Public Enterprises in Developing Countries (Council decision 1980/114)

Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Council decision 2003/221)

Latin American Energy Organization (Council decision 1980/114)

Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture (Council decision 1986/156)

Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (Council decision 109 (LIX))

Regional Organization for the Protection of the Marine Environment (Council decision 1992/265)

Union of Economic and Social Councils of Africa (Council decision 1996/225)

World Deserts Foundation (Council decision 2004/231)

Participation on an ad hoc basis

African Accounting Council (Council decision 1987/161)

African Cultural Institute (Council decision 1987/161)

Arab Security Studies and Training Centre (Council decision 1989/165)

Council of Arab Ministers of the Interior (Council decision 1987/161)

International Bauxite Association (Council decision 1987/161)

Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (Council decision 239 (LXII))

Annex III

Composition of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary and related bodies

[Annex III will be issued separately in document [A/75/3 \(Part II\)](#)]

Annex IV

Online informal meetings held during the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council

Joining forces: effective policy solutions for the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) response

1. The online informal meeting was chaired by the President of the Economic and Social Council, Mona Juul (Norway), and moderated by Anne-Birgitte Albrechtsen, Chief Executive Officer of Plan International, who made opening statements.
2. A statement was also made by the Deputy Secretary-General.
3. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Director General, World Health Organization (WHO), Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus; Director General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Qu Dongyu; United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet; Director General, International Labour Organization (ILO), Guy Ryder; Secretary-General, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Mukhisa Kituyi; and Executive Secretary, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana.
4. In the ensuing discussion, the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the moderator.
5. The Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Liu Zhenmin, and the President of the Council made closing statements.

High-level segment

Opening of the high-level segment

6. At the online informal meeting held on 14 July 2020, the high-level segment, including the three-day ministerial meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, was opened by the President of the Council, who made a statement.
7. At the same meeting, the Secretary-General addressed the Council.
8. Also at the same meeting, the President of the General Assembly at its seventy-fourth session addressed the Council.
9. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the keynote speaker, the Prime Minister of Finland, Sanna Marin.
10. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the co-founder of Africa Matters Initiative, Farai Lwandile Mubaiwa, and the Vice-President of the European Youth Forum, Tina Hočevár.

A. Ministerial meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council

11. At the online informal meeting held on 14 July 2020, a keynote address was given by the President of the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United

Nations Environment Programme at its fifth session, Sveinung Rotevatn, Minister of Climate and Environment of Norway.

12. At the same meeting, messages from the Latin American and Caribbean region were delivered by the President of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean, Trevor Prescod, Minister of Environment and National Beautification of Barbados.

B. High-level policy dialogue on future trends and scenarios and the long-term impact of current trends on the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Dialogue I

Where are we heading? Visions and scenarios for the future of the Sustainable Development Goals following the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) crisis

13. At the online informal meeting held on 17 July 2020, the Council organized a dialogue on the theme “Where are we heading? Visions and scenarios for the future of the Sustainable Development Goals following the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) crisis”, chaired by the President of the Council and moderated by the Director of the Environmental Change Institute of the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Michael Obersteiner, who made statements.

14. Following a presentation on the Sustainable Development Goals Progress Chart 2020 by the Director of the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Stefan Schweinfest, presentations were made by the following resource persons: Executive Director, The World in 2050, and former Deputy Director and Chief Executive Officer, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Nebojsa Nakicenovic, and Executive Director, E3-Ecología, Economía y Ética de Colombia, and Co-Chair, Food and Land Use Coalition country programmes, Claudia Martínez.

15. Statements were made by the lead discussant, the former Assistant Director General of the Economic and Social Development Department and Senior Adviser to FAO, Kostas Stamoulis, and the following respondents: Minister of State for Artificial Intelligence, United Arab Emirates, Omar Sultan Al Olama; State Secretary, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany, Jochen Flasbarth; Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Disability and Accessibility, María Soledad Cisternas Reyes; and Secretary-General, Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, Meg Taylor (via video recording).

16. An interactive discussion ensued, and comments and questions were posed by the Minister of the Presidency of Nicaragua, Paul Oquist, and the representatives of Indonesia and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Dialogue II

Multilateralism after the coronavirus disease (COVID-19): what kind of United Nations do we need at the seventy-fifth anniversary?

17. At the online informal meeting held on 17 July 2020, the Council organized a dialogue on the theme “Multilateralism after the coronavirus disease (COVID-19): what kind of United Nations do we need at the seventy-fifth anniversary?”, which was chaired by the President of the Council and moderated by the representative of the International Peace Institute and former Prime Minister of Australia, Kevin Rudd, who made statements.

18. The Secretary-General also made a statement.

19. Statements were made by the following resource persons: Secretary-General, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Ángel Gurría; President, fourteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, Yasmine Fouad; Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director, United Nations Global Compact, Sanda Ojiambo; Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth, Jayathma Wickramanayake; President, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Zhang Xinsheng; and Chair of the Board, the World Alliance for Citizen Participation, Julia Sanchez.

20. The moderator summarized the highlights of the discussion.

21. Statements were made by the Prime Minister of Norway, Erna Solberg (via video recording); the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi (via video recording); the State Councillor and Minister for Foreign Affairs of China, Wang Yi (via video recording); the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Guatemala, Pedro Brolo; the Minister of Environmental Protection of Israel, Gila Gamliel; the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Jamaica, Kamina Johnson Smith; the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Andorra, Maria Ubach Font; the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Pakistan, Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi; the Chancellor of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Jorge Arreaza Montserrat; the Minister of the Presidency of Nicaragua, Paul Oquist; the Vice-Minister of Multilateral Affairs of Costa Rica, Christian Guillermet; the Vice-Minister for International Cooperation and Promotion at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Honduras, Norma Allegra Cerrato; the Undersecretary of the National Economic and Development Authority of the Philippines, Rosemarie Edillon; the Vice-Minister for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of Mexico, Martha Delgado Peralta; and the Deputy Minister and Deputy Chief of Strategy and Budget of the Presidency of Turkey, *İbrahim Şenel*.

22. Statements were also made the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan, Kairat Umarov (on behalf of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries); the observer for the European Union, Olof Skoog (on behalf of the European Union and its member states); the Permanent Representative of Denmark, Martin Hermann, jointly with the youth representative of Denmark, Malene Bentsen Laursen; the Permanent Representative of Switzerland, Pascale Baeriswyl; the representative of Ethiopia, Adisalem Teklu, who delivered a statement on behalf of the Permanent Representative; the Permanent Representative of Morocco, Omar Hilale; the Permanent Representative of Indonesia, Mohammad Koba; the Permanent Representative of Australia, Mitchell Fifield; the Permanent Representative of Afghanistan, Adela Raz; the Permanent Representative of Thailand, Vitavas Srivihok; the Permanent Representative of Paraguay, Julio Arriola Ramírez; the Permanent Representative of Egypt, Mohamed Edrees; the Permanent Representative of Bangladesh, Rabab Fatima; the Permanent Representative of Nepal, Amrit Rai; the Permanent Representative of Madagascar, Alfredo Jerry Ratsimandresy; the Permanent Representative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Rubén Cuéllar Suárez; the Permanent Representative of Jordan, Sima Bahous; the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ali Hajilari; and the Permanent Representative of El Salvador, Egriselda González López.

Conclusion of the high-level segment

23. At the online informal meeting held on 17 July 2020, a statement was made by the Chair of the Committee for Development Policy, José Antonio Ocampo, in which he presented the highlights of the report of the Committee at its twenty-second session ([E/2020/33](#)).

24. At the same meeting, a statement was also made by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, in which he presented the highlights of the report of the Secretary-General on accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development (E/2020/59) and the report of the Secretary-General on Long-term future scenarios and the impact of current trends on the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (E/2020/60).

25. Also at the same meeting, the President of the Council made concluding remarks and declared closed the high-level segment of the Council at its 2020 session.

Operational activities for development segment

Operational activities of the United Nations for international development cooperation

26. At the online informal meeting held on 19 May 2020, the President of the Council opened the operational activities for development segment and made a statement.

27. At the same meeting, the Vice-President of the Council (Mexico) made a statement.

28. Also at the same meeting, the Secretary-General delivered a keynote address.

Interactive dialogue

Main findings and recommendations of the progress report of the Secretary-General on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review and the repositioning of the United Nations system

29. At its online informal meeting held on 19 May 2020, the Council organized an interactive dialogue with the Secretary-General on the main findings and recommendations contained in his progress report on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review and the repositioning of the United Nations system. The dialogue was moderated by the Vice-President of the Council (Mexico), who made a statement.

30. The Secretary-General responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the Philippines (on behalf of the Like-minded Group of Supporters of Middle-Income Countries), Australia (also on behalf of Canada and New Zealand), Bangladesh (on behalf of the Group of Least Developed Countries), the Russian Federation, Japan, Brazil, Paraguay, Morocco, Norway, China and the United States of America, as well as by the observers for Guyana (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Tuvalu (on behalf of the Pacific Islands Forum), Belize (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), Kazakhstan (on behalf of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries), Cabo Verde (on behalf of the Group of African States), Lebanon, Liberia and Indonesia.

Interactive discussion

Report of the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group on the Development Coordination Office

31. At its online informal meeting held on 20 May 2020, the Council organized an interactive discussion with the Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Development Coordination Office, Robert Piper, on the annual report of the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group on the Development Coordination Office. The discussion was moderated by the Vice-President of the Council (Mexico), who made a statement.

32. A statement was made by the Deputy Secretary-General.

33. The Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Development Coordination Office responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Norway, Colombia, Canada, Germany, Morocco, Finland and Mexico, as well as by the observers for Guyana (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Fiji (on behalf of the Pacific small island developing States), Cuba and Iraq.

Panel discussion

The funding compact: are we delivering on our respective commitments?

34. Also at its online informal meeting held on 20 May 2020, the Council organized an interactive discussion on the theme “The funding compact: are we delivering on our respective commitments?” The discussion was moderated by the Executive Coordinator of the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office, Jennifer Topping, who made a statement.

35. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Executive Director, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Natalia Kanem; and Assistant Executive Director for Partnerships and Advocacy, World Food Programme (WFP), Ute Klamert.

36. A statement was made by the discussant, the Director for Multilateral Organizations and Human Rights at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, Gerard Steeghs.

37. In the ensuing discussion, comments were made and questions were posed by the representatives of Norway and Canada, as well as by the observers for Guyana (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Sweden and Belgium, to which the panellists as well as the Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Development Coordination Office responded.

Panel discussions

The new resident coordinator system after 16 months: successes and challenges in United Nations country teams

38. At its online informal meeting held on 21 May 2020, the Council held two panel discussions on the theme “The new resident coordinator system after 16 months: successes and challenges in United Nations country teams”. The discussions were moderated by the Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Development Coordination Office, who made a statement.

39. A statement was made by the Deputy Secretary-General.

40. At the first panel discussion, presentations were made by the following panellists: Resident Coordinator in Uruguay, Mireia Villar Forner, jointly with a United Nations country team member, Manuel Albaladejo, of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization; Resident Coordinator in Armenia, Shombi Sharp, jointly with a United Nations country team member, Tanja Radocaj, of the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF); and Resident Coordinator in China, Nicholas Rosellini, jointly with a United Nations country team member, Babatunde Ahonsi, of UNFPA.

41. In the ensuing discussion, the panellists responded to the comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Uruguay, Armenia, China, Ghana, Japan and Colombia, as well as by the observers for Guyana (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), New Zealand and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

42. At the second panel discussion, presentations were made by the following panellists: Resident Coordinator in Haiti, Bruno Lemarquis, jointly with a United

Nations country team member, Fernando Hiraldo, of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); Resident Coordinator in Mauritius and Seychelles, Christine Umutoni, jointly with a United Nations country team member, Laurent Musango, of WHO; and Resident Coordinator in Yemen, Lise Grande, jointly with a United Nations country team member, Altaf Musani, also of WHO.

43. In the ensuing discussion, the panellists responded to the comments made and questions posed by the representatives of El Salvador, the United States of America, Canada and Bangladesh, as well as by the observers for Yemen, Haiti, Liberia, Guyana (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Belize (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), Sweden and Samoa.

44. Statements were also made by the Executive Secretary of ESCAP and the moderator.

Panel discussion

Responding to needs and priorities of countries serviced by multi-country offices

45. At its online informal meeting held on 22 May 2020, the Council organized two panel discussions, the first on the theme “Responding to needs and priorities of countries serviced by multi-country offices”. The discussion was moderated by the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Climate Action and Assistant Secretary-General for the Climate Action Team, Selwin Hart, who made a statement.

46. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Permanent Representative of Belize and Chair, Alliance of Small Island States, Lois Young; Permanent Representative of the Federated States of Micronesia, Jane Chigiyal; Assistant Secretary-General, Director, UNDP Bureau for Policy and Programme Support and Co-Chair, inter-agency working group on the multi-country office review, Haoliang Xu; Resident Coordinator, multi-country office based in Trinidad and Tobago, which services Aruba, Curaçao, Suriname, Sint Maarten/Saint Martin and Trinidad and Tobago, Marina Walter; and Resident Coordinator, multi-country office based in Fiji, which services the Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Nauru, Palau, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu, Sanaka Samarasinha.

47. A statement was made by the discussant, the Permanent Representative of New Zealand, Craig Hawke.

48. In the ensuing discussion, the panellists responded to the comments made and questions posed by the representatives of El Salvador and Norway, as well as by the observers for Guyana (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) and Suriname (on behalf of the Caribbean Community).

Panel discussion

Unleashing the United Nations development system’s regional assets: the path forward

49. Also at its online informal meeting held on 22 May 2020, the Council organized a second panel discussion on the theme “Unleashing the United Nations development system’s regional assets: the path forward”. The discussion was moderated by the Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Reform, Jens Wandel, who made a statement.

50. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Coordinator, Regional Commissions, and Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Vera Songwe; Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Alicia Bárcena; Assistant Administrator ad interim and Director, UNDP Regional Bureau for Arab States, Mourad Wahba; Regional Director for Eastern

Europe and Central Asia, UNFPA, Alanna Armitage; and Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, Development Coordination Office, Neil Buhne.

51. In the ensuing discussion, the panellists responded to the comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the Russian Federation, Ethiopia, Mexico, Thailand and Bangladesh, as well as by the observers for Guyana (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Belize (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), Cuba, Turkey, Argentina, Guatemala, Haiti, Uzbekistan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Kazakhstan.

Interactive dialogue with the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group and the heads of United Nations entities: working together to accelerate progress on the Sustainable Development Goals during the decade of action and in the light of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic

52. At its online informal meeting held on 27 May 2020, the Council organized an interactive dialogue on the theme “Working together to accelerate progress on the Sustainable Development Goals during the decade of action and in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic” with the Deputy Secretary-General and Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group, as well as the heads of United Nations entities. The discussion was moderated by the Vice-President of the Council (Mexico), who made a statement.

53. A statement was also made by the Deputy Secretary-General.

54. Presentations were made by the following panellists, who also responded to questions posed by the moderator: Administrator, UNDP, and Vice-Chair, United Nations Sustainable Development Group, Achim Steiner; Executive Director, UNICEF, Henrietta Fore; Director General, ILO; Executive Director, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka; Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme, Inger Andersen; and Deputy Director General, WHO, Zsuzsanna Jakab.

55. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the panellists responded to the comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Japan, Morocco, El Salvador, the Russian Federation, Mexico, Norway, Canada and Colombia, as well as by the observers for Guyana (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Algeria, Kazakhstan, Cuba, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Fiji.

Conclusion of the segment

56. At its online informal meeting held on 27 May 2020, the Deputy Secretary-General made a closing statement.

57. At the same meeting, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs made closing remarks.

58. Also at the same meeting, the Vice-President of the Council (Mexico) made a closing statement.

Integration segment

59. At the online informal meeting held on 6 July 2020, the Vice-President of the Council (Armenia) opened the integration segment and made a statement.

60. At the same meeting, the Secretary-General delivered a keynote address (via video recording).

61. Also at the same meeting, the Secretary of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and Director of its secretariat, Simona Petrova, presented the annual overview report of the Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2019 (E/2020/5).

Panel discussion

Getting back on track for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

62. At the online informal meeting held on 6 July 2020, the Council organized a panel discussion on the theme “Getting back on track for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals” moderated by the Vice-President of the Council (Armenia).

63. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Chair, Commission on Population and Development, and Permanent Representative of Luxembourg, Christian Braun; Director General, ILO; Director General, FAO; and Administrator, UNDP.

64. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Chair, Group of Landlocked Developing Countries, and Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan, Kairat Umarov; and Chair, Like-minded Group of Supporters of Middle-Income Countries, and chargé d'affaires a.i., the Permanent Mission of the Philippines, Kira Christianne Danganan Azucena.

65. An interactive discussion ensued, and the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Morocco, Montenegro and Colombia, as well as by the observers for Guyana (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) and Algeria.

Panel discussion

Leaving no one behind in the context of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the decade of action and delivery

66. Also at the online informal meeting held on 6 July 2020, the Council organized a panel discussion on the theme “Leaving no one behind in the context of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the decade of action and delivery” moderated by the Vice-President of the Council (Armenia).

67. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Vice-Chair, Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations and other international and regional organizations in Vienna, Khojesta Fana Ebrahimkhel; Chair, Committee for Development Policy; Executive Secretary, ECA; and Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Executive Director for Resource Management, Sustainability and Partnerships, UN-Women, Anita Bhatia.

68. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Chair, Alliance of Small Island States, and Permanent Representative of Belize, Lois Young; and Chair, Group of Least Developed Countries, and Permanent Representative of Malawi, Perks Master Clemency Ligoya.

69. An interactive discussion ensued, and the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Morocco and the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as by the observers for Guyana (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Qatar, in her capacity as Vice-Chair of the Commission for Social Development, and Algeria.

Conclusion of the segment

70. At the online informal meeting held on 6 July 2020, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs made a closing statement.

71. At the same meeting, the Vice-President of the Council (Armenia) made a closing statement and concluded the integration segment.

Humanitarian affairs segment

Special economic, humanitarian and disaster relief assistance

72. At the online informal meeting held on 9 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council (Morocco) opened the humanitarian affairs segment and made a statement.

73. At the same meeting, the Secretary-General delivered a keynote address (via video recording).

74. Also at the same meeting, statements were made by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mark Lowcock; the Executive Director of UNICEF; the Director General of FAO; the President and Chief Executive Officer of Oxfam America, Abby Maxman; and the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Peter Maurer (via video recording).

Panel discussion

Addressing the increasing complexity of health challenges in humanitarian contexts

75. At the online informal meeting held on 9 June 2020, the Council organized a panel discussion on the theme “Addressing the increasing complexity of health challenges in humanitarian contexts” moderated by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, who made a statement.

76. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, the Netherlands, Sigrid Kaag; Assistant Director General for Emergency Response, WHO, Ibrahima Socé Fall; Executive Director, WFP, David Beasley; Secretary-General, International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, Jagan Chapagain; International President, Médecins Sans Frontiers, Christos Christou; Head, Division of Public Health Institutes and Research, Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention; Raji Tajudeen; and Director, South Sudan Women with Disability Network, Atim Caroline Ogwang.

77. During the ensuing interactive discussion, the panellists and the Special Envoy for Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Network at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, Paul Bekkers (on behalf of the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the Netherlands), responded to the comments made and the questions posed by the representatives of the Republic of Korea (on behalf of Mexico, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Turkey and Australia), Malawi (on behalf of the Group of Least Developed Countries), Japan, Thailand, Norway, Germany, Canada, Ethiopia, the Russian Federation, Bangladesh, Panama, Egypt, Ecuador, the United States of America, Colombia and Ireland, as well as by the observers for Algeria, Turkey, Cuba, Afghanistan, Chile and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

78. The observer for the European Union also participated in the discussion.

79. The Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Vice-President of the Council (Morocco) made concluding remarks.

Panel discussion**Improving humanitarian effectiveness through new technology and innovation: opportunities and challenges**

80. At the online informal meeting held on 10 June 2020, the Council organized a panel discussion on the theme “Improving humanitarian effectiveness through new technology and innovation: opportunities and challenges” moderated by the Acting Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, who made a statement.

81. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Preparations for the Commemoration of the United Nations 75th Anniversary, Fabrizio Hochschild; Assistant Executive Director, WFP, Valerie Guarnieri; Director, Digital Transformation and Data, International Committee of the Red Cross, Balthasar Staehelin; Executive Director, Association for Southeast Asian Nations Coordinating Centre for Humanitarian Assistance on Disaster Management, Adelina Kamal; Innovation Fund Manager, UNICEF, Sunita Grote; Chief Executive Officer, WeRobotics, and graduate of The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Patrick Meier; and founding President and Editor-in-Chief, Devex, Raj Kumar.

82. During the ensuing interactive discussion, the panellists responded to the comments made and the questions posed by the representatives of the Netherlands, Norway, Germany, Japan, Switzerland, China, Brazil and Ireland, as well as by the observers for Algeria and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

83. The Acting Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Vice-President of the Council (Morocco) made concluding remarks.

Panel discussion**Mobilizing action to improve humanitarian assistance for internally displaced persons and achieve durable solutions**

84. At the online informal meeting held on 11 June 2020, the Council organized a panel discussion on the theme “Mobilizing action to improve humanitarian assistance for internally displaced persons and achieve durable solutions” co-moderated by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, who made a statement, and the Acting Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator.

85. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Co-Chair, High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement, Federica Mogherini; United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi; Director General, International Organization for Migration, António Vitorino; Secretary-General, Kenya Red Cross Society, Asha Mohammed; Co-Chair, Group of Friends on Internal Displacement, and Permanent Representative of Afghanistan to the United Nations and other international organizations in Geneva, Nasir Ahmad Andisha; and Gender Officer, Coordinating Unit of Associations of Persons with Disabilities, Veronica Ngum Ndi.

86. During the ensuing interactive discussion, the panellists responded to the comments made and the questions posed by the representatives of Norway, Canada, Japan, Switzerland, Armenia, France, Egypt, El Salvador, the United States of America, Ethiopia, Ireland and Ukraine, as well as by the observers for Costa Rica, Turkey, Afghanistan, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Italy, Azerbaijan, Austria, Denmark, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Nigeria and Iraq.

87. The observer for the European Union also participated in the discussion.

88. The Acting Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Vice-President of the Council (Morocco) made concluding remarks.

Conclusion of the segment

89. At the online informal meeting held on 11 June 2020, the Vice-President of the Council (Morocco) and the Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator summarized the highlights of the panel discussions.

90. At the same meeting, the Vice-President of the Council announced the list of delegations that had joined in the call to action in support of the humanitarian response in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.

91. Also at the same meeting, the Vice-President of the Council made a closing statement and concluded the humanitarian affairs segment.

Management segments of the Council

A. Implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits

92. At the online informal meeting held on 3 June 2020, the Council considered agenda item 11 (Implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits) jointly with agenda item 10 (The role of the United Nations system in the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development into the implementation of and follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development) and agenda item 13 (Implementation of General Assembly resolutions [50/227](#), [52/12 B](#), [57/270 B](#), [60/265](#), [61/16](#), [67/290](#), [68/1](#) and [72/305](#)).

93. At the same online informal meeting, the Chair of the Committee on World Food Security, Thanawat Tiensin (Thailand), presented the highlights of the report of the Committee ([A/75/77-E/2020/49](#)), and the Coordinator of the Standing Committee on Nutrition, Stineke Oenema, presented the highlights of the report of the Standing Committee ([E/2020/47](#)).

94. Also at the same online informal meeting, the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, Fekitamoeloa 'Utoikamanu, presented the highlights of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 ([A/75/72-E/2020/14](#)), submitted under agenda item 11 (b) (Review and coordination of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020).

B. Coordination, programme and other questions

95. At the online informal meeting held on 21 July 2020, the Director of the UNDP subregional hub in Dakar, Njoya Tikum, presented the relevant section of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of integrated, coherent and coordinated support for South Sudan and the Sahel region by the United Nations system ([E/2020/65](#), sect. III) under agenda item 12 (Coordination, programme and other questions).

96. At the same online informal meeting, the Council considered agenda items 12 (a) (Coordination, programme and other questions) and 12 (b) (Proposed programme budget for 2021).

97. At the online informal meeting held on 3 June 2020, the Director of the United Nations System Coordination Division of UN-Women, Aparna Mehrotra, presented the highlights of the report of the Secretary-General on mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system (E/2020/50), submitted under agenda item 12 (c) (Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system).

98. At the online informal meeting held on 21 July 2020, the Chair of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, Louise Blais (Canada), presented the highlights of the report of the Group (E/2020/66), submitted under agenda item 12 (d) (Long-term programme of support for Haiti), and the Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Haiti, Bruno Lemarquis, gave a briefing to the Council on the situation in Haiti.

99. At the same online informal meeting, the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission, Louise Blais, gave a briefing to the Council on the work of the Commission, and the Resident Coordinator ad interim and representative of WHO in South Sudan, Olushayo Olu, presented the relevant section of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of integrated, coherent and coordinated support for South Sudan and the Sahel region by the United Nations system (E/2020/65, sect. II), submitted under agenda item 12 (e) (African countries emerging from conflict).

100. Also at the same online informal meeting, the Director of the New York Office of WHO, Werner Obermeyer, presented the highlights of the report of the Director General of WHO on the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases (E/2020/51), submitted under agenda item 12 (f) (Prevention and control of non-communicable diseases).

C. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations

101. At the online informal meeting held on 21 July 2020, the Chair of the Special Committee on the Situation with regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples, Keisha Aniya McGuire (Grenada), presented the highlights of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations (A/75/73), submitted under agenda item 14 (Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations).

D. Regional cooperation

102. At the online informal meeting held on 21 July 2020, the Director of the Regional Commissions New York Office, Amr Nour, presented the highlights of the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields (E/2020/15), as well as the addendum to the report (E/2020/15/Add.1),

which contains matters calling for action by the Council or brought to its attention by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, ECA and ESCAP, submitted under agenda item 15 (Regional cooperation).

E. Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan

103. At the online informal meeting held on 21 July 2020, the Director of the Emerging and Conflict related Issues Division of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, Tarik Alami, presented the highlights of the report of the Secretary-General on the economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan ([A/75/86-E/2020/62](#)), submitted under agenda item 16 (Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan).

F. Economic and environmental questions

104. At the online informal meeting held on 3 June 2020, the Chair of the Committee for Development Policy at its twenty-second session, José Antonio Ocampo Gaviria (Colombia), presented the highlights of the report of the Committee ([E/2020/33](#)), submitted under agenda item 18 (a) (Sustainable development).

105. At the online informal meeting held on 21 July 2020, the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its twenty-third session, Kekgonne Baipoledi (Botswana), presented the highlights of the report of the Commission ([E/2020/31](#)), submitted under agenda item 18 (b) (Science and technology for development).

106. At the online informal meeting held on 3 June 2020, the Vice-Chair of the Statistical Commission at its fifty-first session, Anil Arora (Canada), presented the highlights of the report of the Commission ([E/2020/24](#)), submitted under agenda item 18 (c) (Statistics).

107. At the same online informal meeting, the Council was informed that there was no advance documentation submitted under agenda items 18 (d) (Human settlements) and 18 (e) (Environment).

108. At the online informal meeting held on 21 July 2020, the Vice-Chair and Rapporteur of the Commission on Population and Development at its fifty-third session, Junya Nakano (Japan), presented the highlights of the report of the Commission ([E/2020/25](#)), submitted under agenda item 18 (f) (Population and development).

109. At the same online informal meeting, the Chair of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration at its nineteenth session, Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi (South Africa), presented the highlights of the report of the Committee ([E/2020/44](#)), submitted under agenda item 18 (g) (Public administration and development).

110. Also at the same online informal meeting, the Council considered agenda item 18 (h) (International cooperation in tax matters).

111. At the online informal meeting held on 3 June 2020, the attention of the Council was drawn to the report of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management on its ninth session (E/2020/46), submitted under agenda item 18 (i) (Geospatial information), as well as the letter dated 27 May 2020 by the Co-Chairs of the Committee, Rosamund Bing (Tonga) and Fernand Isseri (Cameroon), addressed to the President of the Council, proposing that the tenth session of the Committee of Experts be held in a scaled-down format on an online platform on 26 and 27 August and 4 September 2020 and that decisions of the Committee be adopted through a silence procedure.

112. At the online informal meeting held on 21 July 2020, the Council considered agenda item 18 (j) (Women and development) jointly with agenda item 19 (a) (Advancement of women).

113. At the same online informal meeting, the Chair of the United Nations Forum on Forests at its fifteenth session, Boris Greguška (Slovakia), presented the highlights of the report of the Forum (E/2020/42), submitted under agenda item 18 (k) (United Nations Forum on Forests).

114. At the online informal meeting held on 3 June 2020, the Council was informed that there was no advance documentation submitted under agenda item 18 (l) (Assistance to third States affected by the application of sanctions).

G. Social and human rights questions

115. At the online informal meeting held on 21 July 2020, the Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women at its sixty-fourth session, Mher Margaryan (Armenia), presented the highlights of the report of the Commission (E/2020/27), submitted under agenda item 19 (a) (Advancement of women).

116. At the online informal meeting held on 3 June 2020, the Vice-Chair of the Commission for Social Development at its fifty-eighth session, Sharifa Al-Nesf (Qatar), presented the highlights of the report of the Commission (E/2020/26-E/CN.5/2020/7), and the representative of the Division for Inclusive Social Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Masumi Ono, presented the highlights of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the objectives of the International Year of the Family and its follow-up processes (A/75/61-E/2020/4), submitted under agenda item 19 (b) (Social development).

117. At the online informal meeting held on 21 July 2020, the Chair of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twenty-ninth session, José Antônio Marcondes de Carvalho, presented the highlights of the report of the Commission at its reconvened twenty-eighth session (E/2019/30/Add.1), and the Chief of the Justice Section of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Valérie Lebaux, presented the highlights of the report of the Secretary-General on capital punishment and implementation of the safeguards guaranteeing protection of the rights of those facing the death penalty (E/2020/53), submitted under agenda item 19 (c) (Crime prevention and criminal justice).

118. At the online informal meeting held on 3 June 2020, the Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its sixty-third session, Mansoor Ahmad Khan (Pakistan), presented the highlights of the reports of the Commission at its reconvened sixty-second session (E/2019/28/Add.1) and at its sixty-third session (E/2020/28), and the President of the International Narcotics Control Board, Cornelis de Joncheere, presented the highlights of the report of the Board for 2019 (E/INCB/2019/1), submitted under agenda item 19 (d) (Narcotic drugs).

119. At the same online informal meeting, the Director of the New York office of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Ruven Menikdwela, presented the oral report of the High Commissioner, submitted under agenda item 19 (e) (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees).

120. Also at the same online informal meeting, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, Ilze Brands Kehris, presented the highlights of the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixty-fifth and sixty-sixth sessions ([E/2020/22](#)), submitted under agenda item 19 (f) (Human rights).

121. At the online informal meeting held on 21 July 2020, the Chief of the New York office of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Craig Mokhiber, presented the highlights of the oral report of the High Commissioner, submitted under agenda item 19 (f) (Human rights).

122. At the online informal meeting held on 3 June 2020, the attention of the Council was drawn to the letter dated 29 April 2020 by the Chair of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Anne Nuorgam (Finland) addressed to the President of the Council, outlining the difficulties in organizing the annual session of the Forum during the 2020 session of the Council under the current circumstances in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic and proposing the necessary procedural decisions required under agenda item 19 (g) (Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues) in order to convene the twentieth session of the Forum in 2021, namely the dates, venue and provisional agenda of the Forum, as well as the theme of the international expert group meeting on indigenous peoples.

123. At the same online informal meeting, the Council was informed that there was no advance documentation submitted under agenda item 19 (h) (Comprehensive implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action).
