



General Assembly

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19 February 1999

Report of the Economic and Social Council for 1997

Addendum*

* The present addendum contains the report of the Council on its resumed substantive session of 1997. The report of the Council on its organizational and resumed organizational sessions for 1997 and the substantive session of 1997 is contained in *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-second Session, Supplement No. 3 (A/52/3/Rev.1)*.

I. Organizational matters

1. The Economic and Social Council held its resumed substantive session of 1997 at United Nations Headquarters on 8 October and 16 and 18 December 1997 (44th to 46th meetings). An account of the proceedings is contained in the relevant summary records (E/1997/SR.44–46).

Adoption of the agenda

2. At the 44th meeting, on 8 October, the Council had before it the provisional agenda of the session (E/1997/109).
3. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the agenda.

Themes for the substantive session of 1998 of the Economic and Social Council

4. At the 45th meeting, on 16 December, the Council heard a statement by the representative of Germany on the results of the informal consultations that had taken place under the chairmanship of the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Gerhard Walter Henze (Germany), on the themes for the high-level and coordination segments of the Council's 1998 substantive session and the principal themes for consideration at the high-level meeting of the operational activities segment of that session.

5. At the 46th meeting, on 18 December, the representative of Germany announced, on the basis of further informal consultations, proposed themes for the high-level segment, the coordination segment and the high-level meeting of the operational activities segment of the 1998 substantive session of the Council.

6. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the themes proposed. See Council decision 1997/319.

7. Following the adoption of the decision, statements were made by the representatives of the United States of America, Canada, Chile, Australia, Japan, Cuba and China and by the observers for Egypt, New Zealand, the United Republic of Tanzania (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China) and Indonesia.

II. Coordination, programme and other questions

Proclamation of international years

8. At the 45th meeting, on 16 December, the Council resumed its consideration of the question of the proclamation of international years. The representative of the Russian Federation introduced a revised draft resolution (E/1997/L.32/Rev.1) entitled "Proclamation of international years".

9. The representative of the Philippines made a statement.

10. At the 46th meeting, on 18 December, the Council decided to postpone consideration of the draft resolution to its organizational session for 1998. See Council decision 1997/320.

III. Reports, conclusions and recommendations of subsidiary bodies of the Council: sustainable development

Programme of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development for the period 1998–2000 and future methods of work of the Commission

11. At the 44th meeting, on 8 October, the Council had before it a draft decision (E/1997/L.61), entitled "Programme of work of the Commission on Sustainable Development for the period 1998–2000 and future methods of work of the Commission", submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), on the basis of informal consultations.

12. At the same meeting, the Council adopted the draft decision. See Council decision 1997/316.

Recommendations of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests

13. At the 45th meeting, on 16 December, the Council had before it the report of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests on its first session (E/CN.17/FF/1997/4 and Corr.1).

14. At the same meeting, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, in his capacity of Co-Chairman of the

Intergovernmental Forum, reported on the informal consultations he had held on the recommendations contained in the report of the Intergovernmental Forum. The Secretary of the Council made a statement on the programme budget implications of the recommendations.

15. Also at the 45th meeting, the Council approved the recommendation of the Intergovernmental Forum in regard to its second, third and fourth sessions (see Council decision 1997/317) and took note of the decision of the Intergovernmental Forum on the participation of intergovernmental organizations in the work of the Intergovernmental Forum (see Council decision 1997/318).

IV. Reports, conclusions and recommendations of subsidiary bodies of the Council: human rights

16. At the 45th meeting, on 16 December, the Council had before it the recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth session (E/1997/L.23 and Add.2 and E/1997/L.62).

17. At the 46th meeting, on 18 December, the Council decided to postpone to its organizational session for 1998 consideration of those recommendations, pending receipt from the Secretariat of additional written information on their programme budget implications (see Council decision 1997/321).

V. Implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227

18. At the 45th meeting, on 16 December, the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), reported on the informal consultations that he had held on the question of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227.

19. At the 46th meeting, on 18 December, the Council had before it a draft decision (E/1997/L.63) entitled "Implementation of General Assembly resolution 50/227", submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Chowdhury (Bangladesh), on the basis of informal consultations.

20. At the same meeting, the President of the Council proposed an oral amendment to the draft decision.

21. Also at the 46th meeting, the Council adopted the draft decision, as orally amended (see Council decision 1997/322).

VI. Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments

22. The Council considered the question of elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments at its 44th and 45th meetings, on 8 October and 16 December. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Note by the Secretary-General on the confirmations of representatives on the functional commissions of the Council (E/1997/L.1/Add.3-5);

(b) Note by the Secretary-General on elections and nominations postponed from previous sessions (E/1997/L.60).

23. At the same meetings, under the item on elections, the Council adopted decision 1997/212 C.