



# General Assembly

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## Seventy-sixth session Third Committee

### Organization of the work of the Third Committee

#### Note by the Secretariat

##### Allocation of items

1. The agenda items allocated by the General Assembly to the Third Committee have been issued in document [A/C.3/76/1](#). Background information on those items may be found in the annotations to the agenda (see [A/76/100](#)).

##### Programme of work

2. The draft programme of work (see annex) has been prepared bearing in mind paragraph (b) of rule 99 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, Assembly decision 75/540 on the programme of work of the Third Committee for the seventy-sixth session, the agenda of the seventy-sixth session ([A/76/251](#)) and relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the Assembly on the rationalization of its work and that of the Committee, as well as past experience in the utilization of conference services. The modalities on the arrangements for the work of the Committee at the seventy-sixth session have been revised pursuant to the proposal submitted by the Bureau taking into account the continued limitations and restrictions resulting from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic (see letter dated 10 September 2021 from the Chair of the Committee for the seventy-sixth session posted on the e-deleGATE portal under “Third Committee Announcements”).

##### Question time and interactive dialogues

3. In accordance with the established practice of the Committee and pursuant to paragraphs 3 (c) and (d) of the annex to General Assembly resolution [58/316](#) on further measures for the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly, immediately following the introduction of reports, interactive dialogues or a “question time” will be held with heads of departments and offices, representatives of the Secretary-General, special rapporteurs and other special mechanisms as part of the formal proceedings of the Committee. In accordance with the proposal submitted by the Bureau, the interactive dialogues of the seventy-sixth session will be held in a virtual format. Delegations are invited to participate actively in the dialogues with questions and unscripted comments.



### **General debate**

4. Also pursuant to the proposal submitted by the Bureau, the in-person general discussion of each agenda item or cluster of agenda items will be replaced by a single in-person general debate to be held prior to the start of the interactive dialogues.

### **Statements by delegations**

5. The list of speakers for the general debate of the Committee was opened on Wednesday, 15 September 2021.

6. Statements made during the general debate will be limited to six minutes for individual delegations and to eight minutes for statements made on behalf of a group of delegations. Microphones will be switched off automatically after the allotted time for individual statements and one minute after the allotted time for group statements. Delegations may make only one national statement during the debate. The statement may cover any or all items allocated to the Committee. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 72/313, delegations are encouraged to adhere to the “all protocol observed” principle and to refrain from listing standard protocol expressions during their statements. In the same resolution, the Assembly recommended that speakers should be mindful of the speed of statement delivery, bearing in mind the need for accuracy of interpretation.

7. In accordance with General Assembly decision 34/401, delegations should exercise their right of reply at the end of the day whenever two meetings have been scheduled for the consideration of the relevant agenda item on that day, or at the conclusion of the consideration of the item, if that is sooner. The first statement should be limited to five minutes and the second, if any, to three minutes.

### **General discussions**

8. Also in lieu of the holding of in-person general discussions of agenda items allocated to the Third Committee, delegations are invited to submit written statements under the relevant items or cluster of items, which will be posted on the Third Committee Place on the e-deleGATE portal. Under this arrangement, rights of reply will also be communicated in writing, to be posted on the portal under the relevant item.

### **List of documents**

9. Attention is drawn to the addendum to the present note ([A/C.3/76/L.1/Add.1](#)), which contains a list of the documentation submitted under each agenda item allocated to the Committee.

### **Conference facilities and meeting arrangements**

10. Unless otherwise specified, formal meetings of the Committee (in-person) will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m. The meetings of the Committee held in a virtual format will also be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m., unless otherwise specified in advance. The General Assembly has stressed that a punctual start to the meetings is critical to the efficient utilization of services allocated to the intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations. In accordance with past practice, it is proposed that rule 108 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly be waived with respect to the quorum needed to declare a meeting open.

### **Sponsorship of draft resolutions and proposals**

11. The initiation and sponsorship of draft proposals will be undertaken electronically through the eSponsorship module without prejudice to the possibility

offered to delegations of co-sponsoring a proposal at the time of the Committee's action on the latter during in-person meetings. To maximize the efficiency of the Committee, however, all delegations wishing to co-sponsor a proposal are encouraged to do so electronically through the eSponsorship module rather than during the formal proceedings of the Committee.

### **Introduction of draft resolutions**

12. In line with efforts to further enhance the efficiency of the Committee, main sponsors of proposals are urged to limit the introduction of their proposals, which may be made in writing or solely at the time of their consideration by the Committee, to statements not exceeding three minutes. Main sponsors are requested not to make a formal introductory statement on a draft resolution upon its issuance as an "L" document, with the possible exception of introductory statements in relation to a new, non-recurrent draft resolution.

### **Report of the Economic and Social Council**

13. In paragraph 4 (c) of the annex to General Assembly resolution [58/316](#), the Assembly decided that the item entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council" should be considered in its entirety in plenary meeting. Subsequently, it was clarified that, in implementing that decision, the relevant parts of chapter I of the report of the Council that related to agenda items allocated to the Main Committees would be considered by the Committee concerned, for final action by the Assembly (see [A/59/250/Add.1](#), para. 4).

### **Report of the Human Rights Council**

14. In its resolution [65/281](#), entitled "Review of the Human Rights Council", the General Assembly decided to continue its practice of allocating the item entitled "Report of the Human Rights Council" to the plenary of the Assembly and to the Third Committee, in accordance with its decision 65/503 A, with the understanding that the President of the Council will present the report in her or his capacity as President to the plenary of the Assembly and to the Committee and that the Committee will hold an interactive dialogue with the President of the Council following the presentation of the report of the Council to the Committee.

### **Conclusion of the work of the Committee**

15. Bearing in mind the number of meetings allocated to the Committee, a target date of 19 November 2021 has been set for the conclusion of its work. The Committee will, however, endeavour to conclude its work earlier, if possible.

## Annex

### Draft programme of work of the Third Committee

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item/ programme</i>
<b>Week of 27 September–1 October</b>	
<b>Thursday, 30 September</b>	
10 a.m. (in-person)	Organizational matters
	Opening of the general debate
1 p.m.	Closure of the list of speakers for the general debate
3 p.m. (in-person)	General debate ( <i>continued</i> )
<b>Friday, 1 October</b>	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m. (in-person)	General debate ( <i>continued</i> )
<b>Week of 4–8 October</b>	
<b>Monday, 4 October</b>	
10 a.m.	<b>No meeting</b>
3 p.m. (in-person)	General debate ( <i>continued</i> )
<b>Tuesday, 5 October</b>	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m. (virtual)	Introductory statements and interactive dialogue on:
<b>Item 29</b>	<b>Advancement of women</b>
	(a) <b>Advancement of women</b>
	(b) <b>Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly</b>
<b>Wednesday, 6 October</b>	
10 a.m. (virtual)	Introductory statements and interactive dialogue on:
<b>Item 28</b>	<b>Social development</b>
	(a) <b>Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly</b>
	(b) <b>Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, persons with disabilities and the family</b>
<b>Item 108</b>	<b>Crime prevention and criminal justice</b>
<b>Item 109</b>	<b>Countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes</b>

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item/ programme</i>
	<b>Item 110 International drug control</b>
3 p.m.	No meeting
<b>Thursday, 7 October</b>	
10 a.m.	General debate ( <i>concluded</i> )
3 p.m. (virtual)	Introductory statements and interactive dialogue on:
	<b>Item 70 Promotion and protection of the rights of children</b>
	(a) Promotion and protection of the rights of children
	(b) Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children
<b>Friday, 8 October</b>	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	No meeting
<b>Week of 11–15 October</b>	
<b>Monday, 11 October</b>	
10 a.m.	No meeting
1 p.m.	Deadline for submission of proposals under the items:
	<b>Social development</b>
	<b>Crime prevention and criminal justice</b>
	<b>Countering the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes</b>
	<b>International drug control</b>
3 p.m. (virtual)	Introductory statements and interactive dialogue on:
	<b>Item 71 Rights of indigenous peoples</b>
	(a) Rights of indigenous peoples
	(b) Follow-up to the outcome document of the high-level plenary meeting of the General Assembly known as the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples
<b>Tuesday, 12 October</b>	
10 a.m. (virtual)	Introductory statements and interactive dialogue with Secretariat officials and special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts on:
	<b>Item 74 Promotion and protection of human rights</b>
	(a) Implementation of human rights instruments
	(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Date/time	Agenda item/ programme
	<p>(c) <b>Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives</b></p> <p>(d) <b>Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action</b></p>
3 p.m.	Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts ( <i>continued</i> )
<b>Wednesday, 13 October</b>	
10 a.m. (virtual)	Introductory statement and interactive dialogue ( <i>continued</i> )
3 p.m. (virtual)	Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts ( <i>continued</i> )
<b>Thursday, 14 October</b>	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m. (virtual)	Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts ( <i>continued</i> )
<b>Friday, 15 October</b>	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m. (virtual)	<b>No meeting</b>
<b>Week of 18–22 October</b>	
<b>Monday, 18 October</b>	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m. (virtual)	Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts ( <i>continued</i> )
<b>Tuesday, 19 October</b>	
10 a.m.	<b>No meeting</b>
1 p.m.	Deadline for submission of proposals under the items:
	<b>Advancement of women</b>
	<b>Promotion and protection of the rights of children</b>
	<b>Rights of indigenous peoples</b>
3 p.m. (virtual)	Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts ( <i>continued</i> )
<b>Wednesday, 20 October</b>	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m. (virtual)	Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts ( <i>continued</i> )
<b>Thursday, 21 October</b>	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m. (virtual)	Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts ( <i>continued</i> )

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item/ programme</i>
<b>Friday, 22 October</b>	
10 a.m. and 2 p.m. (virtual)	Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts ( <i>continued</i> )
<b>Week of 25–29 October</b>	
<b>Monday, 25 October</b>	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m. (virtual)	Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts ( <i>continued</i> )
<b>Tuesday, 26 October</b>	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m. (virtual)	Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts ( <i>continued</i> )
<b>Wednesday, 27 October</b>	
10 a.m. (virtual)	Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts ( <i>continued</i> )
3 p.m. (virtual)	Introductory statements and interactive dialogue on:
<b>Item 72</b>	<b>Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance</b>
	(a) <b>Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance</b>
	(b) <b>Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action</b>
<b>Item 73</b>	<b>Right of peoples to self-determination</b>
<b>Thursday, 28 October</b>	
10 a.m. (virtual)	<b>Items 72 and 73</b> Introductory statements and interactive dialogue ( <i>concluded</i> )
1 p.m.	Deadline for submission of proposals under item:
	<b>Promotion and protection of human rights</b>
3 p.m.	<b>No meeting</b>
<b>Friday, 29 October</b>	
10 a.m. (virtual)	Introductory statement and interactive dialogue on:
<b>Item 65</b>	<b>Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions</b>
3 p.m. (virtual)	Introductory statement and interactive dialogue on:
<b>Item 69</b>	<b>Report of the Human Rights Council</b>

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item/ programme</i>
<b>Week of 1–5 November</b>	
<b>Monday, 1 November</b>	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	<b>No meeting</b>
1 p.m.	Deadline for submission of proposals under items:  <b>Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions</b>  <b>Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance</b>  <b>Right of peoples to self-determination</b>
6 p.m.	Deadline for submission of proposals under item:  <b>Report of the Human Rights Council</b>
<b>Tuesday, 2 November</b>	
<b>Wednesday, 3 November</b>	
<b>Thursday, 4 November</b>	
<b>Friday, 5 November</b>	
10 a.m. (in-person)	Action on proposals
3 p.m.	<b>No meeting</b>
<b>Week of 8–12 November</b>	
<b>Monday, 8 November</b>	
<b>Tuesday, 9 November</b>	
10 a.m.	<b>No meeting</b>
3 p.m. (in-person)	Action on proposals
<b>Wednesday, 10 November</b>	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	<b>No meeting</b>
1 p.m.	Deadline for submission of revised draft proposals and amendments
<b>Thursday, 11 November</b>	
<b>Friday, 12 November</b>	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m. (in-person)	Action on proposals
<b>Week of 15–19 November</b>	
<b>Monday, 15 November</b>	
10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (in-person)	Action on proposals



<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item/ programme</i>
<b>Tuesday, 16 November</b>	<b>No meeting</b>
<b>Wednesday, 17 November</b>	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m. (in-person)	Action on proposals
<b>Thursday, 18 November</b>	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m. (in-person)	Action on proposals
<b>Friday, 19 November</b>	
10 a.m. (in-person)	Action on proposals
	<b>Item 122 Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly</b>
	<b>Item 139<sup>a</sup> Programme planning</b>
	Action on outstanding proposals
	Conclusion of the work of the Third Committee

<sup>a</sup> This item is to be allocated to all the Main Committees to enhance discussion of evaluation, planning, budgeting and monitoring reports.