



ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ
ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫХ
НАЦИЙ

Working with ECOSOC



INTERPOL CENTER UN

Special
consultative
status



The United Nations and NGOs

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have been actively involved with the United Nations (UN) since its establishment in 1945. They collaborate with the UN Secretariat, programmes, funds and agencies in a variety of ways, including in consultation with Member States. NGOs contribute to a range of activities, including dissemination of information, awareness-raising, development education, policy advocacy, joint operational projects, participation in intergovernmental processes and the contribution of services and technical expertise.

Article 71 of the Charter of the United Nations, which established the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), states the following:

The Economic and Social Council may make appropriate arrangements for consultation with non-governmental organizations concerned with matters within its competence. Such arrangements may be made with international orga-

nizations and, where appropriate, with national organizations after consultation with the Member of the United Nations concerned.

- Charter of the United Nations, Chapter X, Article 71

Article 71 of the Charter of the United Nations provides for appropriate consultation with non-governmental organizations. The consultative relationship with ECOSOC is currently governed by ECOSOC resolution 1996/31, which sets out the requirements for eligibility for consultative status, the rights and responsibilities of NGOs in consultative status, the procedures for withdrawal or suspension of consultative status, the role and functions of the ECOSOC Committee on NGOs, and the responsibilities of the United Nations Secretariat in maintaining consultative relations. The United Nations has been working to strengthen cooperation with NGOs across the entire United Nations system and in all areas of its work. As a result, United Nations entities are identifying new modalities to promote increased and more strategic participation of NGOs.

The United Nations works to strengthen cooperation with NGOs throughout the United Nations system and in all areas of its work as a result of the United Nations agencies identifying new methods to encourage broader and more strategic NGO participation.

The need to strengthen the UN-NGO relationship has been emphasized in various documents, notably the Millennium Declaration of September 2000. The commitment of Member States to empowering NGOs was reaffirmed in the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document and in General Assembly resolution 68/1 on strengthening ECOSOC. The importance of revitalizing the Global Partnership for the achievement of the internationally agreed development goals was emphasized in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted at the 2015 Summit on Sustainable Development.

From its inception, ECOSOC has been the main entry point for NGOs in the United Nations system. ECOSOC remains the only principal body of the United Nations with a formal basis for NGO participation.



ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies

The Economic and Social Council is the central mechanism for coordinating the activities of the United Nations system and its specialized agencies and for overseeing subsidiary bodies in the economic, social, environmental and related fields. It is at the core of the United Nations system to achieve a balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development. It is the principal organ for coordination, policy review, policy dialogue and recommendations on economic and social development and the implementation of the international development goals agreed at the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Sustainable Development Goals.

ECOSOC is composed of 54 Member States elected by the General Assembly for a three-year term. Seats on the Council are allocated on the basis of geographical representation: 14 for African States, 11 for Asian States, 6 for Eastern European States, 10 for Latin American and Caribbean States, and 13 for Western European and other States.

The Council's work is organized around several segments and meetings, including preparatory meetings, round tables and panel discussions with civil society throughout the year. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 68/1, the Council's programme of work was adjusted for the period July–July, using an edition-based approach (annual theme) to guide the policy development and coordination work of its subsidiary bodies. The substantive session of the Council, covering the period July–July, includes:

- *an operational activities for development segment, held immediately following the first regular session of the executive boards of the funds and programmes of the United Nations system in late February–early March;*
- *a humanitarian affairs segment, held in June;*
- *a high-level segment, held in July, including a three-day ministerial meeting of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF);*
- *regular coordination and management meetings to carry out the functions of the coordination and general segments;*
- *an integration segment, held in May;*
- *an informal youth forum held in January;*
- *an informal partnership forum in April.*

The Council holds regular meetings of its substantive sessions in New York and a humanitarian affairs segment between New York and Geneva.

High-level segment

The High-level segment represents the culmination of ECOSOC's annual work cycle and convenes a diverse group of high-level representatives from governments, the private sector, civil society and academia for policy dialogue, review and recommendations on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other internationally agreed development goals.

Each year, ECOSOC organizes its work around an annual theme of global significance for sustainable development. This ensures that a wide range of ECOSOC partners and the entire United Nations development system receive special attention.

Each year, the high-level segment also includes a ministerial meeting of **the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development**. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 67/290, the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development became the main United Nations platform on sustainable development. The HLPF is convened annually by the President of the Council for eight days and includes a three-day ministerial segment held during the substantive session of the Council. Building on and replacing the Annual Ministerial Review (AMR), the HLPF regularly reviews the follow-up and implementation of sustainable development commitments and goals, including those related to the means of implementation, in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Other Forums

The Development Cooperation Forum (DCF), established in 2007, is mandated to advance the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals and to facilitate dialogue on effective ways to support it. It is the focal point of the United Nations system and the principal forum for global dialogue and policy review on the effectiveness and coherence of international development cooperation. In the context of the global sustainable development agenda, it generates key ideas and concrete policy guidance on development cooperation. The DSF is held every two years in New York.

An annual **Forum on Financing for Development (FD Forum)** was established to review progress in the implementation of decisions on financing for development and the means of implementing the 2030 Agenda following the Third International Conference on Financing for Development held in Addis Ababa in 2015. The second FD Forum was convened in 2017 in New York. It brings together governments, international financial institutions, international organizations, as well as civil society organizations, businesses and local authorities. The intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations are fed into the overall follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda during the FRS, as requested in General Assembly resolution 70/1 on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the President of ECOSOC convenes **the Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation** for the SDGs once a year to discuss science, technology and innovation

cooperation in thematic areas for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The Forum is held in May in New York. A summary of the discussions is used as input to the FRS meetings.

Other meetings

During the **integration phase**, policymakers from national ministries share experiences and discuss strategies to promote the integration of the three pillars of sustainable development – economic, social and environmental. These sessions collect and share inputs from Member States, ECOSOC subsidiary bodies, other United Nations organizations and relevant stakeholders, including NGOs, focusing on the most pressing issues of global concern. Key findings provide action-oriented recommendations for further action.

The Humanitarian Affairs Segment (HAS) is an important platform for discussing activities and issues related to strengthening the coordination of United Nations humanitarian assistance. The HAS provides Member States, United Nations entities, humanitarian and development partners, the private sector and affected communities with a unique opportunity to discuss emerging and pressing humanitarian issues.

The Youth Forum, held annually by ECOSOC since 2012, engages young people in the discussion of the Sustainable Development Goals. It provides a unique opportunity for young people to voice their views, exchange ideas and think together about what they can do to achieve sustainable development.

At the Partnership Forum, some of the most influential leaders from government, the private sector and civil society join forces and share the latest inno-

vations on how partnerships can best advance international development. It broadens the circle of people interacting with ECOSOC and promotes concrete measures to enable different groups to work together to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Subsidiary Organs

ECOSOC has a number of subsidiary bodies that contribute to the achievement of the Council's objectives. ECOSOC ensures policy coherence and coordinates overlapping functions among all its subsidiary bodies. Once NGOs have obtained consultative status, they can actively participate in the work of ECOSOC's subsidiary bodies.

Functional Commissions of ECOSOC

- *Commission on the Status of Women*
- *Commission for Social Development*
- *Commission on Population and Development*
- *Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice*
- *Commission on Narcotic Drugs*
- *Commission on Science and Technology for Development*
- *Statistical Commission*
United Nations Forum on Forests

Regional Commissions of ECOSOC

- *Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)*
- *Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)*
- *Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)*
- *Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)*
- *Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)*

Other Organs

- *Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues*
- *Sessional and Standing Committees*
- *Expert, Ad Hoc and Related Bodies*

Commission on the Status of Women

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) is the principal global policy-making body on gender equality and the empowerment of women. The Commission meets annually for 10 working days (from late February to early March) in New York to assess progress on gender equality, identify challenges, set global standards and develop concrete strategies to promote gender equality and the empowerment of women worldwide.

The active participation of NGOs is a critical element of the work of the CSW. NGOs have influenced the current global policy on women's empowerment and gender equality – the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.



They continue to play an important role in engaging the Programme of Action.

Commission for Social Development

Since the 1995 World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen, the Commission for Social Development (CSD) has been the key United Nations body responsible for the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action. It meets once a year in New York, usually in February. Each year since 1995, the Commission has considered key social development themes as part of the follow-up to the Copenhagen Summit. This work is carried out in a series of two-year cycles, including a review and a policy segment.

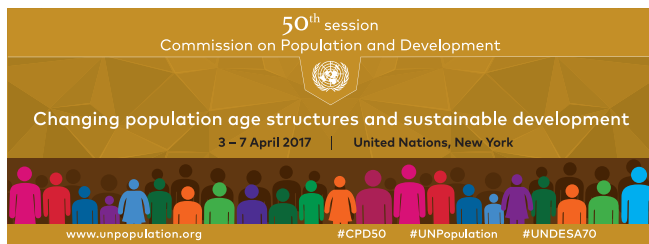


Strategies for eradicating poverty
to achieve sustainable development for all

Commission on Population and Development

The Commission on Population and Development (CPPD) assists and advises ECOSOC on population issues and trends, population and development strategies, policies and programmes, and provides population assistance to developing countries.

The CPPD meets annually, usually in early April. Each session is devoted to a specific theme. The most recent session in 2017 was devoted to «Changing population age structures and sustainable development».



Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Established in 1946, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs is the central policymaking body of the United Nations on drug-related matters. The Commission analyses the world drug situation and develops proposals for strengthening the international drug control system to combat the world drug problem.



It assists ECOSOC in monitoring the application of international drug-related conventions and agreements. It also advises the Council on all matters relating to the control of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and their precursors. The Commission meets annually in Geneva for a period not exceeding eight working days, usually in March.

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CPCJ) is the central body in the United Nations system providing policy guidance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. The Commission develops international policies and recommendations on criminal justice matters, including trafficking in persons, transnational crime and aspects of terrorism prevention.

Its priority areas of work include:

- *international action to combat domestic and transnational crime, including organized crime, economic crime and money laundering;*
- *promoting the role of criminal law in protecting the environment;*
- *preventing crime in urban areas, including juvenile delinquency and violence;*

- *improving the efficiency and fairness of criminal justice systems.*

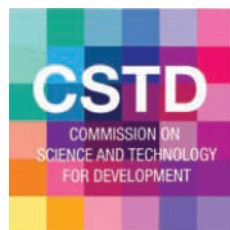


Aspects of these major themes are selected for discussion at each annual session held in April/May in Vienna

Commission on Science and Technology for Development

The Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), established in 1992 to advise the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, serves as a forum for:

- *science and technology issues and their implications for development;*
- *to improve understanding of science and technology policies, particularly as they relate to developing countries;*
- *to formulate recommendations and guidelines on science and technology issues within the United Nations system.*



The Commission holds annual sessions of one week in Geneva in May.

Statistical Commission

The United Nations Statistical Commission (statcom), established in 1947, assists ECOSOC in:

- *promoting the development of national statistics and enhancing their comparability;*
- *coordinating the statistical activities of the specialized agencies;*
- *developing the central statistical services of the United Nations Secretariat;*
- *advising United Nations bodies on general questions relating to the collection, analysis and dissemination of statistical information;*
- *promoting the improvement of statistics and statistical methods in general.*

The Commission holds annual sessions in New York for four days, in late February or early March.



Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

The United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) is an advisory body to ECOSOC mandated to discuss indigenous issues related to economic and social development, culture, environment, education, health and human rights.

It meets for 10 days each year, usually in May, in New York. Each session is thematically focused on a specific issue.



United Nations Forum on Forests

The main objectives of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF) are to promote the sustainable use, conservation and development of all types of forests and to strengthen long-term political commitment to achieving this goal. After being organized in biennial cycles from 2007 to 2017, the Forum holds annual sessions of five days in New York. Each session of the Forum is based on its central theme.



**United Nations
FORUM ON
FORESTS**



Consultative ECOSOC status

ECOSOC remains the only principal organ of the United Nations with a formal basis for NGO participation.

This system of accreditation serves the interests of both the United Nations and NGOs. As stated in resolution 1996/31 on “consultative relationships between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations”

«... Consultative arrangements should be concluded, on the one hand, with a view to enabling the Council or one of its organs to obtain expert information or advice from organizations having special competence in the matters on which consultations are being held and, on the other hand, to enable international, regional, subregional and national organizations representing important elements of public opinion to express their views.»

– ECOSOC Resolution 1996/31, Part II, paragraph 20

While ECOSOC benefits from the valuable expert advice of NGOs, NGOs also have the opportunity to express their views and influence the work of the Council. NGOs have specialized expertise, practical experience, and flexibility that are of great value to the United Nations. For example, with consultative status, an NGO could:

- *provide expert analysis of issues on the ground;*
- *serve as an early warning agent;*
- *help monitor and implement international agreements;*
- *promote public awareness of relevant issues;*
- *play an important role in advancing the goals and objectives of the United Nations;*
- *contribute to the preparation of important information at the organization's events.*

ECOSOC, on the other hand, provides NGOs with the opportunity to be heard by a truly global audience and to contribute to its agenda.

An NGO in consultative status can:

- *participate in international conferences and events;*
- *make written and oral statements at these events;*
- *organize side events;*
- *enter United Nations premises;*
- *have opportunities for networking and lobbying.*



Participation In Events

NGOs accredited to ECOSOC may participate in a range of events, including but not limited to sessions/meetings of ECOSOC, its functional commissions and other subsidiary bodies.

- *At these sessions/meetings, NGOs may:*
- *participate in formal meetings;*
- *submit written statements prior to the sessions;*
- *make oral statements;*
- *meet with official government delegations and other NGO representatives;*
- *organize and participate in side events held during the session;*
- *participate in debates, interactive dialogues, panel discussions and informal meetings.*

Different bodies have different forms of NGO participation, but they all share the same principle: only those NGOs that are accredited and in good standing with ECOSOC are entitled to participate in their sessions.

Written Statements

ECOSOC seeks expert views, ideas and proposals from civil society. Therefore, NGOs are often invited to submit written statements to address issues in the various areas of the Council's work. Resolution 1996/31 states the following about written statements:

«Written statements relevant to the work of the Council may be submitted by organizations in general consultative status and special consultative status on matters in which these organizations have special competence. Such statements shall be circulated to the members of the Council by the Secretary-General of the United Nations...»

– ECOSOC Resolution 1996/31, Part IV, paragraph 30

Organizing your own event at the United Nations

NGOs often have the opportunity to organize a side event linked to a main event organized by the ECOSOC Functional Commission. Please note that according to the relevant regulations, United Nations premises may only be used for meetings or events jointly organized by the Permanent Mission or Observer Mission to the United Nations, departments or offices of the Secretariat, or organizations or agencies of the United Nations system. If you wish to organize a side event, you should contact the specific event organizer in the relevant office and discuss your idea with them. If selected, you will be asked to coordinate your event with that office.

How to participate in the Human Rights Council

The Human Rights Council (HRC) is the principal intergovernmental body of the United Nations responsible for strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights. It consists of 47 Member States and holds at least three sessions annually in Geneva.



Its role includes combating human rights violations, including gross and systematic violations, promoting respect for human rights for all and actively coordinating and mainstreaming human rights within the United Nations system. At a given session(s), the Council reviews the activities of its subsidiary human rights procedures and mechanisms and may organize discussion forums and special events to enhance dialogue and mutual understanding on specific issues.

In addition to regular sessions, the Council may also hold special sessions devoted to specific country or thematic issues.

While not a subsidiary organ of ECOSOC, only NGOs in consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council may be accredited to attend sessions of the Human Rights Council as observers.

As observers, NGOs may, inter alia:

- *participate in and observe all business of the Council, except for the Council's deliberations under the complaint procedure;*
- *submit written statements to the Human Rights Council;*
- *make oral statements to the Human Rights Council;*

- *participate in the universal periodic review (UPR), which involves a review of the human rights records of all 192 United Nations Member States every four years;*
- *participate in debates, interactive dialogues, panel discussions and informal meetings;*
- *organize «parallel events» on issues relevant to the work of the Human Rights Council.*

United Nations Pass

Each NGO in consultative status with ECOSOC may designate representatives to receive annual passes granting them access to UN premises, which are valid until 31 December of each year. Each NGO may request a maximum of 7 annual passes for its representatives in New York (and 7 for Geneva and 7 for Vienna). Of these 7 positions, two are reserved for the Chairperson/CEO and the Chief Administrative Officer. Please note that each location must designate a Chairperson/CEO or Chief Administrative Officer to approve requests for passes. Failure to provide at least one of these will prevent any requests for passes from being processed. All requests for passes must be submitted online. Short-term passes of one day and/or up to three months are also available for specific events, for a maximum of nine temporary passes at a time.

There is no time limit on the time of issuance of a pass; it may be issued at the earliest convenient opportunity or during the representative's participation in a meeting organized by the United Nations Office at Vienna or the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

Remember:

by appointing your representatives for a grounds pass, you authorize them to interact with United Nations staff and government representatives on behalf of your organization.

Non-governmental organizations may request meeting rooms through the UNOV NGO Liaison Unit by completing the appropriate form. Rooms may be made available for the following purposes:

- ▶ for consultations with the Secretariat and/or governments and/or other non-governmental organizations on matters falling within the competence of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC);
- ▶ for meetings, seminars, conferences and consultations related to consultative status procedures.



INTERPOL CENTER UN was created to assist in the fight against economic crimes, identify persons who have committed crimes and persons suspected of committing economic crimes, and to exchange experience between police officers from all over the world.

Education and training of individuals and units upon their requests by conducting special training programs developed by the organization and its partners within the framework of the law, maintaining special databases of wanted persons and methods of committing crimes.

Ensuring a high level of security for individuals and units, organizations and enterprises around the world. Creating a network of training centers for police officers in accordance with international law and the common values of the world legal order.

The organization is not intended to replace the police, law enforcement agencies and security services of countries. The main goal of the organization is to assist law enforcement agencies around the world in the fight against various types of economic crime, which has now acquired an international character, as well as to protect citizens and organizations from crime.

In 2022, **INTERPOL CENTER UN** received Special Consultative Status in the UN ECOSOC.



What is ECOSOC?

The Economic and Social Council is the principal organ coordinating the economic, social, environmental and related activities of the 14 United Nations specialized agencies, functional commissions and five regional commissions. It serves as the central forum for discussing international economic, social and environmental issues and for formulating policy recommendations to Member States and the United Nations system.

What is consultative status?

Consultative status is an accreditation system that benefits both the United Nations and NGOs. As stated in resolution 1996/31: «... Consultative arrangements should be concluded, on the one hand, to enable the Council or one of its organs to obtain expert information or advice from organizations having special competence in the matters on which consultations are being held and, on the other hand, to enable international, regional, subregional and national organizations representing important elements of public opinion to express their views.» – ECOSOC Resolution 1996/31, Part II, paragraph 20

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- » make written and oral statements at these events;
- » organize side events;
- » have access to UN premises;
- » have networking and lobbying opportunities.