



General Assembly

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Seventy-second 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 will be issued in document [A/C.3/72/1](#). Background information on those items may be found in the annotations to the agenda (see [A/72/100](#)).

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 71/538 on the programme of work of the Third Committee for the seventy-second session, the agenda of the seventy-second session ([A/72/150](#)), the first report of the General Committee on the organization of the seventy-second regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items ([A/72/250](#)), relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the Assembly on the rationalization of its work and that of the Third Committee, as well as past experience in the utilization of conference services.

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 by executive heads and senior members of the Secretariat at the beginning of each debate, interactive dialogues and 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. Delegations are invited to participate actively in these dialogues with questions and unscripted comments. The general discussion of each agenda item or cluster of agenda items is to follow the question time.

* Reissued for technical reasons on 18 August 2017.



List of speakers

4. The list of speakers for the general discussion on agenda items allocated to the Committee will be opened on Monday, 18 September 2017.

5. Requests for inscription from permanent missions to the United Nations and observer States for the general discussion on agenda items allocated to the Committee should be sent electronically through the eSpeakers platform. An automated email acknowledgement will be sent within one hour of receipt of the request. Requests for inscription from intergovernmental organizations, entities that have observer status with the General Assembly and entities of the United Nations system should be sent by email to the Secretariat.

Statements

6. Statements made during the general discussion under each agenda item or cluster of agenda items will be limited to 5 minutes for individual delegations and to 12 minutes for statements made on behalf of a group of delegations.

7. Under item 73 of the agenda, “Promotion and protection of human rights”, delegations may make one statement under sub-item (a) and one statement under sub-item (d), which are to be discussed sequentially. Under sub-items (b) and (c), which are to be considered jointly, delegations may make two separate statements, one under sub-item (b) and one under sub-item (c). In the interest of time, however, delegations are encouraged to make only one statement under sub-items (a) and (d), and one statement under sub-items (b) and (c), within the established time limit.

8. Under item 71, “Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance”, and item 72, “Right of peoples to self-determination”, which are to be discussed jointly, delegations may also make two separate statements. Similarly, in the interest of time, delegations are again encouraged to make only one statement within the established time limit.

9. In accordance with previous decisions of the General Assembly, 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.

List of documents

10. Attention is drawn to the addendum to the present note (to be issued as [A/C.3/72/L.1/Add.1](#)), which will list the documentation submitted under each agenda item expected to be allocated to the Committee.

Conference facilities and meeting arrangements

11. Unless otherwise specified, official meetings of the Committee will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m. in Conference Room 1 (Conference Building). The General Assembly has stressed that a punctual start of 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 Committee’s rules of procedure be waived with respect to the quorum needed to declare a meeting open.

Co-sponsorship of draft resolutions and proposals

12. The initiation and co-sponsorship of draft resolutions and other proposals will be undertaken electronically through the eSponsorship application without prejudice

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

Introduction of draft resolutions

13. In line with efforts to further enhance the efficiency of the Committee, main sponsors are urged to limit the introduction of their proposals to statements not exceeding three minutes. Main sponsors are also requested not to make a formal introductory statement on a draft resolution upon its issuance as an "L" document unless it is in relation to a new, non-recurrent draft resolution and are invited to make only one introductory statement, if any, prior to action on the draft resolution.

Report of the Economic and Social Council

14. 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

15. 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

16. Bearing in mind the number of meetings allocated to the Committee, a target date of 22 November 2017 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>Item/programme^a</i>
Week of 2-6 October	
Monday, 2 October	
10 a.m.	Election of officers Organizational matters
	Item 138 Programme planning^b
	Introductory statements, interactive dialogue and general discussion of:
	Item 28 Social development
	(a) Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly
	(b) Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family
1 p.m.	Closure of the list of speakers on item 28
3 p.m.	Item 28 General discussion (<i>continued</i>)
Tuesday, 3 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Item 28 General discussion (<i>continued and concluded</i>)
Wednesday, 4 October	
10 a.m.	Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:
	Item 108 Crime prevention and criminal justice
	Item 109 International drug control
1 p.m.	Closure of the list of speakers on items 108 and 109
3 p.m.	Items 108 and 109 General discussion (<i>concluded</i>)
Thursday, 5 October	
	Introductory statements, interactive dialogue and general discussion of:
10 a.m.	Item 29 Advancement of women
	(a) Advancement of women

Date/time	Item/programme ^a	
		(b) Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly
1 p.m.		Closure of the list of speakers on item 29
3 p.m.	Item 29	General discussion (<i>continued</i>)
Friday, 6 October		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Item 29	General discussion (<i>continued</i>)
Week of 9-13 October		
Monday, 9 October		
10 a.m.	Item 29	General discussion (<i>concluded</i>)
3 p.m.		Introductory statements, interactive dialogue and general discussion of:
	Item 69	Promotion and protection of the rights of children
		(a) Promotion and protection of the rights of children
		(b) Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children
Tuesday, 10 October		
10 a.m.	Item 69	Introductory statements, interactive dialogue and general discussion (<i>continued</i>)
1 p.m.		Closure of the list of speakers on item 69
3 p.m.	Item 69	General discussion (<i>continued</i>)
Wednesday, 11 October		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Item 69	General discussion (<i>continued and concluded</i>)
Thursday, 12 October		
10 a.m.		Introductory statements, interactive dialogue and general discussion of:
	Item 70	Rights of indigenous peoples
		(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
1 p.m.		Closure of the list of speakers on item 70
3 p.m.	Item 70	General discussion (<i>concluded</i>)
Friday, 13 October		
10 a.m.		Introductory statements and interactive dialogue of:

Date/time	Item/programme ^a
	Items 73 (a) and (d) Promotion and protection of human rights
	(a) Implementation of human rights instruments
	Followed by introductory statements and interactive dialogue of:
	(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action
1 p.m.	Deadline for submission of proposals under items 28, 108 and 109
3 p.m.	Items 73 (a) and (d) General discussion
6 p.m.	Closure of the list of speakers on items 73 (a) and (d)
Week of 16-20 October	
Monday, 16 October	
10 a.m.	Items 73 (a) and (d) General discussion (<i>concluded</i>)
3 p.m.	Introductory statements, interactive dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:
	Items 73 (b) and (c) Promotion and protection of human rights
	(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms
	(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives
Tuesday, 17 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Items 73 (b) and (c) Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts (<i>continued</i>)
Wednesday, 18 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Items 73 (b) and (c) Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts (<i>continued</i>)
Thursday, 19 October	
Friday, 20 October	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Items 73 (b) and (c) Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts (<i>continued</i>)
1 p.m.	Deadline for submission of proposals under items 29, 69, 70 and 73 (a) and (d)

Date/time	Item/programme ^a	
Week of 23-27 October		
Monday, 23 October		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Items 73 (b) and (c)	Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts (<i>continued</i>)
Tuesday, 24 October		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Items 73 (b) and (c)	Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts (<i>continued</i>)
Wednesday, 25 October		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Items 73 (b) and (c)	Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts (<i>continued</i>)
Thursday, 26 October		
10 a.m.	Items 73 (b) and (c)	Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts (<i>continued</i>)
3 p.m.		Dialogue with special rapporteurs, special representatives and independent experts (<i>concluded</i>) and general discussion
6 p.m.		Closure of list of speakers on items 73 (b) and (c)
Friday, 27 October		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Items 73 (b) and (c)	General discussion (<i>continued</i>)
Week of 30 October to 3 November		
Monday, 30 October		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Items 73 (b) and (c)	General discussion (<i>continued and concluded</i>)
Tuesday, 31 October		
10 a.m.		Introductory statements, interactive dialogue and general discussion of:
	Item 71	Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance
		(a) Elimination of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance
		(b) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action
	Item 72	Right of peoples to self-determination
1 p.m.		Closure of the list of speakers on items 71 and 72
		Deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 73 (b) and (c)

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Item/programme^a</i>	
3 p.m.	Items 71 and 72	General discussion (<i>continued</i>)
Wednesday, 1 November		
10 a.m.	Items 71 and 72	General discussion (<i>concluded</i>)
3 p.m.		Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:
	Item 65	Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions
6 p.m.		Closure of the list of speakers on item 65
Thursday, 2 November		
10 a.m.	Item 65	General discussion (<i>concluded</i>)
3 p.m.		Introductory statement by the President of the Human Rights Council, followed by an interactive dialogue and general discussion of:
	Item 68	Report of the Human Rights Council
6 p.m.		Closure of the list of speakers on item 68
Friday, 3 November		
		No formal meeting
1 p.m.		Deadline for submission of draft proposals under items 65, 68, 71 and 72
Week of 6-10 November		
Monday, 6 November		
3 p.m.		Action on proposals
Tuesday, 7 November		
3 p.m.		Action on proposals
Thursday, 9 November		
3 p.m.		Action on proposals
Week of 13-17 November		
Monday, 13 November		
		No formal meeting
1 p.m.		Deadline for submission of revised draft proposals and draft amendments
Tuesday, 14 November		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.		Action on proposals
Thursday, 16 November		

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Item/programme^a</i>
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Action on proposals
Friday, 17 November	
10 a.m.	Action on proposals
Week of 20-24 November	
Monday, 20 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Action on proposals
Tuesday, 21 November	
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Action on proposals
Wednesday, 22 November	
10 a.m.	Action on proposals
Item 122	Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly^c
	Action on outstanding proposals
	Conclusion of the work of the Third Committee

^a Item of the agenda ([A/72/150](#)).

^b This item is to be allocated to all the Main Committees to enhance discussion of evaluation, planning, budgeting and monitoring reports.

^c This item is to be allocated to the Third Committee for the sole purpose of considering and taking action on the tentative programme of work of the Committee for the seventy-third session of the General Assembly.