

**Economic and Social Council**

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**Commission on the Status of Women****Forty-ninth session**

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Item 5 of the provisional agenda\*

**Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions  
and decisions****Letter dated 16 December 2004\*\* from the President of the  
Economic and Social Council to the Chairperson of the  
Commission on the Status of Women**

The 2004 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council reconfirmed the role of the Council as the central forum of the United Nations system within which to address key issues of development cooperation. The theme of this year's high-level segment, "Resources mobilization and enabling environment for poverty eradication in the context of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010", provided us with the timely opportunity to renew commitment to the development of the least developed countries and to identify practical measures that could enable these countries to embark on a path of sustained economic growth.

I am confident that the ministerial declaration adopted at the end of the high-level segment will contribute to the efforts to give new impetus to the implementation of the Programme of Action by Member States and by the United Nations system, particularly the subsidiary bodies of the Council.

At its coordination segment, the Council addressed gender mainstreaming and integrated rural development. While addressing mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system, the Council, in its resolution 2004/4, called upon its functional commissions to take further measures to incorporate recommendations provided by the Commission on the Status of Women and to fully integrate gender perspectives into their work. I request you to take into account these considerations in your future programme of work.

I should also like to reflect on some of the other important proposals made by the Council concerning the functional commissions. A list of those resolutions

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\* E/CN.6/2005/1.

\*\* Signed on 17 December 2004.

adopted by the Council specifically calling for action by the functional commissions is attached for ease of reference (see annex).

Among those resolutions, I should like to draw your particular attention to Council resolution 2004/44 on the role of the Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of the outcomes of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits. In that resolution, the Council decided to continue to take the necessary steps for the effective implementation of the provisions of General Assembly resolutions 50/227, 52/12 B and 57/270 B, which are relevant to the work of the Council and its subsidiary machinery.

In its resolution 2004/44, the Council requested the functional commissions and other relevant subsidiary bodies to continue to examine their methods of work, as mandated in General Assembly resolution 57/270 B, and to submit their reports to the Council in 2005. In addition, in the same resolution, the Council requested the functional commissions to contribute to the preparation of the input of the Council to the high-level plenary meeting of the Assembly.

The Council, in its resolution 2004/63 requested its functional commissions, in their review of conference implementation in 2005, to promote complementarity in their work and to follow the guidance of the Council as well as the General Assembly. The Council also requested its commissions, in their reports, to clearly identify the operational implications of their work for consideration and appropriate action by the governing bodies of the United Nations funds and programmes.

I would also like to take this opportunity to inform you that the Council has selected "Achieving the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, as well as implementing the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits: progress made, challenges and opportunities" as the theme for its 2005 high-level segment. For its 2005 coordination segment, the Council has selected the following theme: "Towards achieving internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration".

I would greatly appreciate it if the issues raised above could be brought to the attention of your functional commission for consideration and action. I thank you for your active and continued collaboration and hope that this will lead to further strengthening of the interactions among the functional commissions and the Council.

*(Signed)* Marjatta **Rasi**

## Annex

### **Resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council in 2004 requesting follow-up by the Commission on the Status of Women<sup>a</sup>**

<i>Resolution number</i>	<i>Paragraph</i>	<i>Title</i>
2004/4	10	Review of Economic and Social Council agreed conclusions 1997/2 on mainstreaming the gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system (E/2004/L.14 and E/2004/SR.27)
2004/56	6	Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women (E/2004/27 and E/2004/SR.51)

<sup>a</sup> The full text of these resolutions is available on the ECOSOC web site (<http://www.un.org/esa/coordination/ecosoc>).