



# Economic and Social Council

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## 2020 session

25 July 2019–22 July 2020

### Summary record of the 5th meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Tuesday, 10 December 2019, at 10 a.m.

*President:* Mr. Akram (Vice-President) . . . . . (Pakistan)

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*In the absence of Ms. Juul (Norway), Mr. Akram (Pakistan), Vice-President, took the Chair.*

*The meeting was called to order at 10.05 a.m.*

#### **Agenda item 4: Elections, nominations, confirmations and appointments**

1. **The President** drew the Council's attention to the list of candidates for election to subsidiary bodies, dated 9 December 2019, which had been circulated to the delegations.

*Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) (E/2019/Add.9)*

2. **The President** said that, in accordance with paragraph 61(a) of General Assembly resolution 64/289 and Council resolution 2010/35, the Council was to elect four members to the Executive Board of UN-Women from among the 10 largest providers of voluntary core contributions to UN-Women. He took it that the Council wished to elect Finland, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America by acclamation for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2020.

3. *Finland, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America were elected members of the Executive Board of UN-Women by acclamation.*

4. **The President** said that, in accordance with paragraph 61(b) of General Assembly resolution 64/289 and Council resolution 2010/35, the Council was to elect two members to the Executive Board of UN-Women from among the 10 largest providers of voluntary core contributions to UN-Women among countries not members of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. Since three candidates had been nominated for two vacancies, he took it that the Council wished to postpone the election of those members.

5. *It was so decided.*

#### *Commission on Population and Development*

6. **The President** recalled that there was an outstanding vacancy on the Commission on Population and Development to be filled from Western European and other States, for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting of the Commission's fifty-fourth session in 2020 and expiring at the close of its fifty-seventh session in 2024. He took it that the Council wished to elect Turkey by acclamation.

7. *Turkey was elected a member of the Commission on Population and Development by acclamation.*

8. **The President** said that he took it that the Council wished to further postpone the elections for six outstanding vacancies on the Commission for Population and Development: one to be filled from Asia-Pacific States, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the Commission's fifty-fourth session in 2021; one to be filled from African States and one from Asia-Pacific States, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the Commission's fifty-fifth session in 2022; and one each to be filled from African States, Latin American and Caribbean States and Western European and other States, for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting of the Commission's fifty-fourth session in 2020 and expiring at the close of its fifty-seventh session in 2024.

9. *It was so decided.*

#### *Commission for Social Development*

10. **The President** recalled that there were three outstanding vacancies on the Commission for Social Development to be filled from Asia-Pacific States, Latin American and Caribbean States and Western European and other States. He took it that the Council wished to elect Qatar by acclamation, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the Commission's sixty-first session in 2023, and Paraguay and Turkey for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting of the Commission's fifty-ninth session in 2020 and expiring at the close of its sixty-second session in 2024.

11. *Paraguay, Qatar and Turkey were elected members of the Commission for Social Development by acclamation.*

12. **The President** said that he took it that the Council wished to further postpone the elections for eight outstanding vacancies on the Commission for Social Development: one to be filled from Western European and other States, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the Commission's fifty-eighth session in 2020; two to be filled from Western European and other States, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the Commission's fifty-ninth session in 2021; one to be filled from Asia-Pacific States, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the Commission's sixty-first session in 2023; and one to be filled from Eastern European States, one from Latin American and Caribbean States and two from Western European and other States, for a four-year term beginning at the first meeting of the Commission's fifty-

ninth session in 2020 and expiring at the close of its sixty-second session in 2024.

13. *It was so decided.*

*Commission on Narcotic Drugs*

14. **The President**, recalling that there were two outstanding vacancies on the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to be filled from African States, said that he took it that the Council wished to elect Egypt and Nigeria by acclamation for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2020.

15. *Egypt and Nigeria were elected members of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs by acclamation.*

16. **The President** said that the membership of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs was complete.

*Commission on Science and Technology for Development*

17. **The President**, recalling that there was one outstanding vacancy on the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to be filled from Latin American and Caribbean States, said that he took it that the Council wished to elect Panama by acclamation for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2021.

18. *Panama was elected a member of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development by acclamation.*

19. **The President** said that the membership of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development was complete.

*Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting*

20. **The President** invited the Council to consider two outstanding vacancies on the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting to be filled each from African States and Asia-Pacific States. He took it that the Council wished to elect Saudi Arabia and Zimbabwe by acclamation, respectively, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2021.

21. *Saudi Arabia and Zimbabwe were elected members of the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting by acclamation.*

22. **The President** said that, in the absence of any other candidates for election to the Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of

Accounting and Reporting, he took it that the Council wished to further postpone the election for 12 outstanding vacancies on the Intergovernmental Working Group: one to be filled from Asia-Pacific States, two from Latin American and Caribbean States and seven from Western European and other States, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2020; as well as one to be filled from African States and one from Latin American and Caribbean States, for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2021.

23. *It was so decided.*

*Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS*

24. **The President**, recalling that there were two outstanding vacancies on the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS to be filled from Asia-Pacific States, said that he took it that the Council wished to elect India and Thailand by acclamation for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2020.

25. *India and Thailand were elected members of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS by acclamation.*

26. **The President** said that as Australia and Finland would resign from their seats on the Programme Coordinating Board with effect from 31 December 2019, Canada and Denmark had been endorsed by Western European and other States to assume their seats. He therefore took it that the Council wished to elect Canada and Denmark by acclamation for a term of office that would begin on 1 January 2020 and expire on 31 December 2020.

27. *Canada and Denmark were elected members of the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS by acclamation.*

**Agenda item 12: Coordination, programme and other questions (E/2020/L.3)**

*Draft resolution E/2020/L.3: Support to the Sahel region*

28. **The President** said that the document had been made available in all languages only the previous evening. He therefore took it that the Council wished to waive the relevant provision of rule 54 of the rules of procedure.

29. *It was so decided.*

30. **Ms. Fofana** (Observer for Burkina Faso), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the

sponsors listed in the document, said that it was aimed at ensuring that development assistance formed part of the support provided by the international community to the countries of the Sahel region. Since development, peace, security and human rights were interlinked and mutually reinforcing, ensuring development opportunities for local populations would constitute a significant step towards addressing the crisis in the Sahel and achieving lasting stability in the region.

31. **The President** said that the draft resolution had no programme budget implications.

32. **Ms. Herity** (Secretary of the Council) said that, since the submission of the draft resolution, Benin, the Central African Republic, China, Ethiopia, Finland, Ghana, Guinea, Ireland, Italy, Mexico, Nigeria, Paraguay, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland had informed the Council secretariat that they wished to join the sponsors. She then noted that among the delegations in the meeting room, Cameroon, Canada, Malta, Morocco, Pakistan and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) also wished to become sponsors.

33. **Mr. Cho Hyun** (Republic of Korea) said that his delegation had been pleased to facilitate the negotiations on the draft resolution in cooperation with the Group of Five for the Sahel. The adoption of the draft resolution by consensus would be a show of solidarity with the States of the Sahel region, which were facing unprecedented challenges as a result of the interplay of threats to their security and development. The Council should consider how the United Nations system could address the root causes of instability in the region.

34. *Draft resolution [E/2020/L.3](#) was adopted.*

35. **Mr. Nakano** (Japan) said that by adopting the resolution, the Council had made it clear to all stakeholders that greater coherence and urgency were needed in the delivery of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel and the United Nations support plan for the Sahel. While appreciable progress had been made in the region in terms of peaceful transfers of power, the overall security and development trends gave increasing cause for concern. Concerted and coordination action would be crucial to implement the integrated strategy and the support plan and address the multidimensional challenges in the region. In that connection, it had been noted in the report on the strategic review of the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel ([S/2019/890](#), annex) that a lack of clarity with regard to roles and responsibilities had hampered effective collaboration with partners and that better coordination among United Nations entities was

needed. His delegation welcomed the Council's efforts to guide the United Nations system in delivering a coordinated and effective response to the root causes of conflict in the region.

36. In 2019, his Government had provided \$23 million in humanitarian response funding to the States members of the Group of Five for the Sahel and had organized a conference on peace and stability in the region in conjunction with the African Union. It had also adopted a national strategy to support African-led conflict prevention, mediation, arbitration and institution-building efforts.

*The meeting rose at 10.40 a.m.*