United Nations E/AC.51/2025/L.4



## **Economic and Social Council**

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## **Committee for Programme and Coordination**

Sixty-fifth session

New York, 12 May-13 June 2025

## Draft report

Rapporteur: Mr. Rodrigue Edgar Tchoffo Mongou (Cameroon)

## I. Organization of the session

1. The Committee for Programme and Coordination held its organizational session (1st meeting) on 1 April 2025 and its substantive session from 12 May to 13 June 2025 at Headquarters. It held 20 formal meetings and numerous informal and "informal informal" consultations, as well as briefings.

#### A. Agenda

- 2. The agenda for the sixty-fifth session, adopted by the Committee at its 1st meeting, was as follows:
  - 1. Election of officers.
  - 2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
  - 3. Programme questions:
    - (a) Proposed programme budget for 2026;
    - (b) Evaluation.
  - 4. Coordination questions:
    - (a) Report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination;
    - (b) United Nations system support for Agenda 2063.
  - 5. Report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit.
  - 6. Provisional agenda for the sixty-sixth session.
  - 7. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its sixty-fifth session.





#### **Selection of reports of the Joint Inspection Unit**

3. At its 1st meeting, on 1 April, the attention of the Committee was drawn to the note by the Secretariat (E/AC.51/2025/L.2), submitted pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX), in which it was stated that there were no relevant reports of the Joint Inspection Unit available for consideration at its sixty-fifth session.

#### Programme of work

- 4. At its 2nd meeting, on 12 May, the attention of the Committee was drawn to the annotated provisional agenda (E/AC.51/2025/1) and the revised note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation (E/AC.51/2025/L.1/Rev.1) listing the documents for consideration by the Committee.
- 5. At the same meeting, the Committee approved its programme of work with the understanding that adjustments would be made by the Bureau, as necessary, during the course of the session to take into account the pace of discussions.

#### **B.** Election of officers

- 6. At its 1st meeting, on 1 April, the Committee elected, by acclamation, Davit Manukyan (Armenia) as Chair and Pol-Henry Martin (Belgium) and Jesús Velázquez Castillo (Mexico) as Vice-Chairs for the sixty-fifth session.
- 7. At its 2nd meeting, on 12 May, the Committee elected, by acclamation, Rodrigue Edgar Tchoffo Mongou (Cameroon) as Rapporteur for the session.
- 8. At its 18th meeting, on 23 May, the Committee elected, by acclamation, Davit Knyazyan (Armenia) as Chair, effective from 28 May 2025, for the remainder of the session.
- 9. At its 19th meeting, on 27 May, the Committee elected, by acclamation, Rigoberto D. Banta, Jr. (Philippines) as Vice-Chair for the session.
- 10. Accordingly, the members of the Bureau for the sixty-fifth session of the Committee were:

Chair:

Davit Manukyan (Armenia) (from 1 April to 27 May 2025) Davit Knyazyan (Armenia) (effective 28 May)

Vice-Chairs:

Rigoberto D. Banta, Jr. (Philippines) Pol-Henry Martin (Belgium) Jesús Velázquez Castillo (Mexico)

Rapporteur:

Rodrigue Edgar Tchoffo Mongou (Cameroon)

#### C. Attendance

11. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented on the Committee:

Argentina Kenya
Armenia Liberia

Belgium Mexico
Botswana Morocco
Brazil Pakistan
Bulgaria Paraguay
Cameroon Philippines

China Poland

Costa Rica Republic of Korea

Côte d'Ivoire Russian Federation

France Rwanda

Germany South Africa

Haiti Tunisia

India United Kingdom of Great Britain and

Northern Ireland

Israel United States of America

Italy Uruguay

Japan

12. The European Union participated as an observer.

#### D. Documentation

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

13. The list of documents before the Committee at its sixty-fifth session is set out in the annex to the present report.

#### E. Adoption of the report of the Committee

- 14. At its 20th meeting, on 13 June, the Committee had before it the draft provisional agenda for its sixty-sixth session (E/AC.51/2025/L.3). At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft provisional agenda for its sixty-sixth session and authorized the Secretary to complete it, taking into consideration resolutions and decisions as might be adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its management segment, to be held in July 2025, and by the General Assembly at its eightieth session.
- 15. At the same meeting, the Rapporteur introduced the draft report of the Committee (E/AC.51/2025/L.4 and addenda). Thereafter, the Chair noted that unfortunately, in the light of the differences in views, the Committee had been unable to agree on conclusions and recommendations for programme 5, Peaceful uses of outer space, and programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the proposed programme budget for 2026.
- 16. Before the adoption of the draft report, the delegation of the Russian Federation made remarks that it requested be reflected in the present report. The delegation indicated that the Russian Federation expressed its concerns and reservations regarding the implementation of the provisions of the Pact for the Future, in particular

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on disarmament, human rights and non-governmental organizations, by the United Nations Secretariat and organizations of the United Nations system, and stressed its position that any activities in support of the implementation of the Pact for the Future must be conducted at the request of the interested Member States, if necessary and where applicable. The delegation added that the Russian Federation dissociated itself from references to the implementation of the Pact for the Future, including those relating to its annexes, as mentioned in section III, United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination, of Programme 27, Jointly financed activities.

- 17. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft report. After the adoption of the report, the delegations of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Argentina made remarks that they requested be reflected in the present report.
- 18. The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran indicated that it viewed the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a non-legally binding, voluntary instrument. With respect to the instrument, and all other matters that related in any way to domestic issues, the delegation stressed that national laws as well as instruments, plans, programmes and strategies adopted at the highest national level should enjoy total priority and be considered the sole and final source of action. Furthermore, the delegation expressed its reservation on references to the Pact for the Future and gender-related terms. On the issue of the interlinkages between unilateral coercive measures and the proposed programme plan for 2026, the delegation emphasized that addressing the negative impacts of such measures, including their extraterritorial effects, was of utmost importance for achieving sustainable development in the affected countries as they undermined the fulfilment of numerous programme plans, particularly those concerning assistance to refugees, drug control, women's empowerment, trade, human rights, social and economic affairs, and the environment. The delegation added that despite that, it had engaged in discussions with maximum flexibility and a constructive spirit, without prejudice to future consideration of the issue and expressed its profound disappointment that its approach had not been met with the same spirit by a few members of the Committee. The delegation expressed the view that pursuing political agendas and deviating from the Committee's core mandate, those members had deliberately obstructed progress in order to justify their assertions about the Committee's effectiveness and concluded that despite the commendable efforts of the Chair, Bureau and the majority of Member States to avoid a repeat of the previous year's situation, a small group had once again undermined the principles of multilateralism and the credibility of the Committee's work.
- 19. The delegation of Argentina recalled that Argentina had dissociated itself from the Pact of the Future and that it considered that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, although well-intentioned, was composed of non-legally binding aspirations that each State, in the exercise of its sovereignty, had the right to interpret and pursue freely. Therefore, Argentina dissociated itself from all the mentions in the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals, the Pact of the Future, climate change and gender. Regarding gender, the delegation indicated that Argentina understood the term gender as agreed in Article 7 (3) of the Rome Statute, namely two sexes, male and female, in the context of society. Furthermore, Argentina was opposed to all forms of discrimination and the enumeration of discriminatory categories. The delegation recognized that, on certain issues, it had taken firm positions, which reflected Argentina's deep commitment to its own sovereign interests and principles. However, that had been complemented by constructive flexibility, seeking common benefit and respect, taking into account the fundamental role of the Committee as the governing body and guarantor of coherence, effectiveness and synergy in the planning, implementation and monitoring of the programmes and activities of the United Nations system. That role, the delegation

considered, had not been valued or taken into account, which was a missed opportunity. The delegation concluded that members should carry out a deep and sincere analysis of how the genuine commitment of each delegation to the strengthening of the United Nations and multilateralism should be manifested in the negotiation of documents, taking into account the realities and sovereign wills in the current international context, which was constantly being renewed.

20. Before the closure of the session, statements were made by the representatives of Belgium, Pakistan, Brazil, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Mexico, Poland, Costa Rica, China, Liberia, France, Japan, Uruguay, Bulgaria, Morocco and South Africa.

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#### Annex

# List of documents before the Committee at its sixty-fifth session

E/AC.51/2025/1	Annotated provisional agenda
E/AC.51/2025/L.1/Rev.1	Note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation
E/AC.51/2025/L.2	Note by the Secretariat on the report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the proposed programme budget for 2025: part II: programme plan for programmes and subprogrammes and programme performance information (in fascicle form)
A/80/6 (Sect. 2)	Programme 1, General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs and conference management
A/80/6 (Sect. 3)	Programme 2, Political affairs
A/80/6 (Sect. 4)	Programme 3, Disarmament
A/80/6 (Sect. 5)	Programme 4, Peacekeeping operations
A/80/6 (Sect. 6)	Programme 5, Peaceful uses of outer space
A/80/6 (Sect. 8)	Programme 6, Legal affairs
A/80/6 (Sect. 9)	Programme 7, Economic and social affairs
A/80/6 (Sect. 10)	Programme 8, Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States
A/80/6 (Sect. 11)	Programme 9, United Nations system support for the African Union's Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want
A/80/6 (Sect. 12)	Programme 10, Trade and development
A/80/6 (Sect. 13)	Programme 10, subprogramme 6, International Trade Centre
A/80/6 (Sect. 14)	Programme 11, Environment
A/80/6 (Sect. 15)	Programme 12, Human settlements
A/80/6 (Sect. 16)	Programme 13, International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice
A/80/6 (Sect. 17)	Programme 14, Gender equality and the empowerment of women
A/80/6 (Sect. 18)	Programme 15, Economic and social development in Africa
A/80/6 (Sect. 19)	Programme 16, Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific
A/80/6 (Sect. 20)	Programme 17, Economic development in Europe
A/80/6 (Sect. 21)	Programme 18, Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean
A/80/6 (Sect. 22)	Programme 19, Economic and social development in Western Asia

A/80/6 (Sect. 24)	Programme 20, Human rights
A/80/6 (Sect. 24)/Corr.1	Programme 20, Human rights: corrigendum
A/80/6 (Sect. 25)	Programme 21, International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees
A/80/6 (Sect. 26)	Programme 22, Palestine refugees
A/80/6 (Sect. 27)	Programme 23, Humanitarian assistance
A/80/6 (Sect. 28)	Programme 24, Global communications
A/80/6 (Sect. 29)	Programme 25, Management and support services
A/80/6 (Sect. 29A)	Programme 25, Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance
A/80/6 (Sect. 29B)	Programme 25, Department of Operational Support
A/80/6 (Sect. 29C)	Programme 25, Office of Information and Communications Technology
A/80/6 (Sect. 29D)	Programme 25, Administration, Nairobi
A/80/6 (Sect. 29E)	Programme 25, Administration, Geneva
A/80/6 (Sect. 29F)	Programme 25, Administration, Vienna
A/80/6 (Sect. 30)	Programme 26, Internal oversight
A/80/6 (Sect. 31)	Programme 27, Jointly financed activities
A/80/6 (Sect. 34)	Programme 28, Safety and security
E/AC.51/2025/4	Note by the Secretariat on the review of the proposed programme plan for 2026 by sectoral, functional and regional bodies
A/80/69	Report of the Secretary-General on the proposed revisions to the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (in accordance with General Assembly resolution 77/267)
A/80/65	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on strengthening the role of evaluation and the application of evaluation findings in programme design, delivery and policy directives
E/AC.51/2025/2	Report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the triennial review of the implementation of recommendations made by the Committee at its sixty-second session on the evaluation of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean: subprogramme 3 – Macroeconomic policies and growth
E/2025/13	Annual overview report of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination for 2024 (Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX))
E/AC.51/2025/3	Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations system support for Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want

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E/AC.51/2025/L.3	Note by the Secretariat: draft provisional agenda and documentation for the sixty-sixth session of the Committee (Economic and Social Council resolution 1894 (LVII))
E/AC.51/2025/L.4 and addenda	Draft report of the Committee