



General Assembly

Distr.: General
21 February 2000

Original: English

Preparatory Committee for the special session of the General Assembly entitled “World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world”

Second session

3 to 14 April 2000

Item 2 (a) of the provisional agenda*

Preparations for the special session of the General Assembly entitled “World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world”: consideration of the draft provisional agenda of the special session of the General Assembly

Draft provisional agenda and organizational matters for the special session of the General Assembly

Note by the Secretariat

1. The present document was prepared by the Secretariat in accordance with past practice in respect of special sessions of the General Assembly and is submitted to the Preparatory Committee for the special session of the General Assembly entitled “World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world” for its consideration with a view to providing recommendations for adoption by the Assembly at its special session.

I. Draft provisional agenda

2. The Preparatory Committee may wish to recommend the adoption of the following draft provisional agenda for the special session of the General Assembly:

1. Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of Namibia.
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation.
3. Credentials of representatives to the special session of the General Assembly:

* A/AC.253/12.

- (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
- (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
- 4. Election of the President.
- 5. Report of the Preparatory Committee for the special session of the General Assembly entitled “World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world”.
- 6. Organization of the session.
- 7. Adoption of the agenda.
 - [- Substantive item(s)]
- 8. Adoption of the final document(s).

II. Organizational arrangements

3. The Preparatory Committee may wish to recommend the organizational arrangements set forth below for the special session of the General Assembly entitled “World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world”.

Date and duration

4. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 53/28 of 19 November 1998, the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly, entitled “World Summit for Social Development and beyond: achieving social development for all in a globalizing world”, will be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva, from 26 to 30 June 2000.

President

5. The special session should be held under the presidency of the President of the fifty-fourth regular session of the General Assembly.

Vice-Presidents

6. The Vice-Presidents of the special session should be the same as those of the fifty-fourth regular session of the General Assembly.

Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole

7. In accordance with General Assembly decision 54/404 of 8 October 1999, the General Assembly shall establish an Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole of the Twenty-fourth Special Session.

8. The Bureau of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole should consist of one Chairman and four Vice-Chairmen, one of whom will serve as Rapporteur. The Bureau of the Preparatory Committee should serve as the Bureau of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole.

Credentials Committee

9. The Credentials Committee of the special session should have the same membership as the Credentials Committee of the fifty-fourth regular session of the General Assembly.

General Committee

10. The General Committee of the special session should consist of the President and the 21 Vice-Presidents of the special session, the Chairpersons of the six Main Committees of the fifty-fourth regular session of the General Assembly and the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole.

Rules of procedure

11. The rules of procedure of the General Assembly should apply at the special session.

Level of representation

12. In accordance with General Assembly decision 54/404, participation in the special session should be at a highest political level possible.

Debate in plenary

13. Statements in the debate in plenary should not exceed seven minutes.

14. The list of speakers for the debate in plenary should be established by a drawing of lots. Heads of State, Vice-Presidents, Crown Princes or Princesses and Heads of Government should be given precedence in the establishment of the list of speakers and in the speaking order and should have equal standing as regards the list of speakers. They should be followed by Ministers/Deputy Prime Ministers, Ministers, Chairmen of Delegation/Vice-Ministers and Chairmen of Delegation.

Allocation of items

15. All items of the draft provisional agenda should be allocated to the plenary, and the substantive items should also be allocated to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole.

Participation of speakers other than Member States

16. In accordance with General Assembly decision 54/404, observers may make statements in the debate in plenary.

17. A number of organizations and entities have received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly.

18. In accordance with General Assembly decision 54/404, States members of specialized agencies that are not members of the United Nations may participate in the special session in the capacity of observers.

19. In accordance with General Assembly decision 54/404, associate members of the regional commissions may participate in the special session, subject to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly, in the same capacity of observer that held for their participation in the World Summit for Social Development.

20. In accordance with General Assembly decision 54/404, representatives of United Nations programmes and other entities in the United Nations system may make statements in the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole.

21. In accordance with General Assembly decision 54/407 of 8 October 1999, representatives of non-governmental organizations may make statements in the Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole.

22. In accordance with General Assembly decision 54/407, given the availability of time, a limited number of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council may also make statements in the debate in the plenary of the special session.

Schedule of plenary meetings

23. Ten plenary meetings will be held over the five-day period, with two meetings per day as follows: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
