



# General Assembly

Distr.: Limited  
3 September 2004

Original: English

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**Fifty-ninth 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 are listed in the letter from the President of the Assembly to the Chairperson of the Third Committee (to be issued as A/C.3/59/1). Background information on those items may be found in the annotations to the agenda (A/59/100).

#### **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, the organizational arrangements agreed upon by the Assembly at the outset of its current session (to be issued in A/59/250), relevant resolutions and decisions adopted by the Assembly on the rationalization of its work and that of the Third Committee and the availability of documentation, as well as past experience in the utilization of conference services.

#### **Question time and interactive dialogues and debates**

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 of 1 July 2004, immediately following the introduction of reports by executive heads and senior members of the Secretariat at the beginning of each debate, interactive debates and question time will be held with heads of departments and offices, representatives of the Secretary-General and special rapporteurs as part of the formal proceedings. Delegations are invited to participate actively in these dialogues with questions and comments in an unscripted format. They are requested to withhold their prepared statements for the Committee's official debates immediately following the dialogues.

### **Statements**

4. In accordance with the established practice of the Committee, statements made during the general discussion under each agenda will be limited to 7 minutes, and to 15 minutes for statements made on behalf of a group of delegations. Statements of Secretariat officials will be limited to 7 minutes, with the exception of oral reports.

5. Under agenda item 107, "Human rights questions", delegations may make one statement under sub-item (a) and one statement under sub-item (d), which are to be discussed sequentially. Delegations may make up to two statements under sub-items (b), (c) and (e), which are to be considered jointly; however, two statements cannot be made under the same sub-item.

6. In accordance with the decision 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 5 minutes and the second, if any, to 3 minutes.

### **List of documents**

7. Attention is drawn to the documents submitted under each of the agenda items allocated to the Third Committee (see annex).

### **Conference facilities and meetings arrangements**

8. Unless otherwise specified, meetings will be held at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. The General Assembly has reminded delegations that punctuality is of the utmost importance for ensuring an effective and orderly organization of work and achieving economies for the United Nations. As decided by the Assembly, the requirement that at least one quarter of the members of the Committee must be present to declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed has been waived.

### **Report of the Economic and Social Council**

9. Pursuant to paragraph 4 (c) of the annex to General Assembly resolution 58/316, the item entitled "Report of the Economic and Social Council" shall be considered in its entirety in plenary.

### **Conclusion of the work of the Committee**

10. Bearing in mind the number of meetings allocated to the Third Committee, a proposed target date of 24 November has been set for the conclusion of its work.

## Draft programme of work of the Third Committee

*Programme*

*Documentation*

### Week of 4-8 October

*Monday, 4 October*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:

**Item 95. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit on Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly**

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the outcome of the World Summit on Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly (A/59/120)

**Item 96. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family:**

**(a) Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family;**

Report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2004 (A/59/176)

**(b) United Nations Literacy Decade: education for all**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director-General of UNESCO on the implementation of the International Plan of Action for the United Nations Literacy Decade (A/59/267)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit on achieving the universal primary education goal of the United Nations Millennium Declaration (A/59/76 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1)

**Item 97. Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing**

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing (A/59/164)

1 p.m.

*Closure of the list of speakers on items 95, 96 and 97*

*Tuesday, 5 October*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Items 95, 96 and 97. General discussion (continued)**

*Wednesday, 6 October*

10 a.m.

**Items 95, 96 and 97. General discussion (concluded)**

3 p.m.

*Deadline for submission of draft proposals on items 95, 96 and 97*

*Thursday, 7 October — no meeting*

*Friday, 8 October*

10 a.m.

Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:

**Item 98. Crime prevention and criminal justice**

Report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime (A/59/204)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the High-level Political Signing Conference on the United Nations Convention against Corruption (A/59/77)

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity (A/59/205)

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/59/175)

Report of the Secretary-General on preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (A/59/123-E/2004/90)

Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance in promoting the implementation of the universal conventions and protocols related to terrorism (A/59/187)

Report of the Secretary-General on international cooperation against the world drug problem (A/59/188)

**Item 99. International drug control**

1 p.m.

*Closure of list of speakers on items 98 and 99*

**Week of 11-15 October**

*Monday, 11 October*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Items 98 and 99. General discussion (continued)**

*Tuesday, 12 October*

10 a.m.

**Items 98 and 99. General discussion (concluded)**

3 p.m.

*Deadline for submission of draft proposals on items 98 and 99*

Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:

**Item 100. Advancement of women**

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, thirtieth session (A/59/38 (Part I)) (Suppl. No. 38)

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, thirty-first session (A/59/38 (Part II)) (Suppl. No. 38)

Report of the Secretary-General on the elimination of all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, and progress on an in-depth study (also under item 101)

Report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system, including a comprehensive review of progress made towards the goal of 50/50 gender distribution

Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the revitalization and strengthening of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and on the future operation of INSTRAW

Report of the Secretary-General on trafficking in women and girls (A/59/185)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (A/59/135)

Report of the Secretary-General on the elimination of all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, and progress on an in-depth study (also under item 100)

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration (A/59/214)

**Item 101. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”**

1 p.m.

*Closure of list of speakers on items 100 and 101*

*Wednesday, 13 October*

10 a.m.

**Items 100 and 101. General discussion (continued)**

*Thursday, 14 October*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Items 100 and 101. General discussion (continued)**

*Friday, 15 October*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Items 100 and 101. General discussion (concluded)**

3 p.m.

*Deadline for submission of draft proposals on items 100 and 101*

**Week of 18-22 October**

*Monday, 18 October*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:

**Item 103. Promotion and protection of the rights of children**

Report of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (A/59/41 and Corr.1) (Suppl. No. 41)

Report of the Secretary-General on a comprehensive assessment of the United Nations response to the issue of children affected by armed conflict

Report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children and on the progress achieved in realizing the commitments set out in the document entitled "A world fit for children" (also under item 41)

Report of the Secretary-General on the rights of the child, containing information on the status of the Convention on the Rights of the Child (A/59/190)

Report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for children and armed conflict on the situation of children affected by armed conflict

1 p.m.

*Closure of list of speakers on item 103*

*Tuesday, 19 October*

3 p.m.

**Item 103. General discussion (continued)**

*Wednesday, 20 October*

3 p.m.

**Item 103. General discussion (continued)**

*Thursday, 21 October*

10 a.m.

**Item 103. General discussion (concluded)**

3 p.m.

*Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 103*

Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:

**Item 104. Programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People, 1995-2004**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the implementation of the programme of activities for the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights and fundamental freedoms of indigenous people (A/59/258)



Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the biennial report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the status of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations (A/59/257)

1 p.m.

*Closure of list of speakers on item 104*

*Friday, 22 October*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Item 104. General discussion (concluded)**

3 p.m.

*Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 104*

**Week of 25-29 October**

*Monday, 25 October*

10 a.m.

Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:

**Item 107. Human rights questions**

Report of the Secretary-General on the operations of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

**Item 107 (a). Implementation of human rights instruments**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on a proposed plan of action for the first phase (2005-2007) of the work programme for human rights education

General discussion

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

Report of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (A/59/48) (Suppl. No. 48)

Report of the Human Rights Committee (A/59/40) (Suppl. No. 40, vols. I and II)

Report of the Committee against Torture (A/59/44) (Suppl. No. 44)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the chairpersons of the human rights treaty bodies on their 16th meeting (A/59/254)

Report of the Secretary-General on measures taken for the effective implementation of international instruments on human rights, including reporting obligations under international instruments on human rights

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the question of torture

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and on the operations of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture

1 p.m.

*Closure of list of speakers for item 107 (a) and (d)*

3 p.m.

**Item 107 (a). General discussion (concluded)**

followed by

**Item 107 (d). Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action**

(No documentation)

General discussion (concluded)

*Tuesday, 26 October*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Item 107 (b). Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms**

Comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on strengthening United Nations action in the field of human rights through the promotion of international cooperation and the importance of non-selectivity, impartiality and objectivity

Report of the Secretary-General on a subregional centre for human rights and democracy in Central Africa

Report of the Secretary-General on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights

Report of the Secretary-General on the protection of migrants

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the human rights of migrants

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on a study to identify the means and measures for consideration by States for strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism

Report of the Secretary-General on the right to development (A/59/255)

Report of the Secretary-General on the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation worldwide in regard to extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions

Report of the Secretary-General on the question of enforced or involuntary disappearances

Report of the Secretary-General on the state of regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights

Report of the Secretary-General on the strengthening of the rule of law and the recommendation of the World Conference on Human Rights

Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and unilateral coercive measures

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Representative of the Commission on Human Rights on human rights defenders

Report of the Secretary-General on the Khmer Rouge trials

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health

Annual report of the Secretary-General on the progress of efforts to ensure the full recognition and enjoyment of the human rights of persons with disabilities

Report of the Special Rapporteur on the elimination of all forms of religious intolerance

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities on its fourth session

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the right to food

**Item 107 (c). Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives**

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the independent expert of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Afghanistan

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteurs of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary executions and a member of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the independent expert of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Sudan

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in Myanmar

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the independent expert of the Commission on Human Rights on assistance to Sierra Leone in the field of human rights

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the independent expert of the Commission on Human Rights on advisory services and technical assistance in Burundi

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Myanmar

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the independent expert of the Commission on Human Rights on technical cooperation and advisory services in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (A/59/36) (Suppl. No. 36)

**Item 107 (e). Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights**

Dialogue with the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Interactive dialogue

General discussion

1 p.m.

*Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 107 (a) and (d)*

*Wednesday, 27 October*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Item 107 (b), (c) and (e). General discussion (continued)**

1 p.m.

*Closure of list of speakers on item 107 (b), (c) and (e)*

*Thursday, 28 October*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Item 107 (b), (c) and (e). General discussion (continued)**

*Friday, 29 October*

10 a.m.

**Item 107 (b), (c) and (e). General discussion (continued)**

**Week of 1-5 November**

*Monday, 1 November*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Item 107 (b), (c) and (e). General discussion (continued)**

*Tuesday, 2 November*

10 a.m.

**Item 107 (b), (c) and (e). General discussion (concluded)**

6 p.m.

*Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 107 (b), (c) and (e)*

*Wednesday, 3 November*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:

**Item 105 (a). Elimination of racism and racial discrimination**

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (Suppl. No. 18)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

Report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

Report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance on the study of the issue of political platforms that promote or incite racial discrimination

Interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

**Item 105 (b). Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action**

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and report of the Secretary-General on the comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

**Item 106. Right of peoples to self-determination**

Report of the Secretary-General on the universal realization of the right of peoples to self-determination

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on the use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination (A/59/191)

*Thursday, 4 November*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Items 105 (a) and (b) and 106. General discussion  
(continued)**

1 p.m.

*Closure of the list of speakers on items 105 (a) and (b) and 106*

*Friday, 5 November*

10 a.m.

**Items 105 (a) and (b) and 106. General discussion  
(continued)**

**Week of 8-12 November**

*Monday, 8 November*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Items 105 (a) and (b) and 106. General discussion  
(continued)**

*Tuesday, 9 November*

10 a.m.

**Items 105 (a) and (b) and 106. General discussion  
(concluded)**

3 p.m.

*Deadline for submission of draft proposals on items 105 (a) and  
(b) and 106*



Introductory statements, dialogue with senior Secretariat officials and general discussion of:

**Item 102. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions**

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (A/59/12) (Suppl. No. 12)

Report of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (A/59/12/Add.1) (Suppl. No. 12 A — addendum)

Report of the Secretary-General on the progress made concerning the promotion of a new international humanitarian order

Report of the Secretary-General on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in Africa

1 p.m.

*Closure of list of speakers on item 102*

*Wednesday, 10 November*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Item 102. General discussion (continued)**

*Thursday, 11 November*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Item 102. General discussion (concluded)**

6 p.m.

*Deadline for submission of draft proposals on item 102*

*Friday, 12 November — no meetings*

**Week of 15-19 November**

*Monday, 15 November*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Action on draft proposals**

*Tuesday, 16 November*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Action on draft proposals**

*Wednesday, 17 November*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Action on draft proposals**

Thursday, 18 November

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Action on draft proposals**

*Friday, 19 November*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Action on draft proposals**

**Week of 22-26 November**

*Monday, 22 November*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Action on draft proposals**

*Tuesday, 23 November*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Action on draft proposals**

*Programme*

*Documentation*

*Wednesday, 24 November*

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

**Action on outstanding draft proposals**

Provisional programme of work of the next session

**Projected conclusion date of the work of the Third Committee**