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Commission on Science and Technology for Development

Fourteenth session

Geneva, 23–27 May 2011

Item 1 of the provisional agenda

Provisional annotated agenda and organization of work

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Annotations

Item 1

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

1. Rule 7 of the rules of procedure requires that, at the beginning of each session, the Commission shall adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda. The provisional agenda and documentation for the fourteenth session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development were approved by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 2010/229 of 19 July 2010.

2. In accordance with the established practice, the Commission, at its thirteenth session on 21 May 2010, elected by acclamation the Bureau of the fourteenth session, with the following composition:

Chair: Ms. Sherry Ayittey (Ghana)

Vice-Chairs: Mr. Alvaro Galvani (Brazil)
Mr. Fortunato de la Peña (Philippines)
Mr. Štefan Morávek (Slovakia)
Mr. Frédéric Riehl (Switzerland)

3. As at previous sessions of the Commission, one of the Vice-Chairs will be designated to also serve as Rapporteur.

4. The proposed organization of work of the Commission at its fourteenth session (see annex I) has been prepared pursuant to relevant decisions of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council to facilitate the consideration of agenda items within the time frame available and in accordance with the conference services allocated to the Commission. The timetable should be considered tentative and indicative; if the Commission completes its consideration of an item ahead of schedule, it may wish to proceed immediately to the next item.

5. The Commission is scheduled to meet from Monday, 23 May, to Friday, 27 May 2011. The morning meetings will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the afternoon meetings from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

6. The current membership of the Commission is contained in annex II for information.

Documentation

E/CN.16/2011/1/Rev.1 Provisional annotated agenda and organization of work

Item 2

Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society outcomes at the regional and international levels

7. The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS), organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) on behalf of the United Nations, took place in two phases – in 2003 in Geneva, and 2005 in Tunis. In the Geneva Declaration of Principles, the first phase of the WSIS¹ adopted a common vision and commitment to building a people-centred, inclusive and development-oriented

¹ The outcome documents are available at: <http://www.itu.int/wsisis/>.

information society. The second phase of the Summit, at Tunis, endorsed the outcomes of the first phase and adopted a Commitment and an Agenda for the Information Society, which addressed, inter alia, the themes of financial mechanisms and Internet governance.

8. The Economic and Social Council was requested by the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society to oversee the United Nations system-wide follow-up of the outcomes of the Geneva and Tunis Phases of the Summit. To this end, the Council was requested to review the mandate of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), including its strengthening, taking into account the multi-stakeholder approach.²

9. In its resolution 2006/46 of 28 July 2006, entitled “Follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society and review of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development”, the Economic and Social Council decided that the CSTD shall effectively assist the Council as the focal point in the system-wide follow-up to the outcomes of the WSIS and advise the Council thereon, including through recommendations to the Council aimed at furthering the implementation of the Summit outcomes.

10. In its resolution 2007/8 of 25 July 2007 on “Flow of information for the follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society”, the Economic and Social Council requested the Secretary-General to annually inform the Commission on the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS, including all e-applications. In this connection, the Council requested the United Nations organizations acting as action line facilitators, United Nations regional commissions, main theme facilitators, the Global Alliance for Information and Communications Technologies and Development, and other entities, as appropriate, to submit to the secretariat of the Commission their respective reports as inputs towards the elaboration of the annual report of the Secretary-General to the Commission.

11. In its resolution 2010/2 adopted on 19 July 2010 on “Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society”, the Economic and Social Council invited the Chair of the Commission “to establish, in an open and inclusive manner, a working group which would seek, compile and review inputs from all Member States and all other stakeholders on improvements to the Internet Governance Forum, in line with the mandate set out in the Tunis Agenda, and would make recommendations, as appropriate, to the Commission at its fourteenth session in 2011, in a report that would constitute an input from the Commission to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, should the mandate of the Internet Governance Forum be extended”.

12. The report of the Secretary-General³ on Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society outcomes at the regional and international levels aims to provide an overview of the progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of WSIS at the regional and international levels, highlighting examples of good and effective practices, with a view to sharing best and effective practices and lessons learned. It draws on the findings and recommendations of the Commission’s panel discussion held in Geneva, Switzerland, in December 2010, on inputs by the United Nations entities and specialized agencies and on other relevant literature. The Commission will review and assess progress made on the implementation of WSIS outcomes at

² Tunis Agenda for the Information Society, para. 105.

³ A/66/64–E/2011/77.

regional and international levels, as requested by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2006/46.

13. In November 2010, the Chair of the CSTD launched a multi-stakeholder consultation on progress made towards the implementation of the outcomes of WSIS since 2005. A questionnaire was sent out to all United Nations member States, entities in the United Nations system at the regional and international level, information and communications technology (ICT) sector associations and agencies, private sector and civil society actors. The purpose of the review is to identify areas which have registered most progress, where obstacles and constraints are encountered and innovative measures to overcome them. In line with Economic and Social Council resolution 2006/46, the review also considers how changes in the ICT landscape may call for increased/reduced attention to certain areas. Findings of this five-year review are contained in E/CN.16/2011/CRP.2.

14. In its resolution 65/141, the General Assembly decided to extend the mandate of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) for a further five years. Consequently, in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2010/2, the Chair of CSTD established, in an open and inclusive manner, a Working Group which sought, compiled and reviewed inputs from all member States and all other stakeholders in line with the mandate set out in the Tunis Agenda (A/60/687).

15. The report of the Working Group on Improvements to the Internet Governance Forum compiles outcomes of online and real-time consultations to gather inputs from all stakeholders on improvements. It is submitted to the Commission at its fourteenth session, with recommendations, as appropriate, which will constitute an input by the Commission to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council.

Documentation

A/66/64-E/2011/77	Report of the Secretary-General on Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society at the regional and international levels
A/66/67-E/2011/79	Report of the Working Group on improvements to the Internet Governance Forum
E/CN.16/2011/CRP.1	Report on the intersessional panel meeting
E/CN.16/2011/CRP.2	Report on the five-year review of the World Summit on the Information Society

Item 3

Priority themes:

(a) Measuring the impact of information and communications technology for development

(b) Technologies to address challenges in areas such as agriculture and water

16. At its tenth session, in May 2007, as requested by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 2006/46, and recalling the Commission on Science and Technology for Development's mandate contained in paragraphs 4, 5 and 6 of the resolution, the Commission adopted a multi-year work programme underpinned by a strong development orientation, and contained a number of themes. The Commission decided to focus in each biennium on a specific theme related to the building of the information society, with a view to narrowing the digital divide, and

to examine, within its original mandate, the implications of science and technology for development.

17. The themes addressed by the Commission within the framework of its multi-year work programme are:

- (a) Measuring the impact of information and communications technology for development
- (b) Technologies to address challenges in areas such as agriculture and water.

18. In order to contribute to a further understanding of these themes, and to assist the Commission in its deliberations at its fourteenth session, a panel meeting was convened in Geneva, Switzerland, from 15 to 17 December 2010. The report from the panel discussion will be before the Commission.⁴

19. Also before the Commission will be a conference room paper on “Applying a Gender Lens to Science, Technology and Innovation”, which UNCTAD has prepared in close collaboration with the Gender Advisory Board of the CSTD, in response to Economic and Social Council resolution 2010/3. The report addresses how science, technology and innovation could support women’s development and livelihood activities, including in agriculture and water.

Documentation

E/CN.16/2011/3	Report of the Secretary-General on Measuring the impact of information and communication technologies for development
E/CN.16/2011/2	Report of the Secretary-General on Technologies to address challenges in areas such as agriculture and water
E/CN.16/2011/CRP.1	Report on the Intersessional panel meeting
E/CN.16/2011/CRP.3	Applying a gender lens to science, technology and innovation

Item 4

Presentation of reports on science, technology and innovation policy reviews

20. In its resolution 2009/8, entitled “Science and technology for development”, the Economic and Social Council extended its appreciation to UNCTAD for undertaking science, technology and innovation policy reviews and encouraged UNCTAD to continue providing its expertise and analytical skills for science, technology and innovation policy reviews.

21. In its resolution 2010/3, the Economic and Social Council encouraged UNCTAD to “increase significantly its efforts to conduct science, technology and innovation policy reviews in response to a high demand from member countries, in close collaboration with other relevant international organizations, particularly the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, and with the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, the regional commissions and other appropriate stakeholders, including the World Bank and other international and regional development banks, with a view to assisting developing countries in strengthening their science, technology and innovation systems”.

⁴ E/CN.16/2011/CRP.1.

22. The Commission will hear presentations on science, technology and innovation policy reviews.

Item 5

Review of methods of work of the Commission

23. The Economic and Social Council, on recommendation from the thirteenth session of the CSTD, adopted three decisions (2010/226, 2010/227, 2010/228) in July 2010, which extended the current arrangements for the participation of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and civil society entities, business sector entities, and academic entities in the work of the CSTD until 2011.

24. The Commission will be asked to review, at its fourteenth session, the benefits of participation of NGOs, academic entities and business sector entities, including the private sector, in the work of the Commission, and recommend to the Council appropriate steps.

25. The Note by the secretariat is before the Commission.

Documentation

E/CN.16/2011/4

Methods of work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development

Item 6

Election of the Chair and other officers for the fifteenth session of the Commission

26. Following the practice established at its previous sessions, the Commission will elect a Chair and four vice-chairs for its fifteenth session. It is understood that one of the vice-chairs will also serve as Rapporteur.

Item 7

Provisional agenda and documentation for the fifteenth session of the Commission

27. In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the CSTD will have before it the draft provisional agenda for its fifteenth session, together with an indication of the documentation to be submitted for its consideration.

Item 8

Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fourteenth session

28. In accordance with rule 37 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions, the CSTD shall submit to the Economic and Social Council a report on the work of its fourteenth session.

Annex I**Proposed organization of work**

<i>Date/time</i>	<i>Agenda item/discussion topic</i>	<i>Programme</i>
<i>Monday, 23 May</i>		
10 a.m.	1. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters	<i>Opening statements Adoption of the agenda and organization of work</i>
	Introduction of the report of the Secretary-General on WSIS follow-up	<i>General discussion</i>
	Ministerial round table on Review of progress made in the implementation of WSIS outcomes	
3 p.m.	Ministerial round table on “Harnessing science and technology to address development challenges”	<i>General discussion</i>
<i>Tuesday, 24 May</i>		
10 a.m.	2. Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society outcomes at the regional and international levels	<i>Introduction and general discussion</i>
	<i>Report on improvements to the Internet Governance Forum</i>	
3 p.m.	2. Progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society outcomes at the regional and international levels	<i>Introduction and general discussion</i>
	<i>Continued</i>	
<i>Wednesday, 25 May</i>		
10 a.m.	3. Priority themes: (a) Measuring the impact of information and communications technology for development (b) Technologies to address challenges in areas such as agriculture and water	<i>Introduction and general discussion</i>
3 p.m.	4. Presentation of reports on science, technology and innovation policy reviews	<i>Introduction and general discussion</i>

Thursday, 26 May

10 a.m. 5. Review of methods of work of the Commission

Review of the participation of participation of NGOs, academic entities and business sector entities, including the private sector, in the work of the Commission

3 p.m.

Informal consultations on draft proposals

Informal consultations on draft proposals

Friday, 27 May

10 a.m.
and
3 p.m. 6. Election of the Chair and other officers for the fifteenth session of the Commission

Informal consultations on draft proposals (as required)

Election of officers

7. Provisional agenda and documentation for the fifteenth session of the Commission

Action on draft proposals

Adoption of the draft provisional agenda

8. Adoption of the report of the Commission at its fourteenth session

Adoption of the report

Closure of the session

Annex II

Membership of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development at its fourteenth session (43 members⁵; four-year term)

<i>Members</i>	<i>Term expires on 31 December</i>
1. Austria	2012
2. Brazil	2012
3. Bulgaria	2014
4. Chile	2012
5. China	2014
6. Costa Rica	2012
7. Cuba	2014
8. Democratic Republic of the Congo	2012
9. Dominican Republic	2014
10. El Salvador	2014
11. Equatorial Guinea	2012
12. Finland	2012
13. France	2014
14. Ghana	2012
15. Hungary	2014
16. India	2014
17. Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2014
18. Israel	2012
19. Jamaica	2012
20. Jordan	2012
21. Latvia	2014
22. Lesotho	2014
23. Mali	2012
24. Mauritius	2014
25. Oman	2012
26. Pakistan	2012
27. Peru	2014
28. Philippines	2014
29. Portugal	2012
30. Russian Federation	2012
31. Rwanda	2014
32. Slovakia	2012
33. South Africa	2012
34. Sri Lanka	2012
35. Switzerland	2012
36. Togo	2014
37. Tunisia	2014
38. United Republic of Tanzania	2014
39. United States of America	2014

⁵ There are currently 4 vacancies: 3 in the Western Europe and Other States Group, and 1 in the Asian Group.