



## Economic and Social Council

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### Commission on the Status of Women

#### Fifty-seventh session

4-15 March 2013

#### Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

### Letter dated 29 November 2012 from the President of the Economic and Social Council to the Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women

The 2012 high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council, held in July 2012, considered ways to deal with the global jobs crisis, by focusing on the areas of unemployment, productive capacity, social protection floors, and development cooperation. By promoting consensus and facilitating discussions, the Council ensured a renewed focus on the link between the current jobs crisis and the ongoing need to strive for inclusive and sustainable development. The ministerial declaration of the high-level segment (see A/67/3, chap. III, para. 139) thus stressed the need for immediate collective action by the international community to address the global jobs crisis.

The Economic and Social Council also convened its biennial Development Cooperation Forum where participants proposed practical recommendations for meeting specific emerging challenges, as well as ways to further enhance development coherence.

The operational activities segment of the 2012 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council focused on the 2012 quadrennial comprehensive policy review of the General Assembly, and nearly all programme countries requested that programming instruments be better streamlined and harmonized at the country level, while, at the same time, still maintaining sufficient levels of flexibility. It also called on the United Nations development system as a whole to greatly simplify and harmonize its business practices.

At the humanitarian affairs segment of the 2012 substantive session of the Economic and Social Council, the Council succeeded in shining the spotlight on the world's most dire emergencies as well as in touching upon ways to improve its capacity to confront future crises swiftly. Moreover, it placed greater emphasis on integrating empiricism more tightly into humanitarian decision-making and partnerships, and discussed the Secretary-General's first report on the implementation



of integrated, coherent and coordinated support to South Sudan by the United Nations system (E/2012/76).

Finally, attention was given to the follow-up to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and the strengthening of the Council, including its working methods, so as to enable it to effectively fulfil its functions of giving special attention to the integrated and coordinated implementation of all major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields.

In addition to the ministerial declaration, a total of 33 resolutions and 44 decisions were adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session. A list of those resolutions that have relevance to the functional commissions has been prepared (see annex).

I would greatly appreciate it if this list could be brought to the attention of the Commission on the Status of Women for consideration and action (if necessary), and wish to thank you for your continued assistance and collaboration in this regard.

*(Signed)* Miloš **Koterec**

## Annex

### **Resolutions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 2012 calling for action by relevant United Nations bodies**

#### **Resolution requesting follow-up by the Commission on the Status of Women**

2012/25: Situation of and assistance to Palestinian women

#### **Resolutions calling for action by the functional commissions**

2012/26: Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020

2012/27: Human settlements

2012/30: Role of the Economic and Social Council in the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, in the light of relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolution 61/16

#### **Resolutions calling for action by all relevant United Nations bodies/entities of the United Nations system**

E/HLS/2012/1: Ministerial declaration of the 2012 high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council entitled "Promoting productive capacity, employment and decent work to eradicate poverty in the context of inclusive, sustainable and equitable economic growth at all levels for achieving the Millennium Development Goals"

2012/2: The role of the United Nations system in implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to education

2012/3: Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

2012/4: United Nations system-wide coherence on tobacco control

2012/5: Assessment of the progress made in the implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society

2012/8: Social dimensions of the New Partnership for Africa's Development

2012/9: Poverty eradication

2012/10: Preparations for and observance of the twentieth anniversary of the International Year of the Family

2012/11: Mainstreaming disability in the development agenda

2012/21: Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti

2012/22: Support to Non-Self-Governing Territories by the specialized agencies and international institutions associated with the United Nations

2012/24: Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system

2012/26: Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011-2020

2012/27: Human Settlements