



# Economic and Social Council

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## Substantive session of 2013

### Summary record of the 51st meeting

Held at Headquarters, New York, on Thursday, 7 November 2013, at 10 a.m.

*President:* Mr. Osorio..... (Colombia)

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*The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.*

**Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters** (*continued*) (E/2013/9/Add.7, Add.13 and Add.14)

*Elections:*

*International Narcotics Control Board*  
(E/2013/9/Add.14)

1. **The President** invited the Council to elect one member to the International Narcotics Control Board to fill a vacancy arising from the resignation of Mr. Jorge Montaña (Mexico).

2. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that the nominees were Mr. Desmond Corrigan (Ireland), Mr. Aleksandr Konovalenko (Belarus), Mr. Alejandro Mohar Betancourt (Mexico), Mr. Hossein Rahimi Soltanahmadi (Islamic Republic of Iran) and Mr. Martin Sopuch (Slovakia).

3. **The President**, noting that there were more nominees than the number of vacancies, invited the Council to elect, by secret ballot, a member to fill the vacant seat.

4. *At the invitation of the President, Mr. Ribeiro Marques (Brazil) and Ms. Sabelo (South Africa) acted as tellers.*

5. *A vote was taken by secret ballot.*

<i>Number of ballot papers:</i>	49
<i>Number of valid ballots:</i>	49
<i>Abstentions:</i>	0
<i>Number of members voting:</i>	49
<i>Required majority:</i>	25
<i>Number of votes obtained:</i>	
Mr. Alejandro Mohar Betancourt (Mexico):	33
Mr. Desmond Corrigan (Ireland):	13
Mr. Aleksandr Konovalenko (Belarus)	2
Mr. Hossein Rahimi Soltanahmadi (Islamic Republic of Iran)	1
Mr. Martin Sopuch (Slovakia)	0

6. *Having obtained the required majority and the largest number of votes, Mr. Alejandro Mohar Betancourt (Mexico) was elected a member of the International Narcotics Control Board.*

*Committee of Experts on Public Administration*  
(E/2013/9/Add.13)

7. **The President** drew the Council's attention to the note by the Secretary-General nominating 24 candidates to serve in their personal capacity on the Committee of Experts on Public Administration for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 2014.

8. He took it that the Council wished to elect those candidates by acclamation.

9. *It was so decided.*

*Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women*  
(E/2013/Add.7)

10. **The President** invited the Council to elect 24 members of the Executive Board of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2014.

11. In accordance with Council resolution 2010/35 and paragraphs 61 (a) and (b) of General Assembly resolution 64/289, 18 members were to be elected from the five regional groups.

12. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that Equatorial Guinea, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa and Togo had been endorsed by the Group of African States; Bangladesh, China, India, Japan and the Republic of Korea had been endorsed by the Group of Asia-Pacific States; Bosnia and Herzegovina and Poland had been endorsed by the Group of Eastern European States; Colombia, Cuba and Suriname had been endorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and Austria, Liechtenstein and Spain had been endorsed by the Group of Western European and other States.

13. **The President** said that, since the number of candidates from each regional group was equal to or less than the number of vacancies, he took it that the Council wished to elect them by acclamation.

14. *It was so decided.*

15. *Austria, Bangladesh, Bosnia and Herzegovina, China, Colombia, Cuba, Equatorial Guinea, India, Japan, Liechtenstein, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname and Togo were elected members of the Executive Board of UN-Women.*

16. **The President** said that four contributing countries were to be elected in accordance with paragraph 61 (a) of General Assembly resolution 64/289. The Permanent Mission of Switzerland had informed him that Norway, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America had been endorsed.

17. Two developing countries were to be elected in accordance with paragraph 61 (b) of General Assembly resolution 64/289. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia had announced its candidacy for one of the two seats, and Mexico had been endorsed by the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States for re-election to one of the two seats. Those candidacies had been approved under the no-objection procedure by the developing countries not members of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

18. He took it that the Council wished to elect by acclamation the candidates proposed for a term of three years beginning on 1 January 2014.

19. *It was so decided.*

20. *Mexico, Norway, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America were elected to the Executive Board of UN-Women.*

21. **The President** announced that Ireland and Switzerland, which had been elected in accordance with Council resolution 2010/35, had resigned their seats effective 1 January 2014. The Group of Western European and other States had endorsed Iceland and New Zealand to assume those seats.

22. He took it that the Council wished to elect those candidates by acclamation to complete the terms of office of Ireland and Switzerland.

23. *It was so decided.*

24. *Iceland and New Zealand were elected members of the Executive Board of UN-Women.*

*Outstanding vacancies from previous sessions:*

*Commission on Population and Development*

25. **The President** said that he had been advised that the Group of Eastern European States had endorsed Romania to fill one of three outstanding vacancies on the Commission on Population and Development for a

term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the Commission's fiftieth session.

26. He took it that the Council wished to elect Romania by acclamation to fill that vacancy.

27. *It was so decided.*

28. *Romania was elected to the Commission on Population and Development.*

29. **The President** said he took it that the Council wished to postpone the nomination of one member from the Asia-Pacific States and one from the Latin American and Caribbean States, both for terms beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the forty-ninth session of the Commission; one member from the African States and one from the Asia-Pacific States, both for terms beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the fiftieth session of the Commission; and three members from the Asia-Pacific States, two from the Latin American and Caribbean States and one from the Western European and other States, all for terms beginning at the first meeting of the forty-eighth session of the Commission and expiring at the close of its fifty-first session.

30. *It was so decided.*

*Commission for Social Development*

31. **The President** said that he had been advised that the Group of Eastern European States had endorsed Romania to fill an outstanding vacancy on the Commission for Social Development for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the fifty-fifth session of the Commission.

32. He took it that the Council wished to elect Romania by acclamation to fill that vacancy.

33. *It was so decided.*

34. *Romania was elected to the Commission for Social Development.*

35. **The President** said he took it that the Council wished to postpone the nomination of one member from the Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the fifty-fourth session of the Commission; and one member from the Asia-Pacific States and three from the Western European and other States for terms beginning on the date of election and expiring at the close of the fifty-fifth session of the Commission.

36. *It was so decided.*

*Commission on the Status of Women*

37. **The President** said that the Group of African States had endorsed Egypt to fill an outstanding vacancy on the Commission on the Status of Women for a term beginning at the first meeting of the fifty-ninth session of the Commission and expiring at the close of its sixty-second session.

38. He took it that the Council wished to elect Egypt by acclamation to fill that vacancy.

39. *It was so decided.*

40. *Egypt was elected to the Commission on the Status of Women.*

41. **The President** announced that Malawi had resigned its seat on the Commission effective 6 May 2013. The Group of African States had endorsed the Sudan to assume that seat.

42. He took it that the Council wished to elect the Sudan by acclamation to complete the term of office of Malawi.

43. *It was so decided.*

44. *The Sudan was elected to the Commission on the Status of Women.*

*Committee for Programme and Coordination*

45. **The President** said that the Group of African States had endorsed Morocco to fill an outstanding vacancy on the Committee for Programme and Coordination for a term beginning on 1 January 2014 and expiring on 31 December 2016.

46. He took it that the Council wished to nominate Morocco for election by the General Assembly to fill that vacancy.

47. *It was so decided.*

48. *Morocco was nominated for election to the Committee for Programme and Coordination.*

49. **The President** said he took it that the Council wished to further postpone the nomination of two members from the Western European and other States for terms beginning on the date of election by the General Assembly and expiring on 31 December 2014; one member from the Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2015; and one member from

the Asia-Pacific States for a three year term beginning on 1 January 2014.

50. *It was so decided.*

*Executive Board of the World Food Programme*

51. **The President** said that the Group of Western European and other States had endorsed Spain to fill the remaining vacancy from list D for a three-year term on the Executive Board of the World Food Programme, beginning on 1 January 2014.

52. He took it that the Council wished to elect Spain by acclamation to fill that vacancy.

53. *It was so decided.*

54. *Spain was elected a member of the Executive Board of the World Food Programme.*

*Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS*

55. **The President** said that the Group of African States had endorsed Morocco for a three-year term on the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, beginning on 1 January 2014.

56. He took it that the Council wished to elect Morocco by acclamation to fill that vacancy.

57. *It was so decided.*

58. *Morocco was elected to the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS.*

59. **The President** announced that Norway had resigned its seat on the Board effective 1 January 2014. The Group of Western European and other States had endorsed Denmark to assume that seat for a term expiring on 31 December 2014.

60. He took it that the Council wished to elect Denmark by acclamation to the Board to complete the term of Norway.

61. *It was so decided.*

62. *Denmark was elected to the Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS.*

**Economic and environmental questions** (*continued*)**(k) Cartography** (*continued*)

*Draft decision E/2013/L.40: Dates and venues for the twenty-eighth session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names*

63. **The President** said that the draft decision had no programme budget implications.

64. *Draft decision E/2013/L.40 was adopted.*

**Social and human rights questions** (*continued*)**(h) Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues** (*continued*) (E/2013/43, E/2013/L.41)

*Draft decision E/2013/L.41: Report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its twelfth session*

65. **The President** said that the draft decision had no programme budget implications.

66. *Draft decision E/2013/L.41 was adopted.*

*Report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous issues on its twelfth session (E/2013/43)*

67. **The President** recalled that the Council had, by decision 2013/252, deferred consideration of the report. It was his understanding that the Council was now ready to consider the draft decisions contained therein.

*Draft decision I: International expert group meeting on the theme "Sexual health and reproductive rights: articles 21, 22 (1), 23 and 24 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples"*

68. *Draft decision I was adopted.*

*Draft decision II: Venue and dates of the thirteenth session of the Permanent Forum*

69. *Draft decision II was adopted.*

*Draft decision III: Report of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues on its twelfth session and provisional agenda for its thirteenth session*

70. **Ms. de Laurentis** (Secretary of the Council) said that the title of the special theme should be corrected to read "Principles of good governance consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of

Indigenous Peoples: articles 3 to 6 and 46", thereby removing the reference to article 46 (3).

71. *Draft decision III, as orally corrected, was adopted.*

*Draft decision IV: Change of name of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues*

72. **The President** noted that draft decision E/2013/L.41, which the Council had just adopted, requested the Permanent Forum to continue the consideration of draft decision IV and to inform the Council of the outcome. It followed that no further action was required on the part of the Council.

**Draft ministerial declaration of the 2013 high-level segment of the substantive session of the Council: Science, technology and innovation, and the potential of culture, for promoting sustainable development and achieving the Millennium Development Goals**

73. **The President** said that consultations on the draft ministerial declaration were still under way. Substantial progress had been made during July 2013; the outstanding difficulties concerned only two paragraphs of a draft of some 50 paragraphs. Consultations had resumed in September 2013, and significant efforts had been made to reach a compromise.

74. If a consensus could not be reached, one option would be for him to issue a summary of the declaration, which would be a non-binding text. However, the topic was an important one for developing countries, and it was essential for the Council to demonstrate its ability to provide effective policy guidance. He therefore urged those Council members involved in the consultation process to endeavour to reach an agreement by the end of the year.

*The meeting rose at 11 a.m.*