

OVERVIEW OF ECOSOC SUBSIDIARY BODIES: THEMES, SESSIONS AND WORKING METHODS

Subsidiary body	Date of the session / venue	2020 Theme or other pertinent issue	ECOSOC-related agenda item ¹	Comments
A. FUNCTIONAL COMMISSIONS				
Statistical Commission	3 – 6 March 2020 (51 st session) New York	2020 Comprehensive Review of the global SDG indicator framework*	Agenda item on follow-up to ECOSOC resolutions and decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Statistical Commission elects its bureau members (by acclamation) for each session at its first meeting of the session. • In 2017, the Statistical Commission adopted its programme of work (E/CN.3/2017/34) for the period 2017-2021. • The Statistical Commission has continued to maintain the official indicator framework for the follow up of the 2030 Agenda. • The Statistical Commission has tasked its Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators to work on the development and maintenance of the SDG indicator framework. • The Statistical Commission's High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (HLG-PCCB) provides strategic leadership for the sustainable development goal implementation process. • The HLG-PCCB, has held two UN World Data Forums, to promote active participation of major groups, non-governmental organizations and the private sector in the statistics and data discussions in the context of the 2030 agenda.
Commission on Population and Development	30 March – 3 April April 2020 (53 rd session) 12-16 April 2021 (54 th session) New York	2020 Theme: "Population, food security, nutrition and sustainable development" 2021 Theme: "Population and sustainable development, in particular sustained and inclusive economic growth"	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One special theme for each annual session. • Bureau members elected for one year. • In ECOSOC resolution 2016/25 on the Commission's future organization and methods of work, the Council reaffirmed that the Commission's primary mandate, derived from GA resolution 49/128, is to monitor, review and assess the implementation of the Programme of Action of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and to advise the Council thereon. It was also decided that the Commission would contribute to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development within its existing mandate. • In its decision 2017/260, ECOSOC decided that, starting with the 53rd session of the CPD in 2020, the Commission would adopt a four-year cycle for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action and its contribution to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda, as part of a multi-year work programme aligned with the Council's main theme and with the thematic focus of the high-level political forum convened under the auspices of the Council.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPD returned to its earlier practice of deciding its annual theme two years in advance.
Commission for Social Development	10-19 February 2020 (58 th session) New York	Priority Theme: Affordable housing and social protection systems for all to address homelessness	Agenda item on Emerging issues, which is usually on a topic related to the Council's annual theme and HLPF under ECOSOC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bureau members are elected by the Commission at the 1st meeting of a regular session, held immediately after the end of a regular session for the sole purpose of electing a new bureau. The elected members serve for a term of office of two years, in parallel with the review and policy cycle. • At its 56th session (Feb. 2018), CSocD reviewed its methods of work and adopted a resolution on its future organization and methods of work. • The commission reaffirmed that it will contribute to the follow-up to the 2030 Agenda, within its existing mandate, by supporting the thematic reviews of the HLPF on progress in the implementation of the SDGs, including cross-cutting issues. It decided that it will consider one priority theme at each session on the basis of the follow-up to and review of the World Summit and its linkages to the social dimensions of the 2030 Agenda, proposing an action-oriented resolution with recommendations to the Council in order to contribute to its work. • The same resolution requests the Commission to adopt a multi-year programme of work to allow for predictability and adequate time for preparation; in selecting its priority theme, the Commission should take into consideration, in addition to the follow-up to and review of the World Summit and the outcome of the special session of GA, the programme of work of the Council, as well as the 2030 Agenda, so as to build synergies and contribute to the work of the Council system and the high-level political forum. •
Commission on the Status of Women	9-20 March 2020 (64 th session) New York	<u>Theme:</u> Review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of the 23 rd special session of the GA	Agenda item on follow-up to ECOSOC resolutions and decisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual priority theme and review theme • Bureau elected on a two-year cycle. • At its 62nd session, CSW adopted a resolution on "Future organization and methods of work of the CSW" in which it decided " that at its sixty-fourth session, in 2020, the Commission on the Status of Women will undertake a review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcomes of the twenty-third special session of the GA, including an assessment of current challenges that affect the implementation of the Platform for Action and the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of women and its contribution towards the full realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through a gender perspective (Op 1)." It also

¹ 2020 ECOSOC Theme and 2020HLPF Theme: Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development

				<p>decided to decide on its future multi-year programme of work at its 64th session.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At its 60th session, CSW adopted a resolution on “Multi-year programme of work of the CSW” in which it decided on priority and review themes for its 61st (2017), 62nd (2018) and 63rd (2019) sessions. • At its 59th session, CSW reviewed its methods of work, in which it decided “that the Commission will report on the aspects relating to gender equality and the empowerment of women of the agreed main theme of the ECOSOC, in order to contribute to its work (OP3 of E/RES/2015/6). It also decided that the Commission will, as necessary, continue to discuss emerging issues, trends, focus areas and new approaches to questions affecting the situation of women, including equality between women and men, that require timely consideration, taking into account developments at the global and regional levels as well as planned activities within the United Nations, where increased attention to gender perspectives is required, and with attention to relevant issues on the agenda of the Council, in particular its annual main theme, as applicable (Op10). •
<p>Commission on Narcotic Drugs</p>	<p>2-6 March 2020 (63rd session) Vienna</p> <p>3-4 December 2020 (reconvened 63rd session) Vienna</p>	<p>N/A / TBD</p>	<p>Agenda item on contributions by the Commission to the work of the ECOSOC, in line with GA 68/1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bureau of CND (for the next session) is elected at the end of its reconvened session. The Extended Bureau also includes the Chairpersons of the five regional groups, the European Union and the Group of 77 and China. • The CND bases its considerations on the findings and the analysis contained in the World Drug Report, exploring the interrelationship between the world drug problem and sustainable development. • A youth forum takes place at the margins of the regular session of the CND. Representatives of the youth forum report back on the outcome of their youth forum during the regular session. • At the 63rd regular session, the Vienna based functional bodies of the ECOSOC, the CND and the CCPCJ, are planning to hold a high-level event on the 25th anniversary of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, commemorating Beijing+25 and supporting the Commission on the Status of Women. The Commissions have devoted special attention to the issue of gender mainstreaming, joining efforts to promote the use of gender-inclusive communication, including through the “Let’s Talk Gender” meetings. • Other ECOSOC subsidiary bodies are invited to contribute to the work of the Commission, including under the agenda item on contributions to the work of the ECOSOC. At 62nd session for example, the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) addressed the CND, highlighting cross-cutting issues, including the effects of scientific and technological changes on prevention and rehabilitation of drug users, as well as potential new risks and challenges related to trafficking.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In addition, the Commission decided in June 2019 on a multi-year workplan to organize thematic sessions on the practical implementation of international drug policy commitments. These thematic sessions are held every autumn in the lead up to 2024 and provide another opportunity for the other functional commissions to contribute to the work of the CND, highlighting cross-cutting issues.
Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice	<p>18-22 May 2020 (29th session) Vienna</p> <p>3-4 December 2020 (reconvened 29th session) Vienna</p>	<p>“Effective measures to prevent and counter the smuggling of migrants, while protecting the rights of smuggled migrants, particularly women and children, and those of unaccompanied migrant children”</p>	<p>Agenda item on contributions by the Commission to the work of the ECOSOC, in line with GA 68/1</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bureau of CCPCJ (for the next session) is elected at the end of its reconvened session. The Extended Bureau also includes the Chairpersons of the five regional groups, the European Union and the Group of 77 and China. • In 2015, CCPCJ (E/2015/30/Add.1) decided the themes for 25th, 26th, 27th, 28 and 29th sessions. It also decided that the Commission, at its future sessions, should continue to consider ways of further improving its working methods, including with regard to the consideration of agenda items and the organization of its thematic discussions. • The CCPCJ negotiated in 2018 a resolution “Enhancing the role of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in contributing to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, which was adopted by the GA (A/RES/73/183). • At the 63rd regular session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Vienna based functional bodies of the ECOSOC, the CND and the CCPCJ, are planning to hold a high-level event on the 25th anniversary of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, commemorating Beijing+25 and supporting the Commission on the Status of Women. The Commissions have devoted special attention to the issue of gender mainstreaming, joining efforts to promote the use of gender-inclusive communication, including through the “Let’s Talk Gender” meetings. Other ECOSOC subsidiary bodies are invited to contribute to the work of the Commission, including under the agenda item on contributions to the work of the ECOSOC. • At its 29th regular session, the Commission is expected to consider the outcome of the 14th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (20-27 April Kyoto, Japan), for which it acts as the preparatory body as well as the body that translates the guidance provided by the Congress into concrete action. The main theme of the Fourteenth Congress is “Advancing crime prevention, criminal justice and the rule of law: towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, The Congress and its follow-up process will provide another important opportunity for the ECOSOC subsidiary bodies to contribute to the global discussion on crime prevention and criminal justice and the work of the CCPCJ.

Commission on Science and Technology for Development	23-27 March 2020 (23 rd session) Geneva	Priority themes: Theme 1: Harnessing rapid technological change for inclusive and sustainable development Theme 2: Exploring space technologies for sustainable development and the benefits of international research collaboration in this context	Agenda item on contributions by the Commission to the work of the ECOSOC, in line with GA 68/1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bureau for the subsequent session is elected at the end of each regular session. • Two annual priority themes • The CSTD's methods of work were last reviewed in 2006 (E/RES/2006/46) "Follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society and review of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development "
United Nations Forum on Forests	4-8 May 2020 (15 th session) New York	Indicative list of the intersessional activities suggested during the discussions at the fourteenth session of the Forum to facilitate and inform policy deliberations at its fifteenth session are as follows: i) Contribute to inputs by the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and its members to the "nature-based solutions" component of the Climate Action Summit convened by the Secretary General on 23 September 2019; and ii) Contribute to the preparatory work of the summit on biodiversity to be convened by the GA in 2020 and to the Forum's input to the development of the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.	Agenda item on technical discussion and exchange of experiences on the thematic and operational priorities, priority actions and resource needs for the period 2019-2020, taking into account the review cycle of the HLPF during the biennium and theme of the International Day of Forests	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bureau members are elected at the first meeting of every other UNFF session for a two-year term of office with a view to ensuring continuity between policy and technical sessions. • In 2017, the UNFF and subsequently ECOSOC adopted the Quadrennial Programme of Work of the UNFF for the period 2017-2020 (4POW) (E/RES/2017/4). • Per 4POW, the odd-year sessions are dedicated to implementation and technical advice, whereas the even-year sessions focus on policy matters. • The thematic focus of UNFF sessions are determined, taking into account the review cycle of the HLPF during the biennium and theme of the International Day of Forests. • UNFF has included a standing agenda item on consideration of thematic and operational priorities, including priority actions and resource needs for the biennium, taking into account the review cycle of HLPF during the biennium and the theme of the International Day of Forests, at each session of the Forum as part of the quadrennial programme of work for the period 2017-2020.

C. STANDING COMMITTEES				
Committee for Programme and Coordination	1-26 June 2020 (Sixtieth session)			
Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations	20-29 January 2020 and 7 February 2020 (regular session); 18-28 May 2020 and 5 June 2020 (resumed session)	N/A	17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee elects its Bureau at the commencement of its regular session. Bureau Members are eligible for re-election. • The Committee is responsible for; considering applications from NGOs; monitoring the relationship between them and the UN; and examining a quadrennial report submitted to it by them.
D. EXPERT BODIES COMPOSED OF GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS				
Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (...)	2-11 December 2019 (Fifty-sixth session) Geneva			
Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting	30 October – 1 November 2019 (Thirty-sixth session) 28-30 October 2020 (Thirty-seventh session) Geneva	Practical implementation, including measurement, of core indicators for entity reporting on the contribution towards the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals: Review of case studies.		
United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names	3-7 May 2021(Second session) New York			
United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management	20-22 April 2020 (The sixth High Level Forum on United Nations Global Geospatial Information Management) Windsor, United Kingdom	The theme 'Changing the World - Geospatially'		

	5-7 August 2020 (10 th session) UNHQ, New York			
E. EXPERT BODIES COMPOSED OF MEMBERS SERVING IN THEIR PERSONAL CAPACITY				
Committee for Development Policy	24-27 February 2020 (22 nd session) New York	n/a	CDP's contribution to the ECOSOC theme (standing item in the CDP agenda)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDP Bureau is elected for a three-year cycle • Providing advice to ECOSOC on the annual theme is one of the core mandates of the CDP. That advice is contained in the CDP reported and additionally presented to the HLS of ECOSOC by the Chair of the CDP.
Committee of Experts on Public Administration	30 March - 3 April 2020 (19 th session) New York	Theme: Promoting effective governance and institutional reform to accelerate delivery of the SDGs	Agenda item on governance and public administration aspects of empowering people to build equal and inclusive societies for the twenty-first century	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bureau members are elected at the first meeting of each session of the Committee. In accordance with established practice, the officers continue to act as the Bureau during the intersessional period that follows. • The Committee has placed the 2030 Agenda at the centre of its work and advises on how public administrations can support the implementation and progress reviews of the SDGs. • The Committee adopts an agenda item relating to the annual main theme of ECOSOC and provides a written contribution to the HLPF.
Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters	15-18 October 2020 (19 th session) Geneva 27-30 April 2021 (20 th session) New York	N/A	<p>Each year, after the Committee's fall session, ECOSOC holds its one-day annual meeting to consider international cooperation in tax matters including, as appropriate, its contribution to mobilizing domestic financial resources for development and the institutional arrangements to promote such cooperation. This will next be held on 29 April 2019. It draws upon and informs Committee work.</p> <p>For the Committee's 18th session "Tax and the Sustainable Development Goals – follow up report" has been added to the provisional agenda after considerable discussion at the 17th session, with further inputs expected. Relevant ECOSOC developments are noted during applicable agenda items.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bureau is elected at the first session of a new Membership – i.e. every 4 years. • The Committee decides the priority themes for its consideration on an ongoing basis, but the main themes are usually set at the beginning of the 4-year membership terms, with a focus on expected guidance products to be finalized by the end of those terms. Agenda items are added by consensus.

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	17 February – 06 March 2020 (67 th session) 28 September – 16 October 2020 (68 th session)			
Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues	13 - 24 April 2020 (19 th session)	Peace, justice and strong institutions: the role of indigenous peoples in implementing Sustainable Development Goal 16	Agenda item on future work of the Permanent Forum, including issues of the ECOSOC and emerging issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chairs and the Vice-Chairs are elected for each session at the first meeting of the Forum. • Since 2008, it has adopted a bi-annual working method of one year with a specific theme and the next year focusing on review of implementation.