At its 40th plenary meeting, on 23 July 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided that the ninth Meeting of the Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters should take place in the first half of 1999, as envisaged in the programme budget for the biennium 1998–1999, so that the report of the meeting could be submitted to the Council at its substantive session of 1999.