

Decision

2009/234

Participation of non-governmental organizations in the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women

At its 40th plenary meeting, on 28 July 2009, the Economic and Social Council, underlining the significance of the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, to be held in 2010, which will mark the fifteenth anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,¹ the twenty-fifth anniversary of the adoption of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women² and the thirty-fifth anniversary of the holding of the World Conference of the International Women's Year, held in Mexico City from 19 June to 2 July 1975, and noting that the Commission will undertake, at its fifty-fourth session, a review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",³ emphasizing the sharing of experiences and good practices, with a view to overcoming remaining obstacles and new challenges, including those related to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals:⁴

(a) Decided, on an exceptional basis, to invite those non-governmental organizations that were accredited either to the Fourth World Conference on Women or to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly to attend the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women and, in this context, requested that the list of those non-governmental organizations to be invited be circulated to Member States by the end of August 2009;

(b) Urged that, in recognition of the importance of equitable geographical representation of non-governmental organizations in the fifty-fourth session of the Commission on the Status of Women, relevant bodies of the United Nations system should assist those non-governmental organizations, in particular non-governmental organizations from developing countries, including the least developed countries, and countries with economies in transition, which do not have the resources needed to participate in the fifty-fourth session of the Commission.

¹ *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

² *Report of the World Conference to Renew and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

³ General Assembly resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

⁴ See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 7* (E/2009/27), chap. I, sect. E, resolution 53/1.