

## Other Decisions

2024/342

### Improving the work of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

17

23 Jul 2024

Plenary meeting

37th plenary meeting

#### Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

Improving the work of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

At the 37th plenary meeting, on 23 July 2024, the Economic and Social Council,  
Reaffirming the spirit, purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,  
Recalling Article 71 of the Charter,

Reaffirming that the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requires the engagement and full participation of civil society,

Reaffirming also its resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996 on the consultative relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations,

Recalling its decision 2017/216 of 19 April 2017 on improving the work of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations,

Acknowledging the breadth of expertise of non-governmental organizations from all regions, including from developing countries, and their capacity to support and enhance the work of the United Nations,

Emphasizing that, in paragraph 61 (a), of its resolution 1996/31, the Council mandated the Committee to hold consultations with organizations in consultative status to discuss questions of interest to the Committee or to the organizations relating to the relationship between the non governmental organizations and the United Nations,

Recalling that the Committee should ensure, to the extent possible, the participation of non-governmental organizations from all regions, and in particular from developing countries, in order to help to achieve a just, balanced, effective and genuine involvement of non-governmental organizations from all regions and areas of the world:

(a) Decided that the Secretariat would no longer compile lists that indicate the division of applicants into "list 1" or "list 2" in advance of the regular and resumed sessions of the Committee;

(b) Also decided to suspend the regular and resumed sessions for two working days between the fifth and sixth working days, and to establish a deadline for applicant responses to be received by the Secretariat and made available to the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations within a formal session by 5 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on the day before the sixth working day of the session, in order for the relevant applications to be reconsidered, along with the related responses, during the same session;

(c) Further decided that the Committee would resume its work within the informal working group to consider options to improve its methods of work, including the interactive dialogue, questionnaires and procedures for the review of applications, and that the Committee would report its recommendations to the Council at its management segment, preferably in 2025, for consideration;

(d) Requested the Secretary-General to increase his support for the Non Governmental Organizations Branch of the Secretariat in order to fulfil the mandate of the Committee as set out in Council resolution 1996/31, and, in the context of his next budget proposal, to identify options in order to ensure that support;

(e) Decided that the Committee would hold annual consultations with organizations in consultative status, in a manner that ensures equitable geographical representation, as set out in paragraph 61 (a) of Council resolution 1996/31.

Ref: E/2024/32, Part II, draft decision VII

**The final edited text of this decision will be contained in the official records of the Council for 2024 (E/2024/99 (Supplement No. 1)) after editorial review.**