

**Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)**

Committee on Social Development
Eleventh session
Khartoum, 17-18 October 2017



Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Provisional agenda and annotations

1. Opening of the session.
2. Election of officers.
3. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
4. Progress in social development since the tenth session of the Committee on Social Development:
 - (a) Implementation of activities under the ESCWA programme of work and pursuant to recommendations made by the Committee;
 - (b) Report of the Intersessional Group of Experts on Disability on its first meeting;
 - (c) Results of the questionnaire on the programmes and activities of the Social Development Division;
 - (d) National follow-up on the Tunis Declaration on Social Justice;
 - (e) Technical assistance for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.
5. Priority issues in achieving social development in the Arab region:
 - (a) ESCWA, Habitat III and the New Urban Agenda from a socially inclusive perspective;
 - (b) Age structural transitions and sustainable development;
 - (c) Intergenerational justice: concept, dimensions and policy implications:
6. Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2018-2019 in the field of social development.
7. Other matters.
8. Date and venue of the twelfth session of the Committee on Social Development.
9. Adoption of the recommendations made by the Committee on Social Development at its eleventh session.

ANNOTATIONS

1. Opening of the session

The eleventh session of the Committee on Social Development will be held on 17 and 18 October 2017 in Khartoum. It will begin at 10 a.m. on Tuesday 17 October 2017. The representative of Iraq, in his/her capacity as chair of the tenth session of the Committee, will deliver the welcome speech. A representative of the ESCWA secretariat will subsequently deliver the opening speech.

2. Election of officers

Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia states: "Member States shall chair the sessions of the subsidiary bodies of the Commission on a rotating basis, in the Arabic alphabetical order employed by the United Nations. Unless the Commission decides otherwise, those bodies shall elect all their other officers".*

3. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Rule 8 of the Rules of Procedure of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, which apply to subsidiary bodies, states: "At the beginning of each session, once the Chair has assumed his/her duties in accordance with rule 12, the Commission shall adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda". In accordance with that rule, the provisional agenda and annotations for this session will be presented to the Committee in document E/ESCWA/SDD/2017/IG.1/L.1, and the organization of work in document E/ESCWA/SDD/2017/IG.1/L.2. Both documents may be adopted by the Committee as submitted or in amended forms.

4. Progress in social development since the tenth session of the Committee on Social Development (E/ESCWA/SDD/2017/IG.1/3)

The Committee will discuss this item on the basis of the following reports:

(a) Implementation of activities under the ESCWA programme of work and pursuant to recommendations made by the Committee (E/ESCWA/SDD/2017/IG.1/3(Part I))

This document reports on the implementation of social development-related activities as planned in the ESCWA programme of work and on the implementation of measures taken pursuant to the recommendations made by the Committee at its tenth session (Rabat, 8-9 September 2015).

Representatives of member States are invited to take note of those activities and make comments and recommendations thereon.

(b) Report of the Intersessional Group of Experts on Disability on its first meeting (E/ESCWA/SDD/2017/IG.1/3(Part II))

The Intersessional Group of Experts on Disability was formed pursuant to a recommendation made by the Committee on Social Development at its tenth session. This report summarizes the discussions held during the first meeting of the Intersessional Group (Beirut, 20-21 September 2016). It contains the recommendations of the Group and proposed work modalities and terms of reference.

* ESCWA member States in the Arabic alphabetical order are as follows: Jordan, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Tunisia, the Syrian Arab Republic, the Sudan, Iraq, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Egypt, Morocco, Mauritania, Saudi Arabia and Yemen.

Representatives of member States are invited to take note of the report and make comments and recommendations thereon.

- (c) Results of the questionnaire on the programmes and activities of the Social Development Division
(Visual presentation)

The secretariat will present the results of the questionnaire it designed to solicit the views of member States on the programmes and activities undertaken by the Social Development Division. The questionnaire aimed to obtain suggestions from member States on ways to improve effectiveness in the implementation of activities in the field of social development and ensure that those activities respond to their needs and priorities.

Representatives of member States are invited to take note of the results of the questionnaire and make observations and recommendations in that regard.

- (d) National follow-up on the Tunis Declaration on Social Justice
(Round-table discussion)

The secretariat will present an overview of the progress made in the preparation of the draft toolkit/guide on “Mainstreaming Social Justice in Development Plans, Policies and Programmes” and the steps taken to validate it as a capacity-building tool. The guide responds to the Tunis Declaration on Social Justice, which was adopted by ESCWA at its twenty-eighth session (Tunis, 15-18 September 2014) and to a recommendation by the Committee at its tenth session (Rabat, 8-9 September 2015).

In that regard, the secretariat will moderate a round-table discussion on the following: (1) experiences of member States in designing social justice-sensitive policies; (2) the ways in which the toolkit could assist member States in their efforts to mainstream social justice in policy making processes; and (3) leveraging participation and social justice to enhance policy effectiveness.

Representatives of member States are invited to participate in the round-table discussions, present their views on the toolkit/guide and identify their training needs on its application.

- (e) Technical assistance for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals
(Visual Presentation)

The Secretariat will present its approach to supporting national efforts towards the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. It will propose areas for technical assistance in the social development field.

5. Priority issues in achieving social development in the Arab region
(E/ESCWA/SDD/2017/IG.1/4)

Under this item, the Committee will discuss the following reports:

- (a) ESCWA, Habitat III and the New Urban Agenda from a socially inclusive perspective
(E/ESCWA/SDD/2017/IG.1/4(Part I))

This document summarizes the objectives and outcomes of the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III), which was held in Quito, from 17 to 20 October 2016. It highlights the implications of “The New Urban Agenda” which was adopted by the Habitat III Conference on the Arab region and the prospective role of ESCWA in its

implementation from a socially inclusive perspective. It also provides information on ESCWA contributions to the regional preparations for participation in the Conference.

Representatives of member States are invited to review the document and provide comments, suggestions and recommendations thereon.

(b) Age structural transitions and sustainable development
(E/ESCWA/SDD/2017/IG.1/4(Part II))

This document reviews the development challenges faced by main age groups in the Arab region and beyond. It then provides an overview of the demographic profiles of ESCWA member States. It reviews the different age structure types and anticipated changes based on demographic trends and prospects in Arab countries. It also highlights their implications for development policymaking and draws recommendations so that Arab countries may undertake the necessary measures to reap the benefits of the demographic window of opportunity.

Representatives of member States are invited to review the document and provide comments, suggestions and recommendations thereon.

(c) Intergenerational justice: concept, dimensions and policy implications
(E/ESCWA/SDD/2017/IG.1/4(Part III))

This document explains the concept of intergenerational justice and reviews the main approaches that have addressed the duties and responsibilities of current generations towards the environment and future generations. It explores selected dimensions and measures of intergenerational justice that can be relevant to the Arab region, then proposes a set of recommendations on key interventions to mainstream intergenerational justice concerns in policymaking processes and to protect the rights of future Arab generations.

Representatives of member States are invited to review and discuss the report and provide comments and recommendations on ways to pursue this issue.

6. Proposed programme of work for the biennium 2018-2019 in the field of social development
(E/ESCWA/SDD/2017/IG.1/5)

The Committee will review the proposed activities and outputs to be undertaken by ESCWA under its programme of work for the biennium 2018-2019 in the field of social development. The programme of work was prepared in line with subprogramme 2 on social development of the revised strategic framework for the biennium 2018-2019, which was adopted by ESCWA at its twenty-ninth session (Doha, 14-16 December 2016).

Representatives of member States are invited to review the proposed activities and make comments thereon.

7. Other matters

This item shall cover any other matters that the members of the Committee may wish to discuss.

8. Date and venue of the twelfth session of the Committee on Social Development

The Committee will decide on the date and venue of its twelfth session scheduled to be held in 2019.

9. Adoption of the recommendations made by the Committee on Social Development at its eleventh session

Draft recommendations will be presented to the Committee for review and adoption.
