



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
18 December 2025

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women

Seventieth session

New York, 9–19 March 2026

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Annotated provisional agenda and proposed organization of work*

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”:
 - (a) Implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives:
 - (i) Priority theme: ensuring and strengthening access to justice for all women and girls, including by promoting inclusive and equitable legal systems, eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices, and addressing structural barriers;
 - (ii) Review theme: women’s full and effective participation and decision-making in public life, as well as the elimination of violence, for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls (agreed conclusions of the sixty-fifth session);
 - (b) Emerging issues, trends, focus areas and new approaches to questions affecting the situation of women, including equality between women and men;
 - (c) Gender mainstreaming, situations and programmatic matters.
4. Communications concerning the status of women.
5. Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions.
6. Provisional agenda for the seventy-first session of the Commission.
7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its seventieth session.

* The proposed organization of work will be issued as [E/CN.6/2026/1/Add.1](#).



Annotations

1. Election of officers

In accordance with rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and pursuant to Council resolution [1987/21](#) and decision 2002/234, the Commission on the Status of Women elects its Bureau for a two-year period. At the 1st meeting of its seventieth session, on 21 March 2025, the Commission elected, by acclamation, Maritza Chan Valverde (Costa Rica) as Chair of the seventieth session of the Commission. The Commission also elected as Vice-Chairs, by acclamation, Flavia Umulisa (Rwanda) and Samah Dbouk (Lebanon) for its seventieth session, and Noah Oehri (Liechtenstein), and Andreea Mocanu (Romania) for its seventieth and seventy-first sessions.

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2009/16, the Commission appoints five of its members to serve a two-year term on the Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women, established in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution [1983/27](#). At the 1st meeting of its seventieth session, the Commission appointed Ukraine to serve as a member of the Working Group at its seventieth session.

In the absence of nominations from the African States, the Asia-Pacific States, the Latin American and Caribbean States and the Western European and other States, the Commission postponed the appointment of the remaining four members of the Working Group to a later date, on the understanding that, upon nomination, the nominated members would be allowed to participate fully in the proceedings of the Working Group.

At the 2nd meeting of its seventieth session, the Commission will be called upon to appoint the remaining members of the Working Group.

The membership of the Commission at its seventieth session is available on the web page of the Commission (www.unwomen.org/en/csw/member-states).

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Rule 7 of the rules of procedure provides that the Commission, at the beginning of each session, shall adopt the agenda of that session.

The provisional agenda and documentation for the seventieth session of the Commission were approved by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 2025/311.

Preparations for the seventieth session of the Commission were made in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution [2022/4](#) on the future organization and methods of work of the Commission on the Status of Women and resolution [2026/2](#) on the revitalization of the Commission. Accordingly, the Bureau of the Commission held several meetings, as well as informal briefings and consultations, with delegations to consider the organization of work for the session.

Following past practice, statements delivered by representatives of delegations of members and observers of the Commission during the general discussion shall be limited to 3 minutes, and statements made on behalf of groups of delegations to 5 minutes. It is also recommended that interventions from non-governmental organizations on themes relevant to the session be integrated into the general discussion and the interactive dialogues, taking into consideration geographical balance.

3. **Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled “Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century”**
- (a) **Implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives**
- (i) **Priority theme: ensuring and strengthening access to justice for all women and girls, including by promoting inclusive and equitable legal systems, eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices, and addressing structural barriers**
- (ii) **Review theme: women’s full and effective participation and decision-making in public life, as well as the elimination of violence, for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls**

In its resolution [2025/3](#), the Economic and Social Council decided that, at its seventieth session, in 2026, the Commission would consider as its priority theme “Ensuring and strengthening access to justice for all women and girls, including by promoting inclusive and equitable legal systems, eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices, and addressing structural barriers” and also decided that it would consider as its review theme “Women’s full and effective participation and decision-making in public life, as well as the elimination of violence, for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls”, in follow-up to the agreed conclusions adopted by the Commission at its sixty-fifth session (see [E/2021/27](#), chap I.A).

In its resolution [2022/4](#), the Council decided that the session of the Commission would include a ministerial segment to reaffirm and strengthen political commitment to the realization of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls as well as their human rights and to ensure high-level engagement and the visibility of the deliberations of the Commission and that the segment would include ministerial round tables or other high-level interactive dialogues to exchange experiences, lessons learned and good practices, as well as a general discussion on the follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly. The Council recommended that statements identify goals attained, achievements made and efforts under way to close gaps and meet challenges in relation to the priority theme and the review theme.

Also in its resolution [2022/4](#), the Council decided that the Commission would, at each session, evaluate progress in the implementation of the agreed conclusions on a priority theme of a previous session, as its review theme, through an interactive dialogue that would include:

- (a) Member States of different regions, on a voluntary basis, presenting their lessons learned, challenges and best practices that identified means for accelerated implementation through national and regional experiences;
- (b) Ways to support and achieve accelerated implementation, including through addressing data gaps and challenges in the enhanced collection, reporting, use and analysis of data with regard to the theme, at the national, regional and global levels.

Ministerial segment

The Ministerial segment of the Commission will be held from 9 to 13 March 2026 and will include two ministerial round tables: on the priority theme and on the focus area.

Ministerial round table on the priority theme

The ministerial segment will include a ministerial round table on the priority theme: ensuring and strengthening access to justice for all women and girls, including by promoting inclusive and equitable legal systems, eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices, and addressing structural barriers.

Ministerial round table on the focus area

The ministerial segment will include a ministerial round table on the focus area: achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all older women.

High-level meeting on violence against women and girls

As part of the ministerial segment, the Commission will hold a high-level meeting on violence against women and girls.

Interactive dialogues on the review theme

The Commission will hold two interactive dialogues with voluntary presentations by Member States from different regions on the review theme.

Interactive expert panel on the priority theme

The Commission will hold one interactive expert panel with the participation of experts from Governments, representatives of civil society and other stakeholder groups that work on the priority theme.

Interactive dialogue among youth representatives on the priority theme

The Commission will hold one interactive dialogue on the priority theme to facilitate exchanges among youth representatives from delegations of Member States, which will be open to all Member States.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on ensuring and strengthening access to justice for all women and girls, including by promoting inclusive and equitable legal systems, eliminating discriminatory laws, policies and practices, and addressing structural barriers ([E/CN.6/2026/3](#))

Report of the Secretary-General on the review of the implementation of the agreed conclusions of the sixty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women ([E/CN.6/2026/4](#))

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the discussion guide for the ministerial round tables to be held on the priority theme and focus area ([E/CN.6/2026/5](#))

(b) Emerging issues, trends, focus areas and new approaches to questions affecting the situation of women, including equality between women and men

In its resolution [2022/4](#), the Economic and Social Council decided that the Commission would, as necessary, discuss emerging issues, trends, focus areas and new approaches to questions affecting the situation of women and girls 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.

In accordance with the multi-year programme of work of the Commission on the Status of Women, as contained in Economic and Social Council resolution [2025/3](#), the Council invited the Commission to consider placing the issue of achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all older women as a focus area of its seventieth session. Subsequently, the Council, in its resolution [2026/2](#), requested the Commission to hold a ministerial round table, or other high-level interactive dialogue, on the emerging issues, trends, focus areas or new approaches identified for that session.

In accordance with resolution [2022/4](#), the Bureau of the Commission, following consultations prior to the session, identified the theme “achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all older women” as the focus area for the seventieth session.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the discussion guide for the ministerial round tables to be held under the priority theme and focus area ([E/CN.6/2026/5](#))

(c) Gender mainstreaming, situations and programmatic matters

Normative aspects of the work of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

In accordance with paragraph 67 (c) of General Assembly resolution [64/289](#), the Commission will have before it the annual report of the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) on the normative aspects of the work of UN-Women and on its implementation of the policy guidance provided by the Commission.

Violence against women

In its resolution [50/166](#) on the role of the former United Nations Development Fund for Women (now UN-Women) in eliminating violence against women, the General Assembly requested the Fund to include in its regular reports information on the establishment of a trust fund in support of national, regional and international actions to eliminate violence against women and to provide such information to the Commission.

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

In accordance with article 21.2 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, the reports of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women are transmitted to the Commission for its information.

Programme matters

The proposed programme of work of UN-Women for 2027, under programme 14, Gender equality and the empowerment of women, is under preparation.

Documentation

Report of the Under-Secretary-General/Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women on the normative aspects of the work of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women ([E/CN.6/2026/2](#))

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women on the activities of the United Nations trust fund in support of actions to eliminate violence against women ([A/HRC/62/21-E/CN.6/2026/7](#))

Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on its eighty-eighth, eighty-ninth and ninetieth sessions ([A/80/38](#))

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the results of the Pacific technical cooperation session and the ninety-first session of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women ([E/CN.6/2026/8](#))

4. Communications concerning the status of women

In its resolution [76 \(V\)](#), the Economic and Social Council established a procedure by which the Commission would receive and consider communications relating to the status of women. In its resolution 304 I (XI), the Council amended resolution [76 \(V\)](#) and requested the Secretary-General to compile, before each session of the Commission, a list of confidential and non-confidential communications, containing a brief indication of the substance of each communication.

In its resolution [1983/27](#), the Council reaffirmed the mandate of the Commission to consider confidential and non-confidential communications on the status of women and authorized the Commission to appoint a working group to consider such communications and prepare a report thereon for the Commission.

In its resolution [1993/11](#), the Council reaffirmed that the Commission was empowered to make recommendations to the Council on what action should be taken on emerging trends and patterns of discrimination against women revealed by such communications.

In its decision 2002/235, the Council decided, in order to make the communications procedure of the Commission more effective and efficient:

(a) That the Commission, starting at its forty-seventh session, should appoint, at each session, the members of the Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women for the next session so that the members would be able to meet to enable the Secretariat to issue their report three working days before the adoption of the agenda by the Commission;

(b) To request the Secretary-General:

(i) To inform Governments about each communication pertaining to them that would be considered by the Commission and give them at least 12 weeks before the consideration of such communications by the Working Group;

(ii) To ensure that the members of the Working Group receive in advance the lists of communications, including replies from Governments, if any, to be taken into account in preparing its report for examination by the Commission.

In its resolution 2009/16, the Economic and Social Council decided that the Commission, starting at its fifty-fourth session, should appoint the members of the Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women for a two-year period.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the list of confidential communications concerning the status of women (E/CN.6/2026/R.1 and E/CN.6/2026/R.1/Add.1)

5. Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

In accordance with General Assembly resolution [75/290](#) A, the Economic and Social Council, at its coordination segment, will address issues identified by subsidiary bodies as requiring the attention of the Council at the global level and to build on the policy conclusions of its subsidiary bodies, along with inputs of the United Nations system, so as to promote the balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development.

The theme of the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development for 2026 will be “Transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for a sustainable future for all”.

6. Provisional agenda for the seventy-first session of the Commission

In accordance with rule 9 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the Commission will have before it a draft provisional agenda for its seventy-first session, including the list of documents to be submitted for its consideration.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its seventieth session

In accordance with rule 37 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Council, the Commission shall submit to the Council a report on the work of its seventieth session.
