



**ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL**  
**Working methods**  
**and procedures**

# Reference documents

## General

- [UN Charter](#), Chapter X, Articles 61-72
- Relevant resolutions of the General Assembly (including [61/16](#), [68/1](#), [72/305](#), [75/290 A](#) and [B](#))
- Rules of procedure ([E/5715/Rev.2](#))

## Current session

- Agenda and annotated agenda ([E/2022/1](#), and [Add.1](#), [E/2022/100](#))
- 2022 working arrangements (resolution [2022/1](#))

## Past session(s)

- Resolutions issued as E/RES documents; and e-decisions on [e-deleGATE](#))
- Resolutions and decisions adopted ([E/2021/INF/2](#), [E/2021/99](#)).
- Annual report to the General Assembly ([A/76/3](#))
- Summary records E/2021/SR.1-13

# Role and functions of the President and Bureau

- Elected at organizational session (July)
- Regional rotation and special responsibilities (rule 18)
- General powers of the President (rule 42)
- Coordinate the work and prepare decisions on behalf of the membership, consult
- Additional guidance: Paras. 31-33 of GA res. [68/1](#) and paras. 13, 25 and 27 of [72/305](#), para. 14 of [75/290A](#)
- President raises awareness and promotes engagement

## **ECOSOC system - subsidiary bodies** ([E/2019/INF/3 \(mandates\)](#)) and [E/2022/INF/4 \(dates\)](#) [Infographic](#))

- Functional commissions
- Regional commissions
- Standing committees
- Ad hoc bodies
- Expert bodies composed of governmental experts
- Expert bodies composed of members serving in their personal capacity
- Related bodies

# Management segment

- 2 Management segments during the 2022 cycle (8-9 June and 21-22 July)
- Resolution [72/305](#): focus on the adoption of procedural decisions, consideration of recommendations of subsidiary bodies, introduction of reports and consideration of draft proposals submitted under relevant agenda items
- Resolution [75/290A](#): Integrate the key messages from the subsidiary bodies of the Council and the UN system on the main theme, develop recommendations for follow-up and feed into HLPF
- 10 of 19 agenda items
- Bulk of formal decision-making (In 2020, 18 of 23 resolutions. 25 of 33 decisions. In 2021, 26 of 32 resolutions; 43 of 62 decisions.)

# Elections

- Elections for most regular vacancies to be held at 13 April Management meeting; outstanding vacancies can be considered *ad hoc*
- ECOSOC conducts elections of members of 26 subsidiary and related bodies (Functional commissions, Executive Boards, Peacebuilding Commission) – regular elections to 14 bodies in 2022
- Agreed candidate/slate – can be elected without vote
- Secret ballot, if requested (rule 68)
- Documentation ([E/2022/100/Add.1](#), [E/2022/9](#) and Addenda – to be issued)
- Use of ‘Candiweb’ (under [e-delegate](#) - Elections)

# Decision-making

- Decisions/resolutions adopted either without a vote or, at the request of a member, by recorded vote
- Each member has one vote (rule 58); Majority of those present and voting (rule 60)
- Source of proposals:
  - Contained in reports of subsidiary bodies
  - Draft proposals either by a delegation/group of delegations or President's/Vice-President's text
- Practice of consensus – in 2021, 28 of 32 resolutions and 61 of 62 decisions adopted without a vote.
- 2021 FfD outcome – adopted without a vote
- 2021 HLPF/HLS ministerial declaration – voting on para./amendments – as a whole without a vote

# Participation of non-Member States

- Rule 72 provides for participation of States non-members of the Council (also Article 69 of the [Charter](#))
- States not members of the Council may submit and co-sponsor draft proposals – put to action at request of a member
- Inclusive approach (rule 72, order of speakers, practice in negotiation of draft ministerial declaration and other draft resolutions)



# Adapting to COVID-19 constraints

- Adjusted to virtual environment
- 2020: Allowed decision-making through silence procedure (extended to subsidiary bodies)
- Adjusted ECOSOC's calendar of meeting
- 2020: conducted elections through silence procedure; conducted virtual negotiations
- September 2020 – return to in-person meetings
- 2021 HLPF (incl. VNRs) held mainly virtually
- Currently – in-person and informal virtual meetings – adjust to evolving situation

# ECOSOC website



**United Nations**

Economic and Social Council

Search ECOSOC

HOME

ABOUT US

WHAT WE DO

MEETINGS

DOCUMENTS

OUR GOALS

ACHIEVING  
SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT

LEARN MORE



1 2

ECOSOC brings people and issues together to promote



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM

# ECOSOC Place in e-deleGATE

The screenshot shows the e-deleGATE website interface. At the top left is the United Nations logo and the text "e-deleGATE Secure Portal for Delegates". A navigation bar contains links for "What's New", "General Assembly", "Security Council", "ECOSOC" (highlighted), "Conference", "Protocol", and "Resources". Below the navigation bar is a list of events and documents:

Date	Event/Document Description	Associated Documents
19 Jan 2022	Briefing on the Partnership Forum and the Coordination Segment as well as the review of the work of ECOSOC subsidiaries – Monday, 24 January, 11 a.m. virtual (WebEx)	CS_VP Letter_18Jan.pdf 220114_ECOSOCCS_Progr..._Web.pdf Partnership Forum Inform... Note 17 Jan 22.pdf WEBEX- GuideforFirstTimeUsers.p WebExParticipantGuide.p
18 Jan 2022	ECOSOC Partnership Forum (2 February 2022) and Coordination Segment (3-4 February 2022) and informal briefing on 24 January (RE-SEND)	Partnership Forum Inform... Note 17 Jan 22.pdf CS_VP Letter_18Jan.pdf 220114_ECOSOCCS_Progr..._Web.pdf
18 Jan 2022	ECOSOC Partnership Forum (2 February 2022) and Coordination Segment (3-4 February 2022) and informal briefing on 24 January	Partnership Forum Inform... Note 17 Jan 22.pdf CS_VP Letter_18Jan.pdf 220114_ECOSOCCS_Progr..._Web.pdf