



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
22 November 2010

Original: English

Commission on the Status of Women

Fifty-fifth session

22 February-4 March 2011

Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions

Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to education

Note by the Secretariat

1. Since 2002, the Economic and Social Council, pursuant to paragraph 13 of its agreed conclusions 2002/1 of 26 July 2002,¹ has invited its functional commissions to provide inputs to the overall theme of the Council's coordination and high-level segments as they relate to their area of work. In its resolution 61/16 of 20 November 2006, the General Assembly adopted new working methods for the Council to strengthen its role as the central mechanism for system-wide coordination in the implementation of, and follow-up to, the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences in the economic, social and related fields. Within the framework of these new working methods, the Assembly decided that the Council should hold annual ministerial-level substantive reviews as part of its high-level segment and requested the Council to urge its functional commissions to contribute to the review. At its substantive session of 2008, the Economic and Social Council requested its functional commissions to contribute to the annual ministerial review, in accordance with their mandates (see Council resolution 2008/29, para. 8).

2. Also at its substantive session of 2008, the Economic and Social Council, in its decision 2008/258 of 25 July 2008, decided that the theme for the annual ministerial review in 2011 would be "Implementing the internationally agreed goals and commitments in regard to education".

3. The present note has been prepared by the Secretariat to highlight recent and ongoing work of the Commission on the Status of Women in the area of education

* E/CN.6/2011/1.

¹ See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/57/3/Rev.1), chap. V, sect. A, para. 9.



that could serve as the Commission's input into the high-level segment of the Council's substantive session of 2011.

4. The priority theme of the Commission on the Status of Women at its fifty-fifth session is "Access and participation of women and girls to education, training, science and technology, including for the promotion of women's equal access to full employment and decent work".

5. In accordance with the Commission's methods of work, the Commission's high-level round table for heads of delegation should focus on experiences, lessons learned and good practices, including results with supporting data, where available, in relation to the implementation of previous commitments made with regard to the priority theme. The outcome of the high-level round table is a chairperson's summary.

6. As part of its discussion on ways and means to accelerate implementation of previous commitments in the priority theme, the Commission will hold two interactive expert panel discussions, one with a focus on identifying key policy initiatives to accelerate implementation and one on capacity-building on gender mainstreaming in relation to the priority theme, based on an exchange of national and regional experiences, lessons learned and good practices, including results with supporting data, where available, with the participation of technical experts and statisticians. The outcome of the discussion will be in the form of agreed conclusions negotiated by all States. In addition, the moderator's summaries of the interactive expert panels will be prepared.

7. The Commission will have before it two reports of the Secretary-General on the priority theme (E/CN.6/2011/3 and E/CN.6/2011/5). As part of the 15-year review of the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, an analysis of national trends in implementation, gaps and challenges, and future strategies and actions to accelerate implementation, based on the responses of some 140 Member States, was prepared (E/2010/4-E/CN.6/2010/2). This report contains a section on progress in the implementation of the Platform for Action's critical area of concern B, education and training.

8. The outcomes of the Commission's session, and in particular its agreed conclusions, as well as the moderator's summaries of the high-level round table and the interactive expert panels on the priority theme should serve as the Commission's input to the 2011 annual ministerial review of the Economic and Social Council.
