



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
11 February 2021

Original: English

Commission for Social Development

Fifty-ninth session

8–17 February 2021

Draft report

Rapporteur: Kouadjo Michel **Kouakou** (Côte d'Ivoire)

Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Commission for Social Development held its fifty-ninth session at Headquarters on 19 February 2020 and from 8 to 17 February 2021. The Commission held three meetings (1st to 3rd).

2. The Commission, pursuant to the organization of work adopted at its 2nd meeting, held on 8 February 2021, and taking into account the prevailing conditions relating to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) on the working arrangements for its fifty-ninth session and the available technological and procedural solutions in the interim period, convened [] virtual informal meetings to hold a general discussion and interactive dialogues under agenda item 3. The proceedings of the virtual informal meetings are reflected in annex [] to the present report.

B. Attendance

3. The session was attended by representatives of [] States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations, non-member States and intergovernmental organizations and representatives of the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations also attended. A list of participants is contained in document [E/CN.5/2021/INF/1](#).

C. Election of officers

4. In its decision 2002/210, the Economic and Social Council decided that, immediately following the closure of a regular session, the Commission would hold the first meeting of its subsequent regular session for the sole purpose of electing the new Chair and other members of the Bureau.



5. At its 1st meeting, on 19 February 2020, the Commission elected by acclamation Martín García Moritán (Argentina) as Chair and Sharifa Yousef Alnesf (Qatar) as Vice-Chair of the Commission for its fifty-ninth session. At the same meeting, the Commission postponed the election of the members of the Bureau from African States, Eastern European States and Western European and other States to a later date, on the understanding that, upon nomination by their respective groups, candidates would be allowed to participate in the meetings of the Bureau held in preparation for the fifty-ninth session.

6. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 February 2021, the Commission elected, by acclamation, María del Carmen Squeff (Argentina) as Chair (following the departure of the Chair-elect from New York) and Julie Oppermann (Luxembourg), Kouadjo Michel Kouakou (Côte d'Ivoire) and Nikola Nenov (Bulgaria) as Vice-Chairs.

7. At the same meeting, the Commission designated Mr. Kouakou as Rapporteur.

8. The Bureau was thus composed as follows:

Chair:

María del Carmen Squeff (Argentina)

Vice-Chairs:

Sharifa Yousef Alnesf (Qatar)

Kouadjo Michel Kouakou (Côte d'Ivoire) (Rapporteur)

Julie Oppermann (Luxembourg)

Nikola Nenov (Bulgaria)

D. Agenda and organization of work

9. At its 2nd meeting, on 8 February 2021, the Commission adopted the provisional agenda contained in document [E/CN.5/2021/1](#). The agenda read as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly:
 - (a) Priority theme: Socially just transition towards sustainable development: the role of digital technologies on social development and well-being of all;
 - (b) Review of relevant United Nations plans and programmes of action pertaining to the situation of social groups:
 - (i) Outcome document of the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the realization of the Millennium Development Goals and other internationally agreed development goals for persons with disabilities: the way forward, a disability-inclusive development agenda towards 2015 and beyond;
 - (ii) World Programme of Action for Youth;
 - (iii) Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;
 - (iv) Family issues, policies and programmes;
 - (c) Emerging issues: Social policy to promote a more inclusive, resilient and sustainable recovery: building back better post-COVID-19 for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development.

4. Programme questions and other matters:
 - (a) Proposed programme plan for 2022;
 - (b) United Nations Research Institute for Social Development.
5. Provisional agenda for the sixtieth session of the Commission.
6. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-ninth session.

10. At the same meeting, the Commission approved its organization of work, as contained in document [E/CN.5/2021/1/Add.1](#) and as orally revised by the Chair to include the consideration of agenda item 4 (b) on the morning of 17 February 2021.

E. Documentation

11. The list of documents before the Commission at its fifty-ninth session is contained in annex [] to the present report.
