



# Economic and Social Council

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## Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Forty-eighth session

### Summary record of the second part (public)\* of the 28th meeting\*\*

Held at the Palais Wilson, Geneva, on Friday, 18 May 2012, at 3 p.m.

*Chairperson:* Mr. Pillay

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\* No summary record was prepared for the first part (closed) of the meeting.

\*\* No summary records were issued for the 18th to 27th meetings.

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*The second part (public) of the meeting was called to order at 5.25 p.m.*

**Substantive issues arising in the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights** (*continued*)

1. **The Chairperson** drew attention to substantive issues addressed by the Committee at the current session. Committee members had held meetings with representatives of United Nations organs, national human rights institutions and civil society organizations. They had also attended a meeting organized by the Friedrich Ebert Foundation focusing on the links between the Covenant and environmental law, in relation to which the Committee had adopted a statement for the purpose of the Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development. As Chairperson, he had addressed an open letter to all States parties, reminding them of the permanence of their obligations under the Covenant, despite economic and financial crisis. The Committee had continued to discuss the treaty body strengthening process with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. It had also completed the second reading of the draft rules of procedure regarding the Optional Protocol to the Covenant (E/C.12/44/CRP.1) and expected to adopt them at its next session in November 2012.

**Consideration of reports**

- (a) **Reports submitted by States parties in accordance with articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant** (*continued*) (E/C.12/ETH/CO/1-3; E/C.12/NZL/CO/3; E/C.12/PER/CO/2-4; E/C.12/SVK/CO/2; E/C.12/ESP/CO/5)
2. **The Chairperson** said he took it that the Committee wished to adopt the concluding observations on the reports of Ethiopia, New Zealand, Peru, Slovakia and Spain.
3. *It was so decided.*

**Miscellaneous matters**

4. **The Chairperson** said that the Committee had discussed the provisional programme for the forty-ninth session, to be held from 12–30 November 2012, during which it would consider the reports of Bulgaria (E/C.12/BGR/4-5), Ecuador (E/C.12/ECU/3), Iceland (E/C.12/ISL/4), Mauritania (E/C.12/MRT/1) and the United Republic of Tanzania (E/C.12/TZA/1-3) and would hear from two non-reporting States, the Republic of the Congo and Equatorial Guinea.

**Closure of the session**

5. Following an exchange of courtesies, **the Chairperson** declared the forty-eighth session of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights closed.

*The meeting rose at 5.35 p.m.*