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Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Seventy-eighth session

Geneva, 8–26 September 2025

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Annotations

1. Election of the Chair and other officers of the Committee

In accordance with rule 14 of its rules of procedure, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights shall elect from among its members a Chairperson, three Vice-Chairpersons and a Rapporteur, with due regard for equitable geographical representation.

2. Adoption of the agenda

Under rule 5 of the rules of procedure of the Committee, the first item on the provisional agenda of any session shall be the adoption of the agenda, except when the election of officers



is required under rule 14. In accordance with rule 6, the Committee may revise the agenda during a session and may, as appropriate, add, delete or defer items.

The provisional agenda for the seventy-eighth session was prepared by the Secretary-General, in accordance with rule 4 of the rules of procedure.

3. Organization of work

The seventy-eighth session of the Committee, established in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1985/17, will be held at the United Nations Office at Geneva from 8 to 26 September 2025. The 1st meeting will be convened on Monday, 8 September 2025, at 10 a.m.

In accordance with rule 8 of its rules of procedure, at the beginning of each session, the Committee shall consider appropriate organizational matters, including its meeting schedule. The attention of States Parties is drawn to the tentative programme of work for the session, which was prepared by the Secretary-General in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, in accordance with established practice, and which is available on the Committee web page.

4. Substantive issues arising from the implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

In accordance with rule 65 of its rules of procedure, the Committee may prepare general comments based on the various articles and provisions of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. The Committee decided at its fourteenth session that, as from its fifteenth session, its discussions relating to the implementation of the Covenant would be conducted under this agenda item.

The Committee will also discuss other substantive matters and matters relating to its working methods.

5. Follow-up to the consideration of reports under articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant

The Committee has been discussing follow-up consistently at its sessions, and the issue of follow-up to previous concluding observations is included as an item for discussion during dialogues with delegations and during the consideration of subsequent periodic reports and of working methods. The Committee adopted a written follow-up procedure at its sixty-first session and will continue to identify issues in its concluding observations to be included in this procedure. At its seventy-eighth session, the Committee will consider reports on follow-up to concluding observations adopted at previous sessions.

All information relating to follow-up to the consideration of reports is available on the Committee web page.

6. Relations with United Nations organs and other treaty bodies

Under this agenda item, the Committee will continue to consider, as required, matters arising from the meetings of the Chairs of the human rights treaty bodies. Documentation relating to those meetings is made available to Committee members. Members will also meet with, or be informed of, activities undertaken by other treaty bodies, where relevant to their work.

7. Consideration of reports

(a) Reports submitted by States Parties under articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant

In accordance with rule 61 (2) of its rules of procedure, the Committee normally considers the reports submitted by States Parties under article 16 of the Covenant in the order in which they are received by the Secretary-General. Long-overdue initial reports are given priority, to the extent possible. Representatives of the reporting States are invited to the meetings of the Committee when their reports are examined. The representatives should be able to make statements on the reports submitted by their Governments, to engage in an interactive dialogue and to reply to questions put to them by the members of the Committee.

In accordance with rule 62 (2) of the Committee's rules of procedure, the Secretary-General has informed the States Parties of the opening date and duration of the seventy-eighth session of the Committee.

As at 27 June 2025, 44 State Party reports had been received by the Secretary-General and were pending consideration by the Committee. Reports of States Parties that are tentatively scheduled for consideration at the seventy-eighth and future sessions are set out in the table below. Other reports scheduled for consideration by the Committee at its subsequent sessions, subject to approval by the Committee, will be the next reports received by the Committee, generally in chronological order of receipt and in accordance with the duration of the session.

Status of State Party reports pending consideration by the Committee

	<i>Reporting State</i>	<i>Symbol of report</i>	<i>Date received</i>	<i>Date due</i>	<i>Session at which the report is tentatively scheduled for consideration</i>
1	Angola (sixth periodic report)	E/C.12/AGO/6	31 May 2023	30 June 2021	Future
2	Australia (sixth periodic report)	E/C.12/AUS/6	17 Oct. 2023	30 June 2022	Seventy-eighth (to be confirmed)
3	Austria (fifth periodic report)	E/C.12/AUT/5	31 May 2024	2 Apr. 2020	Future
4	Bulgaria (seventh periodic report)	E/C.12/BGR/7	7 Mar. 2025	31 Mar. 2024	Future
5	Burkina Faso (second periodic report)	E/C.12/BFA/2	8 May 2024	30 June 2021	Future
6	Cabo Verde (second periodic report)	E/C.12/CPV/2	30 Oct. 2023	31 Oct. 2023	Future
7	Canada (seventh periodic report)	E/C.12/CAN/7	10 Sep. 2024	30 June 2021	Future
8	Central African Republic (second periodic report)	E/C.12/CAF/2	6 Mar. 2025	31 Mar. 2023	Future
9	Chile (fifth periodic report)	E/C.12/CHL/5	31 Jan. 2022	30 June 2021	Seventy-eighth
10	Colombia (seventh periodic report)	E/C.12/COL/7	2 Nov. 2022	31 Oct. 2022	Seventy-eighth
11	Ecuador (fifth periodic report)	E/C.12/ECU/5	30 Oct. 2024	31 Oct. 2024	Future
12	Egypt (fifth periodic report)	E/C.12/EGY/5	12 Nov. 2024	30 Nov. 2018	Future
13	Estonia (fourth periodic report)	E/C.12/EST/4	15 Nov. 2024	31 Mar. 2024	Future
14	Eswatini (initial report)	E/C.12/SWZ/1	14 June 2024	30 June 2006	Future
15	Gabon (second periodic report)	E/C.12/GAB/2	6 May 2025	30 Nov. 2018	Future

	<i>Reporting State</i>	<i>Symbol of report</i>	<i>Date received</i>	<i>Date due</i>	<i>Session at which the report is tentatively scheduled for consideration</i>
16	Germany (seventh periodic report)	E/C.12/DEU/7	21 Dec. 2023	31 Oct. 2023	Future
17	Georgia (third periodic report)	E/C.12/GEO/3	16 Dec. 2022	30 June 2007	Future
18	Guinea-Bissau (initial report)	E/C.12/GNB/1	4 Oct. 2024	30 June 1994	Future
19	Kazakhstan (third periodic report)	E/C.12/KAZ/3	30 May 2024	31 Mar. 2024	Future
20	Kenya (sixth periodic report)	E/C.12/KEN/6	7 Sep. 2022	31 Mar. 2021	Future
21	Lao People's Democratic Republic (initial report)	E/C.12/LAO/1	1 Dec. 2022	30 June 2009	Seventy-eighth
22	Mauritius (sixth periodic report)	E/C.12/MUS/6	28 Mar. 2024	31 Mar. 2024	Future
23	Mexico (seventh periodic report)	E/C.12/MEX/7	17 Apr. 2023	31 Mar. 2023	Future
24	Namibia (second periodic report)	E/C.12/NAM/2	30 Jan. 2023	31 Mar. 2021	Future
25	Nepal (fourth periodic report)	E/C.12/NPL/4	20 Feb. 2025	30 Nov. 2019	Future
26	Netherlands (Kingdom of the) (seventh periodic report)	E/C.12/NLD/7	1 July 2022	30 June 2022	Seventy-eighth
27	New Zealand (fifth periodic report)	E/C.12/NZL/5	11 Apr. 2025	31 Mar. 2025	Future
28	North Macedonia (fifth periodic report)	E/C.12/MKD/5	12 Oct. 2023	30 June 2021	Future
29	Norway (seventh periodic report)	E/C.12/NOR/7	28 May 2025	31 Mar. 2025	Future
30	Oman (initial report)	E/C.12/OMN/1	26 Feb. 2025	09 Sep. 2022	Future
31	Pakistan (second periodic report)	E/C.12/PAK/2	24 May 2023	30 June 2022	Future
32	Paraguay (fifth periodic report)	E/C.12/PRY/5	10 Dec. 2024	30 Mar. 2020	Future

	<i>Reporting State</i>	<i>Symbol of report</i>	<i>Date received</i>	<i>Date due</i>	<i>Session at which the report is tentatively scheduled for consideration</i>
33	Republic of Korea (fifth periodic report)	E/C.12/KOR/5	1 Dec. 2023	31 Oct. 2022	Future
34	Republic of Moldova (fourth periodic report)	E/C.12/MDA/4	15 Mar. 2024	31 Oct. 2022	Future
35	Russian Federation (seventh periodic report)	E/C.12/RUS/7	17 Oct. 2022	31 Oct. 2022	Seventy-eighth
36	Sierra Leone (initial report)	E/C.12/SLE/1	15 Mar. 2023	30 June 1998	Future
37	Slovakia (fourth periodic report)	E/C.12/SVK/4	31 Oct. 2024	31 Oct. 2024	Future
38	Togo (second periodic report)	E/C.12/TGO/2	20 May 2025	31 May 2018	Future
39	Tunisia (fourth periodic report)	E/C.12/TUN/4	27 Oct. 2023	31 Oct. 2021	Future
40	Turkmenistan (third periodic report)	E/C.12/TKM/3	13 Oct. 2023	31 Oct. 2023	Future
41	Uganda (second periodic report)	E/C.12/UGA/2	9 Jan. 2025	30 June 2020	Future
42	Uruguay (sixth periodic report)	E/C.12/URY/6	25 Nov. 2022	30 June 2022	Future
43	Zambia (second periodic report)	E/C.12/ZMB/2	6 Dec. 2024	30 June 2010	Future
44	Zimbabwe (second periodic report)	E/C.12/ZWE/2	17 Nov. 2022	30 June 1998	Seventy-eighth

(b) Reports submitted by specialized agencies pursuant to article 18 of the Covenant

In accordance with rule 67 of its rules of procedure, the Committee is entrusted with the task of considering the reports submitted by specialized agencies pursuant to article 18 of the Covenant.

In accordance with rule 68 of the rules of procedure, the representatives of the specialized agencies concerned may make statements on matters falling within the scope of the activities of their respective organizations.

Any report that may be received from the specialized agencies under article 18 of the Covenant will be made available to the Committee in due course.

8. Submission of reports by States Parties under articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant

In accordance with rule 59 (1) of its rules of procedure, the Committee shall at each session consider the status of submission of reports under articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant and may make appropriate recommendations to the Economic and Social Council, including recommendations to the effect that the Secretary-General should send reminders to States Parties from which reports have not been received. In this regard, the Committee may also

convene informal meetings with States. The Committee will have before it under this item the note by the Secretary-General on the status of submission of reports by States Parties under articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant.¹

9. Formulation of suggestions and recommendations of a general nature based on the consideration of reports submitted by States Parties to the Covenant and by the specialized agencies

Pursuant to rule 64 of its rules of procedure, the Committee may wish to make suggestions and recommendations of a general nature on the basis of its consideration of reports submitted by States Parties and reports submitted by specialized agencies, in order to assist the Economic and Social Council to fulfil, in particular, its responsibilities under articles 21 and 22 of the Covenant. The Committee may also wish to make suggestions for consideration by the Council with reference to articles 19, 22 and 23 of the Covenant.

10. Consideration of communications under the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

In accordance with the rules of procedure under the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Committee will consider under this item communications submitted to it under the Optional Protocol.

In accordance with article 8 of the Optional Protocol and rule 24 of the rules of procedure under the Optional Protocol, the Committee and its working group on communications shall examine communications in closed meetings.

11. Miscellaneous matters

At its twenty-first session, the Committee decided to include in its agenda a standing item entitled "Miscellaneous matters" under which it might consider any issue falling outside the scope of the other standing agenda items.

¹ E/C.12/78/2.