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Documentation of the Work of the
Economic and Social Council Plenary
Economic and Social Council Plenary

Committee Staff

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Agenda

1. Strengthening Global Progress Towards Sustainable Development Through Innovation in Science and Technology

2. Assessing the Post-2015 Development Agenda: Addressing the Challenges in Monitoring and Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

3. Promoting Rule of Law to Facilitate Economic and Social Development

Delegate Awards

- Dominican Republic
- Canada
- Kuwait
- Tunisia

Resolutions adopted by the committee

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The Economic and Social Council held its annual session to consider the following agenda items: I. Promoting the Rule of Law to Facilitate Economic and Social Development, II. Strengthening Global Progress Towards Sustainable Development Through Innovation in Science and Technology, III. Assessing the post-2015 Development Agenda: Addressing the Challenges in Monitoring and Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The first session was attended by representatives of 45 Member States who participated fully in the remaining sessions.

The Council voted upon setting the agenda in the order of topics II, III, I, immediately after returning from a 30-minute suspension. The first working paper, working paper A, was submitted during the first session. A second working paper, working paper B, was submitted shortly after. The delegates then debated on the issues they would raise in their working papers; there was an emphasis on sharing knowledge as well as investing in the green economy. In the evening session, delegates discussed triangular cooperation among other topics. There was a motion to change the speaking time to 60 seconds, but it was voted down.

In the fourth session, delegates discussed their progressing working papers and continued to work hard work on the drafts. Several delegates called for increasing collaboration between working groups, which laid groundwork for later mergers. Delegates raised points about public-private partnerships and other means for achieving their goals. By the end of Tuesday the Dais received 9 working papers in total.

Shortly into the seventh session, papers B and E merged. Three working papers were accepted as draft resolutions. After an hour suspension, delegates questioned the interconnected nature of the social, economic, and environmental pillars, as they relate to the work of the Council. Then, the session was suspended and during recess, three more draft resolutions were accepted. In formal session, the delegates discussed the contents of the draft resolutions they were sponsoring while urging delegates to continue working together in an already collaborative committee. During the next informal session, working paper G and H were merged into a single working paper, which was accepted as the final draft resolution. During formal session, delegates promoted adopting many of the resolutions by acclimations in their speeches.

Halfway into session eight, the committee voted to close the debate and enter voting procedure. Friendly and unfriendly amendments were made to several draft resolutions. The committee passed all amendments. Draft resolutions ECOSOC/1/1, ECOSOC/1/2, ECOSOC/1/3, ECOSOC/1/5, and ECOSOC/1/6 passed by acclamation. A simple majority passed draft resolutions ECOSOC/1/4 and ECOSOC/1/7. In conclusion, all draft resolutions were adopted which showed high level of cooperation among all delegations.
The Economic and Social Council,

Fulfilling the UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development’s (CSTD) focus on the examination of science and technology questions and their implications for development along with the formulation of recommendations and guidelines on science and technology topics within the United Nations system with the continued acceptance of ECOSOC as said in E/RES/2012/6,

Recognizing that ECOSOC is the creator and governing body of the CSTD, a body formed by General Assembly resolution A/RES/46/235 (1992), and contains similar Member States and regional blocs to the subsidiary body,

Emphasizing both the World Bank’s commitment to the Millennium Development Goals and its mission to developing nations along with its known limitations surrounding the World Bank and its allocation of funds,

Recalling the 1987 Brundtland report and its original definition of sustainable development, science, technology, and innovation,

Recognizing the crucial role of research in science, technology, and innovation in building global progress towards realizing the benefits of sustainable development,

Expressing its appreciation of the work of the International Center for South-South Cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation (ISTIC) to advance capacity building and provide policy advice in the field of sustainable development research in developing countries,

Recognizing the need of triangular cooperation between North and South-South for the purpose of advancing science and technology and promoting sustainable development,

Keeping in mind that the General Assembly declared 2014-2024 the Decade of Sustainable Energy for All,

Recalling Principle 7 in the Rio Declaration stating that Member States have common but differentiated responsibilities based on their economic development level,

1. Designates the CSTD to review, based on the body’s expertise with science and technology, the Member States’ available budget data, and current STI capacity and the financial needs of the Member States involved in projects to enhance the usage of innovation and technology research towards sustainable development to lend needed financial support to this goal;
2. **Recommends** the CSTD will operate by:

   a. *Allowing* Member States the option to opt out if they do not wish for the additional report to be conducted;

   b. *Transferring* the newly created financial reports for each Member State directly to the World Bank at the currently scheduled meetings for the CSTD;

   c. *Recommending* that the World Bank assigns funds to Member States in need of research development based on the provided CSTD financial reports in order to continue innovation in science and technology while progressing towards the Millennium Development Goals;

   d. *Further recommending* that the World Bank allocates funds for innovation, research, and development to the appropriate Member States specifically based on the CSTD reports and not on other potentially biased standards;

   e. *Inviting* Member States to allow, at the discretion of every Member State, highlighting certain exceptional advancements and sharing best practices in the financial reports, based on the body’s evaluation, in technology and innovation from the Member States;

   f. *Encouraging* Member States to strengthen additional multilateral frameworks between Member States and financial institutions, following the example of the BRICS New Development Bank, in order to review the highlighted techniques and advancements given by the CSTD and allocate funds to the emphasized material, based on the Member States’ discretion, to incentivize the continuation of such progressions;

3. **Recommends** the General Assembly to consider organizing an annual International Day of Innovation for All, held on June 6 for the purpose of facilitating learning between international actors such as Member States, NGOs, IGOs, private organizations and members of civil society on the importance of ICTs for sustainable development;

4. **Further recommends** that the international community along with respective NGOs, IGOs, public and private actors and civil society members could provide donations and advice in mobilizing funds for the International Day of Innovation for All;

5. **Suggests** that Member States can determine the theme of the International Day of Innovation for All on annual basis which will be based on and reflect the most pressing and current global concern regarding the enhancement of science and technology for sustainable development:

   a. A focus on providing a day of international discussion concerning science and technology and designating that a theme be selected annually by a different ECOSOC Member State related to the most relevant global concern;
6. *Encourages* the international community to utilize triangular partnerships between Member States and financial institutions, such as the BRICS Development Bank, World Bank, and IMF, in order to discuss ways how to procure financial resources to further scientific and technological advancement by upholding the principles of the Rio+20 Conference, particularly social, economic, and environmental development by creating triangular cooperation between nongovernmental organizations, inter-governmental organizations, and Member States;

7. *Designates* an International Economic Commission Forum comprised of ECOSOC Member States that shall be held under the auspices of the ECOSOC in order to exchange best practices among the five Regional Commissions and their partners on innovation, fostering in the regional context:

   a. The annual conference shall take place at the headquarters of one of the Regional Economic Commissions, the first one is to be held on May 2015 at a location to be chosen by the members of the International Economic Commission Forum members;

   b. The conference shall be overseen by the United Nations Office for ECOSOC and Coordination and funding will be provided from the ECOSOC regular budget, sector V pertaining to regional cooperation for development;

   c. The participants shall be representatives appointed by the five Regional Commissions, the UN Development Programme, the International Center for South-South Cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation, and the UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development.
The Economic and Social Council,

Realizing that sustainable development through science, technology and innovation (STI) is a key driver of economic growth, prosperity, and poverty eradication,

Emphasizing that a gradual transition towards a sustainable world economy is indispensable for both ecological and humanitarian issues regarding refugees of climate change caused by increasing draughts, desertification and natural disasters,

Emphasizing the importance of the North-South cooperation as called for in the Monterrey Consensus, the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development and the Outcome of the Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and Its Impact on Development,

Recalling the Brussels Program of Action and General Assembly resolution A/CONF.191/13 (2001) in building human and institutional capacities aimed at promoting sustainability in the international community,

Keeping in mind General Assembly resolution A/RES/63/202 (2008) which focuses on the transfer of information and communication technologies (ICTs), from the developed countries to the least-developed countries, for sustainable development regarding the transition towards a green and sustainable economy,

Noting the outcomes reached in Vienna Energy Forum 2013 that emphasized the need to develop sustainable energy and modern innovation to protect environment, such as doubling the contributions of renewable energy to the global energy mix,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/67 of 25 July 1980 on international years and anniversaries and General Assembly resolution 61/185 of 20 December 2006 on the proclamation of international years,

Stressing that education in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) is critical in addressing today’s most urgent challenges such as a transition towards a green economy, accommodating sustainable resources for the future generations, as well as cultivating means of sufficient food and energy production,

Considering that STEM fields and their applications are indispensable in a modern knowledge-based economy,

Reaffirming ECOSOC’s role as a forum for multi-stake engagement that incorporates participation from civil society, academia, Non-Governmental Organizations, and private sector representatives to enhance ECOSOC’s leadership in deliberations on the setting of the post-2015 development agenda and the establishment of new and palpable Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),

Recognizing the commitments of certain fossil fuel producing Member States, to reinvest parts of the profits from the oil industry in renewable energy projects and green building in order to secure the nations’ energy supplies when the oil runs out, guarantee energy security for every Member State and thus prevent the unintended consequences of energy dependency, decrease pollution and provide a source of job creation and increase employment,

Emphasizing the importance of maintaining innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities and sustainable use of biological diversity through public awareness regarding sustainable development as mentioned in General Assembly resolution A/42/427 (1987), Chapter 4,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution A/RES/65/1 (2010), Article 41, expressing the need for comprehensive policies combining social, economic and environmental dimensions for sustainable development,

Fully aware of ECOSOC’s key role in merging the social, economic and environmental dimensions, espoused in E/2013/54 (2013),
Recalling the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, particularly focusing on respecting the rights of indigenous people in their inalienable rights,

Recalling its resolution E/RES/2012/6 (2012) and General Assembly resolution A/RES/66/288 (2012), that stress the importance of promoting effective public-private partnerships in order to facilitate local and inclusive socio-economic development,

Deeply convinced of the indispensable efforts for integrating STI into national development strategies, mentioned in General Assembly resolution A/RES/66/211 (2011),

1. Recognizes the importance of a green and sustainable economy can only be reached through a firm foundation within the society, consisting out of three main pillars:

   a. the public sector: green building and green energy solutions be gradually implemented through national and sub-national legislative regulations;

   b. the private sector: encourage the private sector to contribute towards inclusive growth in compliance with sustainable entrepreneurial principles, such as human rights, labor and anti-corruption, and further contributing towards a green economy and social sustainability through corporate social responsibility, and this by creating opportunities for private-public partnerships such as the SINUS award;

   c. the civil population: recognizing the important role of STI in the transition towards a green and sustainable future, through educational efforts and campaigns incorporated into the program of other United Nations institutions, such as, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO);

2. Recommends the regional sub-commissions Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) to introduce the Sustainable Innovation University Support (SINUS) Awards Program;

3. Emphasizes that SINUS aims to:

   a. Serve as an incubator in order to turn technological potential into marketable innovations in countries and regions, deficient in the required infrastructure regarding research and development;

   b. Facilitate public-private partnerships in order to strengthen future sustainability through a durable growth towards an innovative economy, instead of short-term profit maximization;

   c. Secure the continuous improvement process of research results by fostering a long-term commitment between the awarded university and the sponsoring private counterpart;

   d. Establish the award as a recognized and credible device for increasing awareness for the potential of sustainable development and therefore serving as an incentive for both universities and companies to participate in that program;

   e. Encourage students to pursue studies in the fields of STEM in order to build up the respective Member State’s scientific expertise and research capacities; and this by calling upon the General Assembly to:

      i. Declare 2018 as the ‘International Year of STEM fields’ (IYSTEM);

      ii. Designate the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as the focal point and coordinating mechanism for the Year and invites it to
organize activities to be realized during the Year, in cooperation with other relevant
United Nations bodies and non-governmental institutions;

iii. Encourage all member states, the United Nations system and all other relevant actors to
utilize the Year in order to undertake actions to promote the research and study in STEM
fields;

iv. Fund the Year with the existing means of UNESCO, as well as through voluntary
contributions from the private sector;

4. **Declares** that the implementation of the SINUS Program will be executed by:

   a. Honoring researchers, that applied for the award and managed to develop a sustainable
technology, paying attention to the economic, social and environmental dimension of
sustainability in the most innovative way;

   b. Holding a global, annual SINUS Awards Ceremony at rotating locations, starting in Santo
Domingo, which incorporates awardees from all of the regional sub-commissions;

   c. Establishing a triangular cooperation between universities from developing Member States,
conducting research on STEM-related fields, and suitable companies from developed Member
States, which bring in the necessary experience regarding innovative, sustainable products or
services and are chosen accordingly by the regional sub-commissions;

   d. Providing a research stipend of $20,000 to each of the 5 awardees, 1 from each regional sub-
commission, funded by the private-sector counterpart, which will also engage in a committed
long-term collaboration with the university;

   e. Giving private companies the opportunity to expand activities regarding Corporate Social
Responsibility by supporting universities, lacking the necessary capacities, in a sustainable
bottom-up approach, while also establishing a dialogue between the funding companies in order to
share experiences and best-practices regarding capacity building;

   f. Ensure that the regional sub-commissions are responsible for monitoring the collaboration period
with the private counterpart, which follows the award ceremony, in order to ensure that the goals
of SINUS are met, meaning that the respective technology is used for sustainable purposes,
without excluding the university from potential profits made from this public-private partnership;

5. **Calls upon** the ECOSOC’s subsidiary body Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)
to establish a new information sharing program called the United Nations Program for Renewable Energy
Sources Transition (UN-RESET);

6. **Further declares** that UN-RESET will be advised by leading scientists and specialists in the field of fossil fuel
production, sustainable energy and transitional finances, as well as national representatives of national scientific
and research institutions focusing on the above-mentioned fields;

7. **Proclaims** that UN-RESET will be charged with:

   a. Gathering and centralizing information, knowledge and technology through synthesizing the
research of regional experts in the relevant fields, in order to facilitate the transition towards a
green and sustainable economy while guaranteeing energy security;

   b. Engaging experts and scientists from universities, national scientific and research institutions and
non-governmental organizations in the field of fossil fuel production, green building, transitional
finance, sustainable engineering and green energy to set up specific programs which will be
reported to the CSTD;
c. Establishing the UN-RESET Semestrial Report in which the evolution of ongoing programs is summarized and policy recommendations are formulated;

d. Encouraging thereby Member States to decrease their subsidies on fossil fuels and to increase their subsidies on renewable energy in the transition towards a green and sustainable economy;

e. Integrating in the UN-RESET Semestrial Report a comprehensive Renewable Energy Ranking (RER), rating Member States by their efforts in the field of the transition from fossil fuel production towards renewable energy and using a ‘match-the-best’ principle, meaning that Member States’ performances are compared with the best in class performing states and thus incentivizing how to foster social and economic development through best practice sharing;

8. Declares that UN-RESET Governing body:

a. Will consist of representatives of The Founding Members being Austria, Canada, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Indonesia, Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Libya, Nepal, Sudan, Tunisian Republic, selected by their respective governments with the support and input of the scientific community;

b. Will welcome all other willing Member States in particular those that are fossil fuel producing to join;

c. Will utilize the existing resources of the CSTD;

d. Will meet annually in an elected Member State willing to host the meeting, with the first meeting taking place in Tunis on 7 January 2015; and the host of the following year will be determined by a vote of simple majority among alternating willing candidates;

e. Will directly report to the ECOSOC Plenary on a semestrial basis through the UN-RESET Report, which will be presented at the annual meeting of the governing body;

9. Recognizes that producing sustainable means of green energy will therefore decrease the harmful effects of human-induced climate change which is currently leading to crop failures and loss of livestock, in order to progress towards an increasing production and productivity in the agricultural sector in order to decrease hunger and poverty;

10. Calls upon all Member States to refrain from any actions that might jeopardize the implementation of these recommendations and to support actions that further promote these recommendations, especially for Least Developed Countries (LDC).
The Economic and Social Council,

Guided by Article 2 of the United Nations Charter, emphasizing the importance of national sovereignty,

Noting that according to World Bank figures, the number of internet users has grown ten times from 2000 to 2010; however, 60-70% of the world's population still lacks access to services such as broadband for high-speed internet,

Noting with satisfaction the positive outcomes of High-level segment of the informal meeting on Improving Connectivity in Eurasia,

Recognizing Millennium Development Goal 8, Target F, addressing the access to Information and Communication Technologies with the support of the United Nations, as a long-term sustainable development strategy,

Bearing in mind the importance of public awareness regarding sustainable development as mentioned in A/42/427, Chapter 4,

Reaffirming the 8th Millennium Development Goal of global partnership for development,

Recalling the Brudtland Report A/42/427 (1987), which sets the framework to achieve sustainable development through science and technology,

Affirming the importance for all countries to have access to technologies underlined in the Conference on Sustainable Development, as well as the General Assembly resolution 66/288 of 27, and its annex document “The Future We Want”, keeping in mind the three pillars of environment, social, and economic development,

Keeping in mind that education is the key to access and improvement of social conditions within SDGs as well as a path to development,

Reminding the importance of establishing and strengthening public education infrastructure in order to reduce the technological gap between developed and developing Member States,

1. Urges the Secretary-General to establish the Global Partnership for Internet Connectivity to function as an action-focused global network that:

   a. Calls on relevant UN programs, funds and specialized agencies such as United Nations Development Programme, International Monetary Fund, and the International Telecommunication Union, multilateral development banks, and other relevant stakeholders, in collaboration with the World Summit on the Information Society and the United Nations Information and Communication Technologies Task Force to focus their attention and resources on expanding internet connectivity in developing Member States;

   b. Brings together actors ranging from grassroots organizations to top-level leadership from all sectors of society governments, business and civil society on the national, regional and global levels;

   c. Facilitates a High-Level Meeting on Improving Global Internet Connectivity, comprised of Member States, NGOs, civil society organizations, and representatives from the private sector:

      i. Which takes into account the report produced by the High Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Agenda that addresses internet connectivity;
ii. Which will establish a timeline composed of general benchmarks that Member States and other stakeholders can focus efforts towards incremental increases in internet access in developing Member States;

iii. Where participants are strongly recommended to make pledges to fund programs to address the issue of internet connectivity, or through efforts to increase awareness of the aforementioned goal;

2. **Endorses** the conclusions found in the TV White Spaces & Dynamic Spectrum Africa Forum, in which it was discovered that TV white spaces radio can be utilized in a way that creates a low-cost solution to Internet access in remote areas;

3. **Calls upon** all Member States to draw their attention on the UNDP’s Internet Platform Teamworks, an integrated solution for knowledge management between the United Nations, development organizations, international organizations, civil society and governments, in order to integrate this Platform in all of their universities, banks, companies, among other institutions by:

   a. Involving non-governmental organizations, industries and the scientific community on a national and international level in order to support any effort towards sustainable development, all while respecting the diversity and sovereignty of Member States;

   b. Ensuring internet access in rural areas through programs such as the TV White Space Program with the help of funding institutions, such as non-governmental organizations sponsoring a North-South computer recycling program that brings advanced computers and technological instruments to less developed areas;

4. **Suggests** the creation of a conference, based on principles of sustainable development and technology sharing specifically for renewable energy and ICT’s, where private and public stakeholders come together to exchange expertise and compare regional initiatives:

   a. Under the observation of the regional commissions of ECOSOC;

   b. Funded by a partnership between private interest groups, Member States, and host countries;

   c. Held annually, by a Northern country and a Southern country in an alternating pattern, beginning in February 2015 in Belarus;

   d. United Nations University funded programs such as the United Nations University Scholarship for Developing Country Students;

5. **Recommends** that ECOSOC Regional Commissions and the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, spear-headed by academia from different Member States, work with governments to strengthen or create government research institutes focusing on country specific sources of renewable energy by:

   a. Encouraging governments and their research institutes to share information with ECOSOC regional commissions through the Sustainable Development Knowledge Platform;

   b. Sharing benchmark practices through ECOSOC Regional Commissions in order to diffuse information concerning science and technology among willing Member States;

   c. Funding through Member State donations, private sector factions, philanthropists, and non-governmental organizations;

6. **Requests** that governments sending exchange students establish working groups within science and technology education that will serve as an information platform for knowledge sharing by:
a. Encouraging universities in the students’ country of origin to host research forums, in which the exchange students will present the information they have acquired in a public arena to both academic scholars and any interested civilians;

b. Suggesting universities provide accessible ways for students to post their research, so that the information is easily accessible to the general public;

7. **Calls** a wide range of stakeholders such as non-governmental organizations, philanthropists, governments and universities to facilitate student exchanges through partnerships, thus building Member States capacity to initiate its own projects in the science and technology field, financed by the following mechanisms:

   a. Scholarship grants, provided and administered by regional governments and private sector or academic institutions;

   b. Financial support by government and private sector institutions;

   c. United Nations University funded programs such as the already existing United Nations University Scholarship for Developing Country Students;

8. **Invites** governments sponsoring STEM students in exchange programs to financially support students abroad for a specific duration of time in order to avoid brain drain.
The Economic and Social Council,

Taking note of the Economic and Social Council’s (ECOSOC) mandate to coordinate multiple stakeholders in support of development initiatives, in particular the Post-2015 Development Agenda,

Acknowledging insufficient international financial support for development initiatives as a large obstacle in the achievement of economic and social advancement and a hindrance of progress toward the Millennium Development Goals, as noted in the Monterrey Consensus,

Adhering to A/RES/65/174, which underlines the importance of cooperation between governmental and nongovernmental organizations and the effective use of financial resources to aid the implementation of MDGs,

Guided by prior commitments to the Stockholm Declaration, the 1992 Rio Conference in particular chapters 31, 34, and 35 of Agenda 21, the Johannesburg Declaration, and the recent report, The Future We Want (A/RES/66/288), in particular chapter 54, which stresses the role of the UN in promoting cooperation through multilateral development and the UN system,

Emphasizing the importance of utilizing green modern technologies, which are those innovations that facilitate the completion of objectives in a way that avoids further environmental strain and promotes the use of sustainable and clean resources, such as increased utilization of paperless communication via the Worldwide Web, as well as solar powered telecommunications systems, to increase efficiency of global banking systems,

1. Calls upon all Member States of ECOSOC to consider increasing the amount of national investment in Science and Technology Innovation (STI) in working toward building a “knowledge society,” which builds societal intellectual and economic wealth through the sharing of information, for the purposes of:

   a. Increasing national capacity-building capabilities for STI implementation through an initial assessment of each state’s current infrastructure to determine capacity for implementation of STI development and the providing of resulting case-specific suggestions for improvement, as conducted by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), which has the ability to perform research and compile data to create a comprehensive report including recommendations on national policy reform;

   b. Creating more employment opportunities for youth by diversifying and increasing financial investment in training programs and vocational education in the field of science and technology innovation for university students;

   c. Inclusion of minority populations in STI research and development by way of supporting further development, and then implementation of, the LUCY e-Inclusion Platform, which stresses the importance of ensuring special attention is paid to vulnerable groups by the localization of sustainable digital inclusion projects;

2. Calls upon all Member States to strengthen multilateral cooperation through employment of existing integrated frameworks and forums in which countries can share updated information in the development of STI by:

   a. Utilizing the Global Summit on Regulatory Science as a forum to facilitate increased international science and technology research information sharing;

   b. Committing to participate in regional information-sharing forums discussing STI development with a focus on issues particular to the region, such as the EU-LAC, which stresses the necessity to cooperate national, regional and bi-regional resources;
c. Creating incentives for private corporations to invest in university research programs, such as:
   i. Gaining of access to university research facilities for the purpose of monitoring the progress of specific projects for the duration of the project;
   ii. Supplementation of corporations’ research and development team’s work force by university employed scientists and students;
   iii. Provisions for a percentage of contributions to be qualified as tax deductible;
   iv. Sharing in ownership of technologies and patents produced from the funded programs;

3. Highly recommends the General Assembly Fifth Committee (GA 5th) which is concerned with the UN’s financial and budgetary arrangements, to consider creating a new mediating body between regional development banks (such as the Asian Development Bank and the West African Development Bank) and financial and governmental institutions in developing countries, for the purpose of achieving more efficient use of existent funds and empowering developing nations in fields of science, technology and innovation (STI), outlined by the following:
   a. The body could receive funding from regional development banks and agents such as the Funding for Development Office of the UN;
   b. The body should be concerned with protecting Member State’s national interests from any agreements that would infringe their sovereignty and restrict their national authority;
   c. The body should offer monitoring services to overlook the flow of funds and ensure their appropriate allocation at the explicit request of Member States;
   d. The body should work in conjunction with an advisory group of experts from leading universities and financial institutions around the world along with national institutions of Member States;

4. Recommends the General Assembly to take into account the importance for the Commission on Science and Technology Development (CSTD) to implement affordable mobile banking systems in countries with a low Human Development Index (HDI), which would be based on a software that allows users to remotely access their bank accounts using the existing cellphone coverage network, outlined by the following:
   a. This initiative could be financed with the help of:
      i. The Financing for Development Office of the UN;
      ii. Regional actors for development (such as Southern Africa Development Community, African Union and other intergovernmental organizations) and NGOs which would act as a link between public institutions, governments of Member States and private companies;
      iii. Civil society and the OECD;
   b. This initiative should fall under the coordination of the CSTD which would decide in which areas the system should be tested based on population density (less than 8/km²), supervise its implementation and monitor its results in the areas of:
      i. Promoting the diffusion of green, low cost and easy to use devices, such as devices featuring solar cell recharging;
      ii. Implementing more powerful mobile networks in rural areas to provide expanded access to the communication system even to the 25% of the population which still doesn’t have access to it;
iii. Strengthening mobile payment systems to reduce the expenditure of monetary and human resources and develop a more sustainable banking system;

c. The expected outcomes of this initiative will be:

i. Providing universal access to financial systems and generate innovative solutions of microcredit;

ii. Reducing the gap between banking systems and citizens living in rural areas.
The Economic and Social Council,

Affirming the interdependency across health, food security, and environment to achieve sustainable development goals,

Recalling the findings of Brundtland Report A/42/427 that states science, technology and innovation (STI) are interrelated, contribute to sustainable development policies and practices, enhance crop yields and agricultural production, and reduce pollution,

Emphasizing GA Resolution A/RES/63/235, focusing on recognizing sustainable agriculture development approaches as the crucial path to achieve enhanced food security and food safety in an environmentally sustainable way,

Noting with concern that while according to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN, women constitute on average 43 per cent of the world’s agricultural labor force, due to differences in input use and women’s lack of access of agricultural technology, female agricultural workers are significantly less productive than their male counterparts, which has detrimental social effects for female-headed households in developing countries,

Deeply Convinced of the efforts made by Nations and UN bodies for the achievement of the Millenniums Development Goals (MDGS), in particular goals number 1, 7 and 8, dealing with eradication of hunger, environmental sustainability and global partnership for development,

Concerned by the need for global access to weather detection and related information as it pertains to agricultural planning, implementation and disaster prevention, techniques primarily for developing Member States who have limited access to the internet and other information sharing networks,

1. Recommends the cooperation between North-South and South-South cooperatives on technology sharing, specifically on agricultural development by:
   a. Establishing an annual forum, the first hosted by New Zealand by 2015 with attendees from joint collaboration of private sector, public sector, and nongovernmental organizations;
   b. Pursuing efficient agricultural cultivation minding green energy particularly focusing on the utilization of bio-technologies;

2. Encourages the UNDP to coordinate with weather and meteorological organizations within the United Nations, its Member States, and private and educational data collection and research organizations in the creation of a global meteorological database for agriculture that:
   a. Provides local farmers with weather patterns and forecasts imperative to better plan and avoid the devastation caused by weather induced crop loss and natural disasters;
   b. Allows farmers to efficiently plan their regular growing season so as to take advantage of planting, reaping, storing, etc., at time when they have the most ideal weather conditions;
   c. Permits collaboration of preexisting meteorological organizations and the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, the United Nations World Meteorological Administration regarding climate patterns and weather forecasting in a comprehensive database aimed at providing important information to local farmers throughout the world;

3. Promotes further triangular cooperation with respect to different regional situations, in order to:
a. Promote regional seminars in rural areas held by experts of Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in order to strengthen farmers capacity and knowledge by providing innovative management of food security, environmental protection and implementation of new technologies;

b. Encourages Member States to recognize the role of traditionally underrepresented groups in the agricultural sector, including women, indigenous peoples and small-scale farmers as one of the largest percentages of the agrarian labor force;

4. **Calls upon** the enlargement of the Food Security Monitoring System (FSMS) to further specify its research in the different farming techniques and provide annual evaluation reports to World Food Program on sustainable agriculture practices to enhance the used methods through STI by:

a. Encouraging the implementation of low cost digital systems to share knowledge on farming techniques and agricultural infrastructure building even with remote villages;

b. Calling upon all Member States to enhance a multistakeholder approach to develop agricultural technology and decrease the rate of malnutrition by participating with the private sector research and development, and UN Agencies;

c. Promoting cooperation between regional, cross-regional organizations, and NGOs;

d. Enhancing collaboration among universities, and the international and science commissions;

5. **Recognizing** that developed Member States have the knowledge and specialists necessary to help advance the abilities of the populations of lesser developed countries (LDCs) to utilize green and efficient farming techniques:

a. Understanding the need that providing this knowledge and experience must be an ongoing effort and that training techniques must be evaluated to increase accessibility and opportunity for implementation of these technologies;

b. Encourages Member States to provide sustainable farming specialists to teach and communicate physical visual manuals, which share how to utilize green and efficient farming techniques;

6. **Encourages** governments to promote the creation of cooperatives composed of small scale farmers in order to address the issue of malnutrition and allow small farmers to leave the subsistence status and enter the formal economy;

7. **Calls upon** Member States to adopt similar plans to the Agricultural Development Led Industrialization (ADLI) program in order to strengthen every individual Member State’s agricultural infrastructure by:

a. Creating basic infrastructure such as paved roads to facilitate of fertilizer supply and other agricultural materials;

b. Developing of sustainable and renewable energy sources;

c. Advancing resource conservation and energy efficient technologies to be used in agriculture;

d. Establishing sustainable, labor-saving technologies that would increase the productivity of female agricultural workers;

8. **Suggests** the implementation of collective regional databases to be collected at the discretion of Member States by a follow up set of experts that contains important information which will be set in secured systems such as:
a. Translated physical and digital training manuals for sustainable agricultural practices, adapted for each major climate and soil zones that impart effective educational training techniques;

b. Sustainable farming methods which allow farmers to utilize effective agricultural practices which refrain from soil erosion, prevent human induced climate change, ecological degradation, and focus on water conservation in fiscally responsible manner;

c. Monitoring productivity of systems implemented in a regional context by utilizing Tri-angular cooperation (NS, SS), by setting up regional based supervising centers, which allocate information from multiple sources such as a multi-lateral platform extracting knowledge from scholars, university networks, organizations, and contributing individuals;

d. Encourages the United Nations Water Programme to disseminate best practice methods to increase access to sustainable clean water technologies such as encouraging Member States to pursue expanding and promoting the use of already existing sustainable water technologies and cleansing procedures, such as rainwater collection and solar-power water pumps.
The Economic and Social Council,

Reaffirming the fundamental role the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) plays in coordinating efforts towards the post-2015 development agenda, particularly referring to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),

Guided by the 1992 Rio Conference, in particular chapters 31, 35 and 36 of Agenda 21 emphasizing the importance of scientific and technological community, science for sustainable development, and promoting education and public awareness,

Recalling the General Assembly resolution The Future We Want (A/RES/66/288) 2012, specifically principle 31 that recognizes the importance of gender equality and highlights the link between women’s empowerment and sustainable development,

Recognizing that achievement toward completion of Millennium Development Goal 2: Achieve Universal Primary Education with enrollment in primary education in developing nations has reached 90 per cent in 2010, and is inextricably linked to progress in the specific field of science and technology education,

Deeply concerned about the still-present gender gap in access to education, reflected by the fact that 2 out of 130 countries have achieved equality in primary education between boys and girls at all levels of education, 17 million girls of the primary school age are never expected to enter school, and that this inequality perpetuates the disparity between men and women entering Science, Technology, Engineering and Math fields for sustainable development,

Noting with regret that this gender gap is in discordance with the principles of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women,

Emphasizing the need to respect individual countries’ cultural values and context specific needs and strategies when conceptualizing and implementing sustainable development initiatives,

Keeping in mind that initiatives should be sensitive to least developed countries (LDCs) and conflict-torn Member States with emphasis on marginalized groups within the population such as women, indigenous groups, and ethnic minorities, as outlined in the United Nations Decade for Development 2011-2020,

Further Recalling Millennium Development Goal 8, Target F that aims to cooperate with the private sector at making benefits of new technologies specifically information and communications available,

1. Calls upon the ECOSOC High-Level Political Forum to address in the upcoming meeting the incorporation of science, technology, and innovation into the post-2015 Sustainable Development Goal framework;

2. Recommends that Member States take into account the existing Women in Science data from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Institute for Statistics and where deemed necessary undertake participatory action research that involves local communities in identifying the local factors that contribute to the gender gap in STEM related fields within their national context;

3. Encourages Member States to set individualized goals for increasing STEM related studies within primary, secondary, and postsecondary education considering and commit to involve all levels of government in achieving these goals;

4. Requests the creation of a Global Awareness Campaign in collaboration with UN Women, UNESCO, and United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) considering the following:

   a. The growing need for STEM professionals in order to optimize the potential of STI for sustainable development;
b. The main objective of developing the skills necessary for girls to pursue and succeed in STEM studies, increasing girls’ interest and participation in STEM fields, and closing the gender gap in STEM professions;

c. Given importance of developing these skills at an early age in order to ensure future success, the campaign stresses teaching girls specific STEM-related skills such as mathematical and spatial reasoning at the primary level;

d. Girls can be encouraged to pursue STEM fields through after school programs and/or extracurricular activities at the primary and secondary levels;

e. The varying social, cultural, religious and environmental barriers to girls’ and women’s participation in STEM;

f. Women in STEM can serve as powerful role models for girls at the primary and secondary levels to break down some of the aforementioned barriers though the dissemination of media developed in collaboration with universities;

g. Participation in the Campaign is voluntary and Member States are encouraged to promote the Campaign at the national level as desired and assess its continuation after an initial five year period;

h. Dialogue with UN Women’s Gender Equality Fund could provide resources to ensure the success of the campaign;

5. **Suggests** the 5th Committee of the General Assembly consider the need for funding in STI education and the potential use of a Global Science and Technology Education Fund (GSTEF) to promote socio-economic development through STI Education and the expansion of ICTs access within the international community that:

a. Has the ability to distribute financial resources in the form of grants for initiatives and projects aimed at advancing social and economic development through STEM education and STI initiatives at all levels from NGO’s and civil society organizations to public sector projects;

b. Obtains its funds through public-private partnerships, relevant UN programs such as the United Nations Development Programme, UNICEF, and UNESCO and official development assistance from Member States;

c. Allocates funds donated by Member States with a particular interest in this cause as venture capital for start-ups with a sustainable model and social enterprises, thereby creating a continuous income source for GSTEF;

i. Where a small percentage of gains from private enterprise, determined by GSTEF based on profitability assessments, is recycled back into this fund.
The Economic and Social Council,

Bearing in mind that Sustainable Development Goals and the Post-2015 Development Agenda are key issues for the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC),

Fully believing in the potential of science, technology and innovation to promote sustainable development and achieve the Millennium Development Goals, as noted in E/2013/54, the report of the Secretary-General on “Science, technology and innovation, and the potential of culture, for promoting sustainable development and achieving the Millennium Development Goals,

Recognizing the previous work done in setting goals, targets, and indicators of Sustainable Development Goals by Open Working Groups, which is organized based on A/67/257, The Future We Want Accelerating Progress Towards the Millennium Development Goals: Annual Report of the Secretary-General,

Recognizing the essential need for the usage of a sustainable development assessment system to understand the developmental needs of every country,

Emphasizing the lack of statistical and spatial information in regards to the human footprint, sustainable development, and the environmental sensitivity available, in particular in developing countries, to decision makers and planners to fully utilize a state’s resources in a sustainable way,

Viewing with appreciation the relationship between the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies,

Recalling the utility of regional blocs such as the European Union and the Organization of American States in promoting sustainable development through sustainable energy developments such as the EU initiative to cut all greenhouse emissions by 80-95% by 2050,

Acknowledging the focus of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation on utilizing clean energy that bears in mind the three pillars of sustainable development, Economic, Social, and Environmental, as well as the interconnectedness of these pillars toward enhancing national capacities for technological innovation,

Noting with regret that 1.2 billion people still do not have access to electricity and that many developed and developing nations continue to use non-renewable energy sources,
Recalling Economic and Social Council Plenary Resolution 2011/11 and the important work of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research established to support quality standards and the expanded use of technology-enhanced tools,

Observing Goal 8 of the Millennium Development Goals supporting partnerships for development to support sustainable development within the international community,

Recognizing the potential for building the capacities of universities in the field of infrastructure based on the usage of the Kuwait’s Geographic Information System,

Recalling “Dashboard for Millennium Development Goals (MDGs),” created by the World Bank, and “Dashboard of Sustainability,” created by Consultative Group on Sustainable Development Indicators,

Believing that the Dashboard framework will empower the development and enhancement of a measurement system for Sustainable Development Goals that Member States can utilize to create their own indicators to measure the progress of sustainable development,

1. Calls upon the United Nations General Assembly to discuss at the next meeting in the New York UN Headquarters regarding the creation of the Global Integrated Environmental Information Network (GIEIN) to provide decision makers and planners with the needed environmental information in a comprehensive, balanced, accurate, and timely manner for the creation of sound environmental policies, strategies, and program;

2. Encourages the creation of a state of the art Geographic Information System (GIS) database to facilitate the optimum utilization of relevant data in clean and renewable energy sources organized and mandated in the following manner:

   a. GIS will be under the mandate of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) who will update the GIS on a quarterly basis;

   b. Public and private sector programs will provide information on ventures in renewable energy on a voluntary basis on a once yearly reports after a once a year meeting based at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, this information can include, but is not limited to:

   c. Sources of information will include:

      i. Company name;

      ii. Primary source of energy;

      iii. Location of business;

      iv. Employment information;
v. Potential to expand in other regions;
vi. Regional clean energy histories;
vii. Analysis of similar environments;
vii. Data pertaining to environmental factors;

d. The GIS will be a publicly available database held within the New York UN Headquarters overseen by ECOSOC UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, used so that the stakeholders such as non-governmental organizations (NGO’s), Universities, Member State governments, private enterprises, and investors will benefit from usage from GIS;

3. Suggests that the United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) expand the usage of reports detailing the potential environmental impact of energy programs in the following areas: terrestrial, coastal, marine, atmospheric in order to support the GIS database;

4. Recommends Member States propose a meeting discuss the techniques that have already been implemented to further research alternative repurposing strategies to utilize illicit wastes from renewable energy technologies into sustainable development programs, akin to the repurposing of brine into asphalt for roadways under the United Arab Emirates Masdar Initiative;

5. Promotes the universal online accessibility of Dashboard to facilitate database access to citizens in all Member States;

6. Requests the science forums as a venue for consultation among specialists to further develop and share technology skills to found dashboard system on database:

   a. A Sustainable development assessment system to understand the developmental needs of every country;
   
   b. To increase successful of international scientific co-operation by promoting participation and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Science Forum;
   
   c. To continue the progress of data collection through the dashboard system in the World Bank and International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD);

7. Encourages the voluntary implementation of a three-stage system of regional development, testing, and demonstration project to further foster the use of eco-resourceful waste technology;
8. Supporting bilateral partnerships between Member States who will voluntarily offer grants to their Member States respective environmental waste companies;

9. Bringing together Member States with the various related agencies of the United Nations development system including, inter alios, UNEP, the United Nations Development Group (UNDG) and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) with the purpose of fostering an emergent discussion on regional capacities for the implementation of available programmes including:
   a. Coordinating special agencies including the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), to work in their specific areas to reach SDGs;
   b. To endorse Member States to participate in the Open Working Group in General Assembly to achieve the SDGs;

10. Implementing one pilot projects such as but not limited to the Danish Action plan to promote eco-efficient technology;

11. **Strongly promotes** the use of a free, environmental preserving methods of converting heat to power with the use of technology that utilizes the heat energy, when it is released as a byproduct it can be transformed into various raw materials to produce products, this will in turn reduce energy costs for industrial processes, eliminate combustion, and emission and create jobs for nations;

12. **Advocates** for contracting Member States to work with the United Nation’s Office of Legal Affairs in negotiating and crafting public private partnerships in advancing economic growth within Developing States;

13. **Recognizes** the potential for building the capacities of the GIEIN and the Open Working Group to utilize Dashboard in the creation and promotion of a database system by involving the UN Institute for Training Research (UNITAR) to provide support to Member States and an educational infrastructure with the goal of:
   a. To ensure the progress of monitoring sustainable development;
   b. To certify the effectiveness of sustainable development policies adopted by each Member State;
   c. To evaluate the progress made by each Member State on sustainable development.