UNITED NATIONS

HANDBOOK

2025-26

AN ANNUAL GUIDE FOR THOSE

WORKING WITH AND WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS

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# Contents

[Contents 3](#_Toc210043612)

[LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS 9](#_Toc210043613)

[Country names 9](#_Toc210043614)

[FOREWORD 10](#_Toc210043615)

[WHAT THIS BOOK DOES 11](#_Toc210043616)

[THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM – PRINCIPAL ORGANS 12](#_Toc210043617)

[GENERAL ASSEMBLY 15](#_Toc210043618)

[CHARTER PROVISIONS 15](#_Toc210043619)

[MEMBERSHIP 15](#_Toc210043620)

[SESSIONS AND OFFICERS 22](#_Toc210043621)

[Rules Governing Sessions 22](#_Toc210043622)

[Sessions and Presidents of the General Assembly since 1946 23](#_Toc210043623)

[80th Regular Session: President and Vice-Presidents 29](#_Toc210043624)

[79th Regular Session: President and Vice-Presidents 29](#_Toc210043625)

[STRUCTURE 29](#_Toc210043626)

[Main Committees 30](#_Toc210043627)

[Procedural Committees 32](#_Toc210043628)

[Standing Committees 33](#_Toc210043629)

[SUBSIDIARY AND AD HOC BODIES 35](#_Toc210043630)

[Intergovernmental Bodies 35](#_Toc210043631)

[Other Intergovernmental Bodies 57](#_Toc210043632)

[Advisory Bodies 80](#_Toc210043633)

[Expert Bodies 83](#_Toc210043634)

[SECURITY COUNCIL 94](#_Toc210043635)

[CHARTER PROVISIONS 94](#_Toc210043636)

[MEMBERSHIP 94](#_Toc210043637)

[SUBSIDIARY BODIES 97](#_Toc210043638)

[Standing Committees 97](#_Toc210043639)

[Working Groups 97](#_Toc210043640)

[Ad Hoc Working Groups 97](#_Toc210043641)

[Military Staff Committee 98](#_Toc210043642)

[Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) 98](#_Toc210043643)

[SC Res. 1540 Committee – Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction by Non-State Actors 99](#_Toc210043644)

[Sanctions Committees 100](#_Toc210043645)

[Peacekeeping Operations 108](#_Toc210043646)

[Special Political Missions 114](#_Toc210043647)

[Commissions 120](#_Toc210043648)

[International Tribunals 121](#_Toc210043649)

[Other Organizations 123](#_Toc210043650)

[ECONOMIC and SOCIAL COUNCIL (ECOSOC) 124](#_Toc210043651)

[CHARTER PROVISIONS 124](#_Toc210043652)

[MEMBERSHIP 124](#_Toc210043653)

[SESSIONS AND OFFICERS 127](#_Toc210043654)

[SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF ECOSOC 128](#_Toc210043655)

[Functional Commissions 128](#_Toc210043656)

[Regional Commissions 150](#_Toc210043657)

[Standing Committees 158](#_Toc210043658)

[Expert Bodies 162](#_Toc210043659)

[Other Subsidiary Bodies 173](#_Toc210043660)

[TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL 176](#_Toc210043661)

[INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE (ICJ) 177](#_Toc210043662)

[Secretariat 179](#_Toc210043663)

[CHARTER PROVISIONS 179](#_Toc210043664)

[STRUCTURE AND OFFICERS 179](#_Toc210043665)

[SECRETARIAT OFFICES AND DEPARTMENTS 186](#_Toc210043666)

[Offices and Departments in New York 186](#_Toc210043667)

[Offices and Departments in Geneva 198](#_Toc210043668)

[Office in Nairobi 199](#_Toc210043669)

[Offices in Vienna 200](#_Toc210043670)

[Special Representatives and Advisors 202](#_Toc210043671)

[Other Entities 206](#_Toc210043672)

[Other Bodies Subsidiary or Related to the UN 209](#_Toc210043673)

[FUNDS, PROGRAMMES AND BODIES OF THE UN 209](#_Toc210043674)

[Recognized Funds and Programmes of the UN 209](#_Toc210043675)

[Other UN Entities 237](#_Toc210043676)

[Research and Training Institutes 239](#_Toc210043677)

[TREATY AND RELATED BODIES 243](#_Toc210043678)

[Human Rights Treaty Bodies 243](#_Toc210043679)

[Law of the Sea Treaty Bodies 253](#_Toc210043680)

[Environmental Bodies 259](#_Toc210043681)

[SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER RELATED BODIES 271](#_Toc210043682)

[Specialized Agencies 271](#_Toc210043683)

[World Bank Group 316](#_Toc210043684)

[International Monetary Fund (IMF) 319](#_Toc210043685)

[Other Related Bodies 320](#_Toc210043686)

[REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS 338](#_Toc210043687)

[Budget and Scales of Assessment 344](#_Toc210043688)

[UN BUDGET 344](#_Toc210043689)

[SCALES OF ASSESSMENT 345](#_Toc210043690)

[AD HOC SCALE OF ASSESSMENT FOR UN PEACEKEEPING BUDGETS 349](#_Toc210043691)

[LIST OF ACRONYMS 353](#_Toc210043692)

[INDEX 358](#_Toc210043693)

## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

#### Country names

The short names of UN Member States (as listed at [www.un.org/en/about-us/member-states](file:///C:\Users\lwright5\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\P3TS7U4J\www.un.org\en\about-us\member-states)) are used throughout this Handbook. In addition, the following abbreviations are used.

Bolivia Plurinational State of Bolivia

DPRK Democratic People’s Republic of Korea

DR Congo Democratic Republic of the Congo

Gambia Republic of the Gambia

Lao PDR Lao People’s Democratic Republic

Micronesia Federated States of Micronesia

Moldova Republic of Moldova

Netherlands Kingdom of the Netherlands

ROK Republic of Korea

Syrian AR Syrian Arab Republic

UAE United Arab Emirates

UK or United Kingdom United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

UR of Tanzania United Republic of Tanzania

USA United States of America

Venezuela Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Other abbreviations

ECOSOC UN Economic and Social Council

GA UN General Assembly

Res. Resolution

SC UN Security Council

UN United Nations

Senator the Hon Penny Wong

RT HON WINSTON PETERS

## FOREWORD

Australia and New Zealand are delighted to introduce the 2025–26 United Nations Handbook – the 62nd edition of this invaluable resource.

Since it was first published in 1961, the Handbook has been a mainstay on the shelves of UN ambassadors, delegates and staff. As the United Nations has itself grown, so too has the need for a comprehensive reference that accounts for the many facets of this vital organization.

This latest edition of the Handbook arrives as we mark the 80th anniversary of the United Nations Charter. At a time when the UN system faces unprecedented challenges, it is our collective responsibility to embark on the task of fundamental and meaningful reform. It is in all of our interests to have a UN that is strong, effective, and capable of delivering for all its members. Working together, we must ensure the multilateral system remains resilient, adaptable and fit for purpose to tackle present and future challenges.

Australia and New Zealand’s inaugural collaboration on this Handbook underlines our shared commitment to the purposes and principles of the UN and its founding Charter. Together, we recognize and commend the role of UN agencies and personnel in advancing global sustainable development, safeguarding fundamental human rights and promoting our collective peace and security.

At this critical juncture, it is more important than ever that we understand the full scope of what we have built together. The United Nations Handbook addresses this requirement by providing an accessible and accurate account of the UN’s many institutions. We trust it will continue to be a useful resource, empowering all states to work together in advancing our shared endeavours.

Senator the Hon Penny Wong  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
AUSTRALIA

Rt Hon Winston Peters  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
NEW ZEALAND

## WHAT THIS BOOK DOES

The United Nations Handbook is published by the Australian and New Zealand Governments as a ready reference guide. It provides current information about all the UN family organizations, including their purpose, evolution, structure, meetings and membership, where applicable. It is not intended to be a historical record.

The book has at its heart information about the six principal UN organs established by the UN Charter: the General Assembly, Security Council, Economic and Social Council, Trusteeship Council, International Court of Justice and the Secretariat.

It also contains information about subsidiary organs established in accordance with the Charter, related UN organs and programmes, specialized agencies and autonomous bodies related to the UN, and various ad hoc organs and programmes. Some bodies are shown as subsidiary to or associated with one or other of the principal organs, while others are shown under the heading ‘Other Bodies Subsidiary or Related to the UN’. The specialized agencies   
of the UN are included under this heading.

Non-governmental organizations with UN connections are not included; neither, generally,   
are other intergovernmental (but non-UN) organizations or political groupings.

All money values are in US dollars, unless otherwise stated.

Website, email and postal/physical addresses are included where possible, along with telephone and fax numbers. Agencies without specified contact details can be reached through UN Headquarters in New York:

United Nations Plaza  
New York, NY 10017  
United States of America  
Telephone: +1 212 963 1234  
Fax: +1 212 963 4879

The main UN website is [www.un.org](http://www.un.org/en/) and many documents, including resolutions,   
can be found at [docs.un.org](https://docs.un.org).

The publishers are indebted to the UN bodies and agencies that provide considerable assistance each year to ensure the Handbook is as up to date and comprehensive as possible.

A PDF version of this book can be downloaded from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade website (www.dfat.gov.au) or from the New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade website (www.mfat.govt.nz).

The information in this Handbook is intended to be accurate as at 1 July 2025 unless otherwise stated.

## 

## THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM – PRINCIPAL ORGANS

##### Security Council

Subsidiary Bodies

Counter-Terrorism Committee

International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (IRMCT)

Military Staff Committee

Peacekeeping operations and special political missions

Standing committees and ad hoc bodies

Sanctions committees (ad hoc)

Related Organizations

Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

International Atomic Energy Agency

International Criminal Court

International Organization for Migration

International Seabed Authority

International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea

Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

World Trade Organization

Peacebuilding Commission

### International Court of Justice

Trusteeship Council4

General Assembly

Intergovernmental and Expert Bodies

Disarmament Commission

Human Rights Council

International Law Commission

Joint Inspection Unit (JIU)

UN Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)

Main committees

Standing committees and ad hoc bodies

Funds and Programmes1

UN Development Programme

UN Capital Development Fund

UN Volunteers

UN Environment Programme

UN Population Fund

UN Human Settlements Programme

UN Children’s Fund

World Food Programme (UN/FAO)

Research and Training

UN Institute for Disarmament Research

UN Institute for Training and Research

UN System Staff College

UN University

Other UN Entities

International Trade Centre

UN Trade and Development

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees

UN Office for Project Services

UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

Economic & Social Council (ECOSOC)

Specialized Agencies1, 3

Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN

International Civil Aviation Organization

International Fund for Agricultural Development

International Labour Organization

International Monetary Fund

International Maritime Organization

International Telecommunication Union

UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UN Industrial Development Organization

World Tourism Organization

Universal Postal Union

World Health Organization

WorldIntellectual Property Organization

World Meteorological Organization

**World Bank Group5**

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

International Development Association

International Finance Corporation

Functional Commissions

Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Narcotic Drugs

Population and Development

Science and Technology for Development

Social Development

Statistics

Status of Women

UN Forum on Forests

Regional Commissions6

Economic Commission for Africa

Economic Commission for Europe

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Other Bodies8

Committee for Development Policy

Committee of Experts on Public Administration

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS

UN Group of Experts on Geographical Names

UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

Other sessional and standing committees and expert, ad hoc and related bodies

Research and Training

UN Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

UN Research Institute for Social Development

Secretariat

Departments and Offices7

Executive Office of the Secretary-General

Development Coordination Office

Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Department for General Assembly and Conference Management

Department of Global Communications

Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance

Department of Operational Support

Department of Peace Operations

Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

Office of Digital and Emerging Technologies

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

Office of Internal Oversight Services

Office of Legal Affairs

Office of the Special Adviser on Africa

Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict

Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict

Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children

Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

Department of Safety and Security

Office of Counter-Terrorism

Office for Disarmament Affairs

UN Office on Drugs and Crime

UN Office at Geneva

Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States

UN Office at Nairobi

UN Office for Outer Space Affairs

UN Office for Partnerships

UN Office at Vienna

UN Youth Office

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Website: [www.un.org/en/ga](http://www.un.org/en/ga)

### CHARTER PROVISIONS

The General Assembly was established in 1945 under the [Charter](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter) of the United Nations. The Assembly consists of all UN Member States and may discuss any questions or matters within the scope of the Charter or relating to the powers and functions of any organ provided for in the Charter. It may make recommendations to UN members or the Security Council or both on any such questions or matters, except disputes or situations in respect of which the Security Council is currently exercising its functions.

General Assembly decisions are generally made by consensus. Where decisions are voted, they are made by a majority of the members present and voting unless it is considered an important question. Decisions on important questions are made by a two-thirds majority of the members present and voting. Important questions requiring a two-thirds majority are listed in Article 18 of the Charter. This Article also provides that decisions on other questions, including the determination of additional categories of questions to be decided by a two-thirds majority, are made by a simple majority. Each country has one vote. Members may be suspended in some circumstances, and members in arrears of payment may lose their right to vote.

The General Assembly receives and considers reports from the other organs of the UN.

It elects the 10 non-permanent members of the Security Council and the 54 members of the Economic and Social Council. Together with the Security Council, but voting independently, it elects the members of the International Court of Justice. On the recommendation of the Security Council, it appoints the Secretary-General. The General Assembly considers and approves the regular budgets of the UN and apportions expenses among members.

The Charter provisions concerning the General Assembly are contained in Chapter [IV](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-4) (Articles 9–22), which defines its composition, functions and powers, voting and procedures. Other provisions relating to the General Assembly are contained in Articles 1, 2, 4–7, 23, 24, 35, 60–64, 66, 85–88, 93, 96, 97, 98, 101, 105, 108 and 109 of the Charter, and Articles 4, 7–15, 32, 33 and 69 of the [Statute](https://www.icj-cij.org/statute) of the International Court of Justice.

### MEMBERSHIP

As at 31 July 2025, 193 states were represented in the General Assembly. These states, together with their dates of admission to the UN, are:

Afghanistan 19 Nov 19461

Albania 14 Dec 1955

Algeria 8 Oct 1962

Andorra 28 Jul 1993

Angola 1 Dec 1976

Antigua and Barbuda 11 Nov 1981

Argentina 24 Oct 1945\*

Armenia 2 Mar 1992

Australia 1 Nov 1945\*

Austria 14 Dec 1955

Azerbaijan 2 Mar 1992

Bahamas 18 Sep 1973

Bahrain 21 Sep 19712

Bangladesh 17 Sep 1974

Barbados 9 Dec 1966

Belarus 24 Oct 1945\*

Belgium 27 Dec 1945\*

Belize 25 Sep 1981

Benin 20 Sep 1960

Bhutan 21 Sep 1971

Bolivia 14 Nov 1945\*

Bosnia and Herzegovina 22 May 19923

Botswana 17 Oct 1966

Brazil 24 Oct 1945\*

Brunei Darussalam 21 Sep 1984

Bulgaria 14 Dec 1955

Burkina Faso 20 Sep 1960

Burundi 18 Sep 1962

Cabo Verde 16 Sep 1975

Cambodia 14 Dec 1955

Cameroon 20 Sep 1960

Canada 9 Nov 1945\*

Central African Republic 20 Sep 1960

Chad 20 Sep 1960

Chile 24 Oct 1945\*

China 24 Oct 1945\*4

Colombia 5 Nov 1945\*

Comoros 12 Nov 1975

Congo 20 Sep 1960

Costa Rica 2 Nov 1945\*

Côte d’Ivoire 20 Sep 1960

Croatia 22 May 19923

Cuba 24 Oct 1945\*

Cyprus 20 Sep 1960

Czechia 19 Jan 1993\*5

DPRK 17 Sep 1991

DR Congo 20 Sep 1960

Denmark 24 Oct 1945\*

Djibouti 20 Sep 1977

Dominica 18 Dec 1978

Dominican Republic 24 Oct 1945\*

Ecuador 21 Dec 1945

Egypt 24 Oct 1945\*

El Salvador 24 Oct 1945\*

Equatorial Guinea 12 Nov 1968

Eritrea 28 May 1993

Estonia 17 Sep 1991

Eswatini 24 Sep 19686

Ethiopia 13 Nov 1945\*

Fiji 13 Oct 1970

Finland 14 Dec 1955

France 24 Oct 1945\*

Gabon 20 Sep 1960

Gambia 21 Sep 1965

Georgia 31 Jul 1992

Germany 18 Sep 19737

Ghana 8 Mar 1957

Greece 25 Oct 1945\*

Grenada 17 Sep 1974

Guatemala 21 Nov 1945\*

Guinea 12 Dec 1958

Guinea-Bissau 17 Sep 1974

Guyana 20 Sep 1966

Haiti 24 Oct 1945\*

Honduras 17 Dec 1945\*

Hungary 14 Dec 1955

Iceland 19 Nov 1946

India 30 Oct 1945\*

Indonesia 28 Sep 19508

Iran 24 Oct 1945\*

Iraq 21 Dec 1945\*

Ireland 14 Dec 1955

Israel 11 May 1949

Italy 14 Dec 1955

Jamaica 18 Sep 1962

Japan 18 Dec 1956

Jordan 14 Dec 1955

Kazakhstan 2 Mar 1992

Kenya 16 Dec 1963

Kiribati 14 Sep 1999

Kuwait 14 May 1963

Kyrgyzstan 2 Mar 1992

Lao PDR 14 Dec 1955

Latvia 17 Sep 1991

Lebanon 24 Oct 1945\*

Lesotho 17 Oct 1966

Liberia 2 Nov 1945\*

Libya 14 Dec 19559

Liechtenstein 18 Sep 1990

Lithuania 17 Sep 1991

Luxembourg 24 Oct 1945\*

Madagascar 20 Sep 1960

Malawi 1 Dec 1964

Malaysia 17 Sep 1957

Maldives 21 Sep 1965

Mali 28 Sep 1960

Malta 1 Dec 1964

Marshall Islands 17 Sep 1991

Mauritania 27 Oct 1961

Mauritius 24 Apr 1968

Mexico 7 Nov 1945\*

Micronesia 17 Sep 1991

Monaco 28 May 1993

Mongolia 27 Oct 1961

Montenegro 28 Jun 20063

Morocco 12 Nov 1956

Mozambique 16 Sep 1975

Myanmar 19 Apr 1948

Namibia 23 Apr 1990

Nauru 14 Sep 1999

Nepal 14 Dec 1955

Netherlands 10 Dec 1945\*

New Zealand 24 Oct 1945\*

Nicaragua 24 Oct 1945\*

Niger 20 Sep 1960

Nigeria 7 Oct 1960

North Macedonia 8 Apr 19933

Norway 27 Nov 1945\*

Oman 7 Oct 1971

Pakistan 30 Sep 1947

Palau 15 Dec 1994

Panama 13 Nov 1945\*

Papua New Guinea 10 Oct 1975

Paraguay 24 Oct 1945\*

Peru 31 Oct 1945\*

Philippines 24 Oct 1945\*

Poland 24 Oct 1945\*

Portugal 14 Dec 1955

Qatar 21 Sep 1971

ROK 17 Sep 1991

Republic of Moldova 2 Mar 1992

Romania 14 Dec 1955

Russian Federation 24 Oct 1945\*10

Rwanda 18 Sep 1962

Saint Kitts and Nevis 23 Sep 1983

Saint Lucia 18 Sep 1979

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 16 Sep 1980

Samoa 15 Dec 1976

San Marino 2 Mar 1992

São Tomé and Príncipe 16 Sep 1975

Saudi Arabia 24 Oct 1945\*

Senegal 28 Sep 1960

Serbia 1 Nov 20003

Seychelles 21 Sep 1976

Sierra Leone 27 Sep 1961

Singapore 21 Sep 1965

Slovakia 19 Jan 1993\*5

Slovenia 22 May 19923

Solomon Islands 19 Sep 1978

Somalia 20 Sep 1960

South Africa 7 Nov 1945\*

South Sudan 14 July 201111

Spain 14 Dec 1955

Sri Lanka 14 Dec 1955

Sudan 12 Nov 1956

Suriname 4 Dec 1975

Sweden 19 Nov 1946

Switzerland 10 Sep 2002

Syrian AR 24 Oct 1945\*12

Tajikistan 2 Mar 1992

Thailand 16 Dec 1946

Timor-Leste 27 Sep 2002

Togo 20 Sep 1960

Tonga 14 Sep 1999

Trinidad and Tobago 18 Sep 1962

Tunisia 12 Nov 1956

Türkiye 24 Oct 1945\*13

Turkmenistan 2 Mar 1992

Tuvalu 5 Sep 2000

Uganda 25 Oct 1962

Ukraine 24 Oct 1945\*

UAE 9 Dec 1971

UK 24 Oct 1945\*

UR of Tanzania 14 Dec 196114

USA 24 Oct 1945\*

Uruguay 18 Dec 1945\*

Uzbekistan 2 Mar 1992

Vanuatu 15 Sep 1981

Venezuela 15 Nov 1945\*

Viet Nam 20 Sep 1977

Yemen 30 Sep 194715

Zambia 1 Dec 1964

Zimbabwe 25 Aug 1980

Notes

\* Original members, that is, those that participated in the UN Conference on International Organization at San Francisco or had previously signed the UN Declaration of 1 January 1942, and that signed and ratified the Charter. Although Poland was not represented at San Francisco, it was agreed that it should sign the Charter subsequently as an original member.

1 On 22 December 2001, the Islamic State of Afghanistan informed the UN it had changed its name to Afghanistan.

2 On 14 February 2002, the State of Bahrain informed the UN it had changed its name to the Kingdom of Bahrain.

3 The Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was an original member of the UN (the Charter having been signed on its behalf on 26 June 1945 and ratified on 19 October 1945) until its dissolution following the establishment and subsequent admission as new members of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia, the Republic of Slovenia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia did not automatically succeed to memberships held by the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. On 4 February 2003, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia informed the UN that it had changed its name to Serbia and Montenegro. On 3 June 2006, the Republic of Serbia notified the UN that the membership of the State Union of Serbia and Montenegro in the UN, including all organs and organizations of the UN system, was continued by the Republic of Serbia on the basis of Article 60 of the Constitutional Charter of Serbia and Montenegro, activated by the Declaration of Independence adopted by the National Assembly of Montenegro on 3 June 2006. The Republic of Montenegro was admitted as a member of the UN on 28 June 2006. In February 2008, the Assembly of Kosovo declared independence although it has yet to seek UN membership. On 13 February 2019, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia informed the UN that it had changed its name to the Republic of North Macedonia.

4 By GA res. [2758 (XXVI)](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2758(XXVI)) (1971), the General Assembly decided to restore all its rights to the People’s Republic of China and to recognize the representatives of its government as the only legitimate representatives of China in the UN.

5 Formerly part of Czechoslovakia, an original member of the UN from 24 October 1945.

6 On 30 May 2018, the Kingdom of Swaziland informed the UN it had changed its name to the Kingdom of Eswatini.

7 Through the accession of the German Democratic Republic to the Federal Republic of Germany, with effect from 3 October 1990, the two German states united to form one sovereign state. As from the date of reunification, the Federal Republic of Germany acts in the UN under the designation ‘Germany’.

8 Indonesia withdrew from membership of the UN in 1965, but resumed full participation in 1966.

9 On 22 December 2017, the Permanent Mission of Libya to the UN formally notified the UN that the government was changing the official name of Libya to ‘State of Libya’.

10 The USSR was an original member of the UN from 24 October 1945. In 1991, the Russian Federation informed the Secretary-General that the membership of the Soviet Union in the Security Council and all other UN organs was being continued by the Russian Federation with the support of the 11 member countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

11 The Republic of South Sudan was admitted as the 193rd UN member on 14 July 2011.

12 Syria withdrew in 1958 to unite with Egypt as the United Arab Republic but resumed its independent status and separate membership of the UN as the Syrian Arab Republic in 1961.

13 On 3 June 2022, Turkey informed the UN it had changed its name to Türkiye.

14 Tanganyika was a member of the UN from 1961 and Zanzibar from 1963. After 1964, they continued as a single member, the United Republic of Tanganyika and Zanzibar, which later became the United Republic of Tanzania.

15 On 22 May 1990, Democratic Yemen and the Arab Republic of Yemen became a single sovereign state called the Republic of Yemen. Both had previously been members of the UN, Democratic Yemen since 14 December 1967 and the Arab Republic of Yemen since 30 September 1947.

Member States of the General Assembly and non-member states with permanent observer missions at UNHQ arranged in current regional groups

African states

Algeria

Angola

Benin

Botswana

Burkina Faso

Burundi

Cabo Verde

Cameroon

Central African Republic

Chad

Comoros

Congo

Côte d’Ivoire

DR Congo

Djibouti

Egypt

Equatorial Guinea

Eritrea

Eswatini

Ethiopia

Gabon

Gambia

Ghana

Guinea

Guinea-Bissau

Kenya

Lesotho

Liberia

Libya

Madagascar

Malawi

Mali

Mauritania

Mauritius

Morocco

Mozambique

Namibia

Niger

Nigeria

Rwanda

São Tomé and Príncipe

Senegal

Seychelles

Sierra Leone

Somalia

South Africa

South Sudan

Sudan

Togo

Tunisia

Uganda

UR of Tanzania

Zambia

Zimbabwe

Asia–Pacific states

Afghanistan

Bahrain

Bangladesh

Bhutan

Brunei Darussalam

Cambodia

China

Cyprus

DPRK

Fiji

India

Indonesia

Iran

Iraq

Japan

Jordan

Kazakhstan

Kiribati

Kuwait

Kyrgyzstan

Lao PDR

Lebanon

Malaysia

Maldives

Marshall Islands

Micronesia

Mongolia

Myanmar

Nauru

Nepal

Oman

Pakistan

Palau

Papua New Guinea

Philippines

Qatar

ROK

Samoa

Saudi Arabia

Singapore

Solomon Islands

Sri Lanka

Syrian AR

Tajikistan

Thailand

Timor-Leste

Tonga

Turkmenistan

Tuvalu

UAE

Uzbekistan

Vanuatu

Viet Nam

Yemen

State of Palestine1

Eastern European states

Albania

Armenia

Azerbaijan

Belarus

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Bulgaria

Croatia

Czechia

Estonia

Georgia

Hungary

Latvia

Lithuania

Montenegro

North Macedonia

Poland

Republic of Moldova

Romania

Russian Federation

Serbia

Slovakia

Slovenia

Ukraine

Latin American and Caribbean states

Antigua and Barbuda

Argentina

Bahamas

Barbados

Belize

Bolivia

Brazil

Chile

Colombia

Costa Rica

Cuba

Dominica

Dominican Republic

Ecuador

El Salvador

Grenada

Guatemala

Guyana

Haiti

Honduras

Jamaica

Mexico

Nicaragua

Panama

Paraguay

Peru

Saint Kitts and Nevis

Saint Lucia

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Suriname

Trinidad and Tobago

Uruguay

Venezuela

Western European and Other states2

Andorra

Australia

Austria

Belgium

Canada

Denmark

Finland

France

Germany

Greece

Iceland

Ireland

Israel3

Italy

Liechtenstein

Luxembourg

Malta

Monaco

Netherlands

New Zealand

Norway

Portugal

San Marino

Spain

Sweden

Switzerland

Türkiye4

UK

Holy See5

Notes

1 The State of Palestine was granted non-Member Observer State status in the UN following the passage of GA res. [67/19](http://undocs.org/A/RES/67/19) (2012). It has Observer State status in the General Assembly but is a full member of the Asia–Pacific group.

2 The USA is not a member of any regional group but attends meetings of the Western European and Other states group (WEOG) as an observer and is considered to be a member of that group for electoral purposes.

3 Israel became a full member of WEOG on a temporary basis on 28 May 2000, and permanently in 2004.

4 Türkiye participates fully in both the Asia–Pacific group and WEOG but, for electoral purposes, is considered a member of WEOG only.

5 The Holy See became a Permanent Observer State at the UN on 6 April 1964. Its rights and privileges were expanded by GA res. [58/314](http://undocs.org/A/RES/58/314) (2004). It is an observer of WEOG.

### SESSIONS AND OFFICERS

#### Rules Governing Sessions

The General Assembly meets in [regular session](https://www.un.org/en/ga/sessions/regular.shtml) each year starting on the Tuesday of the second week in September, counting from the first week that contains at least one working day (GA res. [75/325](http://undocs.org/A/RES/75/325) (2001) amendment to rule 1 of the Assembly’s [Rules of Procedure](http://www.un.org/en/ga/about/ropga/index.shtml)). The general debate opens on the Tuesday of the fourth week in September and is held without interruption for nine working days. Sessions are held at UN Headquarters in New York, unless the General Assembly decided at a previous session to change the location or a majority of UN members has requested a change.

[Special sessions](https://www.un.org/en/ga/sessions/special.shtml) may be summoned by the General Assembly at the request of the Security Council, or at the request or concurrence of a majority of UN members. Unless the date for a special session has been fixed by the General Assembly, it must be held within 15 days of the Secretary-General receiving the request or notification of concurrence. The Secretary-General must notify members at least 14 days in advance of the opening of a special session summoned at the request of the Security Council; otherwise 10 days’ notice is required.

[Emergency special sessions](https://www.un.org/en/ga/sessions/emergency.shtml) must be convened within 24 hours of the Secretary-General receiving a request from the Security Council, on the vote of any nine of its members or after a request or notification of concurrence from a majority of UN members. Members must be given at least 12 hours’ notice.

The General Assembly elects its President and 21 Vice-Presidents in the months prior to the beginning of each annual regular session. Election is with regard to equitable geographical representation, as detailed in the Assembly’s [Rules of Procedure](http://www.un.org/en/ga/about/ropga/index.shtml). The President and Vice-Presidents hold office from the start and until the close of the session they were elected for. The Assembly’s [Rules of Procedure](https://www.un.org/en/ga/about/ropga/index.shtml) established its General Committee (a procedural committee comprising the President and Vice-Presidents) and six [Main Committees](https://www.un.org/en/ga/maincommittees/index.shtml), and provide for other committees and subsidiary organs as the Assembly deems necessary.

#### Sessions and Presidents of the General Assembly since 1946

1st Regular, 1946:  
Paul-Henri Spaak, Belgium

1st Special, Apr 1947  
Question of Palestine:  
Oswaldo Aranha, Brazil

2nd Regular, 1947:  
Oswaldo Aranha, Brazil

2nd Special, Apr 1948  
Question of Palestine:  
Jose Arce, Argentina

3rd Regular, 1948–49:  
H V Evatt, Australia

4th Regular, 1949:  
Brigadier-General Carlos P Romulo,   
Philippines

5th Regular, 1950–51:  
Nasrollah Entezam, Iran

6th Regular, 1951–52:  
Luis Padilla Nervo, Mexico

7th Regular, 1952–53:  
Lester B Pearson, Canada

8th Regular, 1953:  
Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit, India

9th Regular, 1954:  
E N van Kleffens, Netherlands

10th Regular, 1955:  
Jose Maza, Chile

1st Emergency Special, Nov 1956  
Suez Canal:  
Rudecindo Ortega, Chile

2nd Emergency Special, Nov 1956  
Situation in Hungary:  
Rudecindo Ortega, Chile

11th Regular, 1956–57:  
Prince Wan Waithayakon, Thailand

12th Regular, 1957:  
Sir Leslie Munro, New Zealand

3rd Emergency Special, Aug 1958  
Situation in Lebanon:  
Sir Leslie Munro, New Zealand

13th Regular, 1958:  
Charles Malik, Lebanon

14th Regular, 1959:  
V A Belaunde, Peru

4th Emergency Special, Sep 1960  
Situation in the Congo (Leopoldville):  
V A Belaunde, Peru

15th Regular, 1960–61:  
Frederick Boland, Ireland

3rd Special, Aug 1961  
Grave Situation in Tunisia:  
Frederick Boland, Ireland

16th Regular, 1961–62:  
Mongi Slim, Tunisia

17th Regular, 1962:  
Sir M Zafrulla Khan, Pakistan

4th Special, May 1963  
Consideration of the Financial Situation of the Organization:  
Sir M Zafrulla Khan, Pakistan

18th Regular, 1963:  
C Sosa Rodriguez, Venezuela

19th Regular, 1964–65:  
Alex Quaison-Sackey, Ghana

20th Regular, 1965:  
Amintore Fanfani, Italy

21st Regular, 1966:  
Abdul Rahman Pazhwak, Afghanistan

5th Special, Apr 1967  
South West Africa and the Postponement to 1968 of the UN Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space:  
Abdul Rahman Pazhwak, Afghanistan

5th Emergency Special, Jun 1967  
Humanitarian Assistance: Question of the Middle East:  
Abdul Rahman Pazhwak, Afghanistan

22nd Regular, 1967–68:  
Corneliu Manescu, Romania

23rd Regular, 1968:  
E Arenales, Guatemala

24th Regular, 1969:  
Angie Brooks, Liberia

25th Regular, 1970:  
Edvard Hambro, Norway

26th Regular, 1971:  
Adam Malik, Indonesia

27th Regular, 1972:  
Stanislaw Trepczynski, Poland

28th Regular, 1973:  
Leopoldo Benites, Ecuador

6th Special, Apr 1974  
New International Economic Order:  
Leopoldo Benites, Ecuador

29th Regular, 1974:  
Abdelaziz Boutefliika, Algeria

7th Special, Sep 1975  
Development and International Economic Cooperation and Establishment of a New International Economic Order:  
Abdelaziz Boutefliika, Algeria

30th Regular, 1975:  
Gaston Thorn, Luxembourg

31st Regular, 1976:  
H Shirley Amerasinghe, Sri Lanka

32nd Regular, 1977:  
Lazar Mojsov, Yugoslavia

8th Special, Apr 1978  
Financing of UN Interim Force in Lebanon:  
Lazar Mojsov, Yugoslavia

9th Special, Apr 1978  
Namibia:  
Lazar Mojsov, Yugoslavia

10th Special, Jun 1978  
Disarmament:  
Lazar Mojsov, Yugoslavia

33rd Regular, 1978–79:  
I Lievano, Colombia

34th Regular, 1979–80:  
Salim A Salim, UR of Tanzania

6th Emergency Special, Jan 1980  
Situation in Afghanistan:  
Salim A Salim, UR of Tanzania

7th Emergency Special, Jul 1980  
Question of Palestine:  
Salim A Salim, UR of Tanzania

11th Special, Aug 1980  
Critical Economic Situation of Many Developing Countries:  
Salim A Salim, UR of Tanzania

35th Regular, 1980–81:  
Rüdiger von Wechmar, FR Germany

8th Emergency Special, Sep 1981  
Question of Namibia:  
Rüdiger von Wechmar, FR Germany

36th Regular, 1981–82:  
Ismat T Kittani, Iraq

9th Emergency Special, Jan 1982  
Situation in the Occupied Arab Territories, the Syrian Golan:  
Ismat T Kittani, Iraq

7th Emergency Special (resumed), Apr, Jun, Aug, Sep 1982  
Question of Palestine:  
Presided over by: Ismat T Kittani, Iraq, Apr, Jun, Aug 1982  
Imre Hollai, Hungary, Sep 1982

12th Special, Jun 1982  
Disarmament:  
Ismat T Kittani, Iraq

37th Regular, 1982–83:  
Imre Hollai, Hungary

38th Regular, 1983–84:  
Jorge E Illueca, Panama

39th Regular, 1984–85:  
Paul J F Lusaka, Zambia

40th Regular, 1985–86:  
Jaime de Pinies, Spain

13th Special, May 1986  
Critical Economic Situation in Africa:  
Jaime de Pinies, Spain

41st Regular, 1986–87:  
H R Choudhury, Bangladesh

14th Special, Sep 1986  
Namibia:  
H R Choudhury, Bangladesh

42nd Regular, 1987–88:  
Peter Florin, German DR

15th Special, May–Jun 1988  
Disarmament:   
Peter Florin, German DR

43rd Regular, 1988–89:  
Dante M Caputo, Argentina

44th Regular, 1989–90:  
Joseph N Garba, Nigeria

16th Special, Dec 1989  
Apartheid and its Destructive Consequences   
in Southern Africa:  
Joseph N Garba, Nigeria

17th Special, Feb 1990  
Question of International Cooperation Against Illicit Production, Supply, Demand, Trafficking and Distribution of Narcotic Drugs:  
Joseph N Garba, Nigeria

18th Special, Apr 1990  
International Economic Cooperation:  
Joseph N Garba, Nigeria

45th Regular, 1990–91:  
Guido de Marco, Malta

46th Regular, 1991–92:  
Samir Shihabi, Saudi Arabia

47th Regular, 1992–93:  
Stoyan Ganev, Bulgaria

48th Regular, 1993–94:  
Samuel R Insanally, Guyana

49th Regular, 1994–95:  
Amara Essy, Côte d’Ivoire

50th Regular, 1995–96:  
Diogo Freitas do Amaral, Portugal

51st Regular, 1996–97:  
Razali Ismail, Malaysia

10th Emergency Special, Apr 1997  
Illegal Israeli Actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the Rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory:   
Razali Ismail, Malaysia

19th Special, Jun 1997  
Review and Appraisal of the Implementation  
of Agenda 21:   
Razali Ismail, Malaysia

10th Emergency Special (resumed), Jul, Nov 1997, Mar 1998, Feb 1999, Oct 2000  
Illegal Israeli Actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the Rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory:  
Presided over by:   
Razali Ismail, Malaysia, Jul 1997  
Hennadiy Udovenko, Ukraine,   
Nov 1997, Mar 1998  
Didier Opertti Badan, Uruguay, Feb 1999  
Harri Holkeri, Finland, Oct 2000

52nd Regular, 1997–98:  
Hennadiy Udovenko, Ukraine

20th Special, Jun 1998  
Devoted to Countering the World Drug   
Problem Together:  
Hennadiy Udovenko, Ukraine

53rd Regular, 1998–99:  
Didier Opertti Badan, Uruguay

21st Special, Jun–Jul 1999   
Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development: Didier Opertti Badan, Uruguay

54th Regular, 1999–2000:  
Theo-Ben Gurirab, Namibia

22nd Special, Sep 1999  
Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States:  
Theo-Ben Gurirab, Namibia

23rd Special, Jun 2000  
Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the Twenty-First Century:  
Theo-Ben Gurirab, Namibia

24th Special, Jun 2000  
World Summit for Social Development and Beyond: Achieving Social Development for   
All in a Globalizing World:  
Theo-Ben Gurirab, Namibia

55th Regular, 2000–01:  
Harri Holkeri, Finland

25th Special, Jun 2001  
Overall Review and Appraisal of the Implementation of the Outcome of the UN Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II):  
Harri Holkeri, Finland

26th Special, Jun 2001  
HIV/AIDS:   
Harri Holkeri, Finland

56th Regular, 2001–02:  
Han Seung-Soo, ROK

10th Emergency Special (resumed),   
Dec 2001, May 2002, Aug 2002  
Illegal Israeli Actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the Rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory:  
Han Seung-Soo, ROK

27th Special, May 2002  
Children:   
Han Seung-Soo, ROK

57th Regular, 2002–03:  
Jan Kavan, Czechia

58th Regular, 2003–04:  
Julian Hunte, Saint Lucia

10th Emergency Special (resumed), Sep,   
Oct, Dec 2003, Jul 2004  
Illegal Israeli Actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the Rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory:  
Julian Hunte, Saint Lucia

59th Regular, 2004–05:  
Jean Ping, Gabon

28th Special, Jan 2005  
Commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi concentration camps:  
Jean Ping, Gabon

60th Regular, 2005–06:  
Jan Eliasson, Sweden

61st Regular, 2006–07:  
Haya Rashed Al Khalifa, Bahrain

10th Emergency Special (resumed), Nov,   
Dec 2006  
Illegal Israeli Actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the Rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory:  
Haya Rashed Al Khalifa, Bahrain

62nd Regular, 2007–08:  
Srgjan Kerim, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

63rd Regular, 2008–09:  
Miguel D’Escoto Brockmann, Nicaragua

10th Emergency Special (resumed), Jan 2009  
Illegal Israeli Actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the Rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory:  
Miguel D’Escoto Brockmann, Nicaragua

64th Regular, 2009–10:  
Ali Abdussalam Treki, Libya

65th Regular, 2010–11:  
Joseph Deiss, Switzerland

66th Regular, 2011–12:  
Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser, Qatar

67th Regular, 2012–13:  
Vuk Jeremić, Serbia

68th Regular, 2013–14:  
John William Ashe, Antigua and Barbuda

69th Regular, 2014–15:  
Sam Kutesa, Uganda

29th Special, Sep 2014  
Follow-up to the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development beyond 2014:  
Sam Kutesa, Uganda

70th Regular, 2015–16:  
Mogens Lykketoft, Denmark

30th Special, Apr 2016  
World Drug Problem:  
Mogens Lykketoft, Denmark

71st Regular, 2016–17:  
Peter Thomson, Fiji

72nd Regular, 2017–18:   
Miroslav Lajčák, Slovakia

10th Emergency Special (resumed), Dec 2017, Jun 2018  
Illegal Israeli Actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the Rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory:  
Miroslav Lajčák, Slovakia

73rd Regular, 2018–19:  
María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, Ecuador

74th Regular, 2019–20:  
Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, Nigeria

31st Special, Jul 2020 (virtual until Dec 2020)   
Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19):   
Volkan Bozkir, Türkiye

75th Regular, 2020–21:   
Volkan Bozkir, Türkiye

32nd Special, Jun 2021  
Challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation:   
Volkan Bozkir, Türkiye

76th Regular, 2021–22:   
Abdulla Shahid, Maldives

11th Emergency Special, Feb, Mar, Apr, Oct, Nov 2022, Feb 2023  
Ukraine:  
Presided over by:  
Abdulla Shahid, Maldives, Feb, Mar, Apr 2022  
Csaba Kőrösi, Hungary, Oct, Nov, 2022, Feb 2023

77th Regular, 2022–23:  
Csaba Kőrösi, Hungary

78th Regular, 2023–24  
Dennis Francis, Trinidad and Tobago

10th Emergency Special (resumed),  
Oct, Nov, Dec 2023, May 2024  
Illegal Israeli Actions in Occupied East  
Jerusalem and the Rest of the Occupied  
Palestinian Territory:  
Dennis Francis, Trinidad and Tobago

79th Regular, 2024–25:  
Philémon Yang, Cameroon

10th Emergency Special (resumed),  
Sep, Dec 2024, Jun 2025  
Illegal Israeli Actions in Occupied East  
Jerusalem and the Rest of the Occupied  
Palestinian Territory:  
Philémon Yang, Cameroon

11th Emergency Special (resumed), Feb 2025  
Ukraine:  
Philémon Yang, Cameroon

80th Regular, 2025-26:  
Annalena Baerbock, Germany

#### 80th Regular Session: President and Vice-Presidents

Session dates

From 9 September 2025. The General Debate was scheduled to open on 23 September.

President

Annalena Baerbock, Germany

Vice-Presidents

Representatives of the five permanent members of the Security Council (China, France, Russian Federation, UK and USA) and:

Andorra

Argentina

Bangladesh

Cabo Verde

DR Congo

Kenya

Lebanon

Lesotho

Maldives

Montenegro

Saint Kitts and Nevis

Saudi Arabia

Senegal

Timor-Leste

Tunisia

Venezuela

#### 79th Regular Session: President and Vice-Presidents

Session dates

From 10 September 2024. The General Debate was held from 24 to 30 September.

President

Philémon Yang, Cameroon

Vice-Presidents

Representatives of the five permanent members of the Security Council (China, France, Russian Federation, UK and USA) and:

Algeria

Angola

Austria

Barbados

Ghana

Guatemala

Italy

Kyrgyzstan

Madagascar

Micronesia

Moldova

Senegal

Thailand

Tonga

Turkmenistan

Venezuela

### STRUCTURE

* Main committees
* Procedural committees
* Standing committees

Subsidiary bodies

Treaty bodies established by human rights conventions also report to the General Assembly on their activities.

#### Main Committees

Website: [www.un.org/en/ga/maincommittees](http://www.un.org/en/ga/maincommittees)

Purpose

The Main Committees consider agenda items referred to them by the General Assembly and prepare recommendations and draft resolutions for submission to the General Assembly plenary. The Committees correspond with the General Assembly’s major fields of responsibility:

* First Committee: Disarmament and International Security
* Second Committee: Economic and Financial
* Third Committee: Social, Humanitarian and Cultural
* Fourth Committee: Special Political and Decolonization
* Fifth Committee: Administrative and Budgetary

Sixth Committee: Legal.

Although it is usual practice to refer most items to a committee, the General Assembly may decide to deal with certain items without doing so.

Membership

All UN members have the right to be represented on each of the Main Committees. Each committee elects its chair, three vice-chairs and a rapporteur.

Decisions are made by a majority of the members present and voting. A majority of the committee constitutes a quorum.

Office holders 80th Regular Session (2025–26)

First Committee: Disarmament and International Security

Chair

Maurizio Massari, Italy

Vice-Chairs

Amr Essameldin Sadek Ahmed, Egypt

Jakub Jaros, Poland

Pawinrat Mahaguna, Thailand

Rapporteur

Ana Maricela Ávila Becerril, Costa Rica

Second Committee: Economic and Financial

Chair

Lamin B Dibba, Gambia

Vice-Chairs

Weronika Garbacz, Poland

Jenni Mikkola, Finland

Andrés Napuri Pita, Peru

Rapporteur

Javad Momeni, Iran

Third Committee: Social, Humanitarian and Cultural

Chair

Cherdchai Chaivaivid, Thailand

Vice-Chairs

Katarina Andric, Croatia

Ginevra Oliva, Italy

Glentis Thomas, Antigua and Barbuda

Rapporteur

Edna Stephanie Williams, Ghana

Fourth Committee: Special Political and Decolonization

Chair

José Alberto Bríz Gutiérrez, Guatemala

Vice-Chairs

Josélyne Kwishaka, Burundi

Noel Novicio, Philippines

Raphael Ruppacher, Austria

Rapporteur

Dávid Sz Nagy, Hungary

Fifth Committee: Administrative and Budgetary

Chair

Zsuzsanna Horváth, Hungary

Vice-Chairs

Mohammad Taghi Amrollahi, Iran

Badreldeen Bakhit, Sudan

Erik Björk, Sweden

Rapporteur

Vadim Belloni, Chile

Sixth Committee: Legal

Chair

Leila Castillon Lora-Santos, Philippines

Vice-Chairs

Estela Mercedes Nze Mansogo, Equatorial Guinea

Lucia Teresa Solano Ramirez, Colombia

Marek Zukal, Czech Republic

Rapporteur

Wieteke Theeuwen, Netherlands

Office holders 79th Regular Session (2024–25)

First Committee: Disarmament and International Security

Chair

Maritza Chan Valverde, Costa Rica

Vice-Chairs

Abdulrahman Abdulaziz Al-Thani, Qatar

El Hadj Lehbib Mohamedou, Mauritania

Vivica Munkner, Germany

Rapporteur

Pēteris Filipsons, Latvia

Second Committee: Economic and Financial

Chair

Muhammad Abdul Muhith, Bangladesh

Vice-Chairs

Ezekwesiri David Anyaegbu, Nigeria

Gudrun Thorbjoernsdottir, Iceland

Ivana Vejic, Croatia

Rapporteur

Stefany Romero Veiga, Uruguay

Third Committee: Social, Humanitarian and Cultural

Chair

Zéphyrin Maniratanga, Burundi

Vice-Chairs

Nur Azura Abd Karim, Malaysia

Ekaterine Lortkipanidze, Georgia

Mayra Lisseth Sorto Rosales, El Salvador

Rapporteur

Robin de Vogel, Netherlands

Fourth Committee: Special Political and Decolonization

Chair

Sanita Pavļuta-Deslandes, Latvia

**Vice-Chairs**

Sheikh Jassim Abdulaziz J A Al-Thani, Qatar

Hussein Hirji, Canada

Carmen Rosa Rios, Bolivia

Rapporteur

Makarabo Moloeli, Lesotho

Fifth Committee: Administrative and Budgetary

Chair

Egriselda Aracely González López, El Salvador

Vice-Chairs

Johanna Bischof, Austria

Szymon Mateusz Pekala, Poland

Surat Suwannikkha, Thailand

Rapporteur

Elaye-Djibril Yacin Abdillahi, Djibouti

Sixth Committee: Legal

Chair

Rui Vinhas, Portugal

Vice-Chairs

Ligia Lorena Flores Soto, El Salvador

Matúš Košuth, Slovakia

Ammar Mohammed Mahmoud Mohammed, Sudan

Rapporteur

Yong-Ern Nathaniel Khng, Singapore

#### Procedural Committees

General Committee

Website: [www.un.org/en/ga/general/general.shtml](http://www.un.org/en/ga/general/general.shtml)

Purpose

The Committee considers the General Assembly’s provisional agenda, supplementary list and requests for the inclusion of additional items in the agenda, and the allocation of items to the Main Committees. It submits its recommendations to the General Assembly for its consideration.

The Committee assists the President in drawing up the agenda for plenary meetings, determining the priority of agenda items, coordinating the proceedings of the Main Committees and in the general conduct of the General Assembly’s work that falls within the President’s competence. It also makes recommendations to the General Assembly concerning the recess and closing dates of the session.

When discussing the inclusion or rejection of inclusion of an item in the agenda of the General Assembly, the Committee may not discuss the substance of any item unless it has a direct bearing on the inclusion or rejection of the item. It may not decide any political question.

Meetings

The Committee meets periodically to review the progress of the General Assembly and its committees. It also meets at such times as the President deems necessary or upon the request of any other of its members.

Membership

The Committee comprises the President of the General Assembly, as Chair of the Committee, the 21 Vice-Presidents and the six Main Committee Chairs. To ensure its representative character, no two members can be members of the same delegation.

Credentials Committee

Website: [www.un.org/en/ga/credentials/credentials.shtml](http://www.un.org/en/ga/credentials/credentials.shtml)

Purpose

The Committee examines and reports to the General Assembly on the credentials of representatives of UN Member States. The credentials of representatives and the names of members of the delegation of each Member State are submitted to the Secretary-General and are issued either by the Head of the State or government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Any representative to whose admission a member has objected is seated provisionally in the General Assembly, with the same rights as other representatives, until the Committee has reported and the Assembly has given its decision. The Committee elects its own officers.

Membership

The Committee consists of nine members. They are appointed at the beginning of each session by the General Assembly on the proposal of the President.

Members appointed for the 79th session (2024–25)

Antigua and Barbuda (Chair)

Cabo Verde

China

Dominica

Lao PDR

Liberia

Monaco

Russian Federation

USA

#### Standing Committees

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ)

Website: [www.un.org/ga/acabq](http://www.un.org/ga/acabq)

Purpose

ACABQ examines and reports on the UN’s regular and peacekeeping budgets, the administrative budgets of the specialized agencies, and auditors’ reports on the accounts of the UN and its specialized agencies. The Committee also advises the General Assembly on other administrative and financial matters referred to it, and considers proposals by the UN Secretary-General for the establishment or extension of extrabudgetary positions at Director level and above, pursuant to GA res. [35/217 (II)](http://docs.un.org/A/RES/35/217) (1980). ACABQ was set up at the first session of the General Assembly (GA res. [14 (I) A](https://undocs.org/A/RES/14(I)) (1946)).

Meetings

The Committee holds three sessions a year (winter, spring and fall) for a total of 44 weeks.

Membership

The Committee has 21 members. They are appointed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee and on the basis of broad geographical representation, personal qualifications and experience. The Committee includes at least three financial experts who may not retire simultaneously (GA [Rules of Procedure](http://www.un.org/en/ga/about/ropga/index.shtml), rules 155 and 156). Members serve in their personal capacity for three calendar years, retire by rotation and are eligible for reappointment. Membership has been expanded several times, most recently by GA res. [74/267](http://undocs.org/A/RES/74/267) (2020).

Members (21)

Term ends 31 Dec 2025

Udo Klaus Fenchel, Germany (Vice-Chair)

Alexandra Arias, Dominican Republic1

Carlo Jacobucci, Italy (Vice-Chair)

Ji Haojun, China

Yukiko Nakagawa Matsuda, Japan

Minhong Yi, ROK

Term ends 31 Dec 2026

Surendra Kumar Adhana, India

Abdallah Bachar Bong, Chad

Feliksas Bakanauskas, Lithuania

Ali Ben Said, Tunisia

Juliana Gaspar Ruas, Brazil (Chair)

Simon Horner, UK

Evgenii Kalugin, Russian Federation

Julia A Maciel, Paraguay

Caroline Nalwanga, Uganda (Vice-Chair)

Stephani Scheer, USA

Term ends 31 Dec 2027

Amjad Qaid Al-Kumaim, Yemen

Sharon Brennen-Haylock, Bahamas

Jakub Chmielewski, Poland

Djoh Paul Kpeye, Côte d’Ivoire

Katlego Boase Mmalane, Botswana

Note

1 Appointed in January 2025 to complete the term of Olivio Fermín, Dominican Republic, who resigned effective 31 January 2025.

Committee on Contributions

Website: [www.un.org/en/ga/contributions/](http://www.un.org/en/ga/contributions/)

Purpose

The Committee advises the General Assembly on the apportionment of UN expenses among members (Article 17 of the UN [Charter](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter)), assessments for new members, appeals by members for a change of assessment and application of Article 19 in cases of arrears in the payment of assessments.1 The Committee was established by GA res. [14 (I)](https://undocs.org/A/RES/14(I)) (1946).

Meetings

The Committee meets annually for three to four weeks, usually in New York in June.

Membership

The Committee has 18 members. They are selected by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee and on the basis of broad geographical representation, personal qualifications and experience. They serve for three calendar years, retire by rotation and are eligible for reappointment.

Membership has been expanded several times, most recently by GA res. [31/96](http://undocs.org/A/RES/31/96) (1976). The Committee elects a chair, one or more vice-chairs and a rapporteur (GA [Rules of Procedure](http://www.un.org/en/ga/about/ropga/index.shtml), rule 103). Election is on the basis of equitable geographical representation, experience and personal competence.

Members (18)

Term ends 31 Dec 2025

Cheikh Tidiane Dème, Senegal

Gordon Eckersley, Australia (Vice-Chair)

Helena Concepción Felip Salazar, Paraguay

Bernardo Greiver del Hoyo, Uruguay (Chair)

Marcel Jullier, Switzerland

Joseph Masila, Kenya

Term ends 31 Dec 2026

Fu Liheng, China

Hae-yun Park, ROK

Denis Piminov, Russian Federation

Henrique da Silveira Sardinha Pinto, Brazil

Benjamin Sieberns, Germany

Cihan Terzi, Türkiye

Term ends 31 Dec 2027

Syed Yawar Ali, Pakistan

Jasminka Dinić, Croatia

George Hannum, USA

Ihor Humennyi, Ukraine

René Michel Mizingou-Nzaba, Congo

Yoriko Suzuki, Japan

Note

1 A UN member in arrears has no vote in the General Assembly if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the preceding two full years. The General Assembly may permit such a member to vote if it is satisfied that the failure to pay is due to conditions beyond the control of the member.

### SUBSIDIARY AND AD HOC BODIES

#### Intergovernmental Bodies

Human Rights Council (HRC)

Secretariat of the Human Rights Council

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

Palais des Nations

CH-1211 Geneva 10

Switzerland

Telephone: +41 22 917 9220

Fax: +41 22 917 9011

Email: [ohchr-infodesk@un.org](mailto:ohchr-infodesk%40un.org?subject=) or [ohchr-hrcouncil@un.org](mailto:ohchr-hrcouncil%40un.org?subject=)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UNHRC](http://www.facebook.com/UNHRC)

X: [@UN\_HRC](http://www.twitter.com/UN_HRC)

Extranet: <https://hrcmeetings.ohchr.org/Pages/default.aspx>

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/hrc/home](http://www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/hrc/home)

Purpose

The HRC is the principal intergovernmental body within the UN system responsible for promoting universal respect for the protection of all human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind and in a fair and equal manner. It is mandated to consider violations of human rights, including gross and systemic violations, and to make recommendations. The HRC also promotes the effective coordination and mainstreaming of human rights within the UN system.

The HRC was established on 15 March 2006 by GA res. [60/251](http://undocs.org/A/RES/60/251) (2006) and replaced the Commission on Human Rights (CHR).

Structure

The HRC is a subsidiary body of the General Assembly. Among its elements are the:

* Universal Periodic Review (UPR), a peer review mechanism that assesses the human rights situations in all 193 UN Member States
* Advisory Committee, which serves as the HRC’s ‘think tank’ to provide it with expertise and advice on thematic human rights issues
* Complaint Procedure mechanism, which allows individuals and organizations to bring complaints about human rights violations to the HRC’s attention

Special Procedures, which are expert groups and individuals who have fact-finding and reporting mandates to provide global coverage of major human rights issues.

Meetings

The HRC meets for at least 10 weeks a year in Geneva, over three regular sessions, which usually take place in March, June and September. It is able to convene special sessions at the request of a member and with the support of a third of members.

Membership

The HRC comprises 47 [members](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/Pages/Membership.aspx) elected by a majority of General Assembly members present and voting (at least 97 votes). In order for the rights of membership to be suspended, two-thirds of the full electorate is needed. Membership is based on equitable geographical distribution. The standard term is three years, beginning 1 January and ending 31 December since 2013.1 After two consecutive terms, members are not eligible for immediate re-election.

The Bureau consists of a [president](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/Pages/Presidency.aspx) and four [vice-presidents](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/Pages/Bureau.aspx), representing the five regional groups. They are usually elected by the HRC in December for one calendar year.

Members (47)

Previous1 Current

African states (13 seats)

Algeria 2006–07 14–16 2023–25

Angola 2007–13 18–20

Benin 2011–14 22–24 2025–27

Botswana 2011–17

Burkina Faso 2008–14 19–21

Burundi 2016–18 2024–26

Cameroon 2006–12 19–24

Congo 2011–17

Côte d’Ivoire 2013–18 21–23 2024–26

DR Congo 2018–20 2025–27

Djibouti 2006–12

Egypt 2007–10 17–19

Eritrea 2019–24

Ethiopia 2013–18 2025–27

Gabon 2006–11 13–15 21–23

Gambia 2022–24 2025–27

Ghana 2006–11 15–17 2024–26

Kenya 2013–18 2025–27

Libya2 2010–13 20–22

Madagascar 2007–10

Malawi 2021–23 2024–26

Mali 2006–08

Mauritania 2010–13 20–22

Mauritius 2006–12

Morocco 2006–07 14–16 2023–25

Namibia 2014–16 20–22

Nigeria 2006–12 15–20

Rwanda 2017–19

Senegal 2006–12 18–23

Sierra Leone 2013–15

Somalia 2019–24

South Africa 2006–10 14–19 2023–25

Sudan 2020–22 2023–25

Togo 2016–21

Tunisia 2006–07 17–19

Uganda 2010–13

Zambia 2006–11

Asia–Pacific states (13 seats)

Afghanistan 2018–20

Bahrain 2006–07 08–11 19–21

Bangladesh 2006–12 15–17 19–21 2023–25

China 2006–12 14–19 21–23 2024–26

Cyprus 2025–27

Fiji 2019–21

India 2006–17 19–24

Indonesia 2006–17 20–22 2024–26

Iraq 2017–19

Japan 2006–11 13–15 17–22 2024–26

Jordan 2006–12

Kazakhstan 2013–15 22–24

Kuwait 2011–14 2024–26

Kyrgyzstan 2009–12 16–18 2023–25

Malaysia 2006–09 10–13 22–24

Maldives 2010–16 2023–25

Marshall Islands 2020–22 2025–27

Mongolia 2016–18

Nepal 2018–23

Pakistan 2006–11 13–15 18–23

Philippines 2006–10 11–14 16–21

Qatar 2007–13 15–20 22–24 2025–27

ROK 2006–11 13–18 20–22 2025–27

Saudi Arabia 2006–12 14–19

Sri Lanka 2006–08

Thailand 2010–13 2025–27

UAE 2013–18 22–24

Uzbekistan 2021–23

Viet Nam 2014–16 2023–25

Eastern European states (6 seats)3

Albania 2015–17 2024–26

Armenia 2020–22

Azerbaijan 2006–09

Bosnia and Herzegovina 2007–10

Bulgaria 2019–21 2024–26

Croatia 2017–19

Czechia 2006–07 11–14 19–233 2025–27

Estonia 2013–15

Georgia 2016–18 2023–25

Hungary 2009–12 17–19

Latvia 2015–17

Lithuania 2022–24

Montenegro 2013–15 22–24

North Macedonia 2014–16 2025–27

Poland 2006–07 10–13 20–22

Republic of Moldova 2010–13

Romania 2006–08 11–14 2023–25

Slovakia 2008–11 18–20

Slovenia 2007–10 16–18

Ukraine 2006–11 18–23

Latin American and Caribbean states (8 seats)

Argentina 2006–07 08–11 13–15 19–24

Bahamas 2019–21

Bolivia 2007–10 15–17 21–23 2025–27

Brazil 2006–11 13–15 17–22 2024–26

Chile 2008–14 18–20 2023–25

Colombia 2025–27

Costa Rica 2011–14 2023–25

Cuba 2006–12 14–19 21–23 2024–26

Dominican Republic 2024–26

Ecuador 2006–07 10–13 16–18

El Salvador 2015–17

Guatemala 2006–08 10–13

Honduras 2022–24

Mexico 2006–12 14–16 18–23 2025–27

Nicaragua 2007–10

Panama 2016–18

Paraguay 2015–17 22–24

Peru 2006–08 11–14 18–20

Uruguay 2006–12 19–21

Venezuela 2013–18 20–22

Western European and Other states (7 seats)

Australia 2018–20

Austria 2011–14 19–21

Belgium 2009–12 16–18 2023–25

Canada 2006–09

Denmark 2019–21

Finland 2006–07 22–24

France 2006–11 14–16 21–23 2024–26

Germany 2006–09 13–18 20–22 2023–25

Iceland 2018–194 2025–27

Ireland 2013–15

Italy 2007–14 19–21

Luxembourg 2022–24

Netherlands 2006–10 15–17 20–22 2024–26

Norway 2009–12

Portugal 2015–17

Spain 2010–13 18–20 2025–27

Switzerland 2006–09 10–13 16–18 2025–27

UK 2006–11 14–19 21–23

USA 2009–12 13–15 17–184 22–24

Bureau, 19th cycle (2025)

President

Jürg Lauber, Switzerland

Vice-Presidents

Tareq Md Ariful Islam, Bangladesh

Paul Empole Efambe, DR Congo

Claudia Fuentes Julio, Chile

Răzvan-Victor Rusu, Romania

Notes

1 Prior to 2013, terms were usually three years, beginning and ending in mid-June. Terms that were to expire in June 2012 were extended until 31 December of that year.

2 The rights of membership to the HRC of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya were suspended by the General Assembly on 1 March 2011 and restored on 18 November 2011 to Libya.

3 The Russian Federation served on the HRC in 2006–12, 2014–16 and 2021–22. Its rights of membership to the HRC were suspended by the General Assembly on 7 April 2022, following which the Russian Federation relinquished its membership on the same day. Czechia was elected on 10 May 2022 to complete the remainder of the term ending 31 December 2023.

4 The USA withdrew from the HRC, effective 19 June 2018. After the USA resigned from the Council, Iceland was elected on 13 July 2018 to complete the remainder of the term ending 31 December 2019.

Mechanisms of the Human Rights Council

Universal Periodic Review (UPR)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/upr-main](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/upr-main)

Purpose

The UPR is a process for reviewing the human rights records of all UN Member States (GA res. [60/251](http://undocs.org/A/RES/60/251) (2006)). Under the auspices of the Human Rights Council (HRC), the UPR provides the opportunity for each Member State to declare what actions it has taken to improve human rights in its country and to fulfil its human rights obligations. The mechanism was further refined during the review process through HRC res. [16/21](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/16/21) (2011) and HRC decision [17/119](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/DEC/17/119) (2011).

Structure

The reviews are conducted by the UPR Working Group. Each state review is assisted by groups of three states, known as ‘troikas’, serving as rapporteurs selected by the drawing of lots. Each review is a three-and-a-half-hour interactive dialogue, which is open to participation by all UN Member and Observer States, may be attended by other stakeholders, and is webcast in all UN languages.

Reviews are based on the national report prepared by the state under review; information from UN documents compiled by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), including inputs from human rights treaty bodies and Special Procedures mandate holders; and a summary of information provided by other relevant stakeholders, including regional human rights mechanisms, national human rights institutions and civil society organizations. Working Group reports are submitted to the HRC for its consideration in plenary, under item 6 of its agenda. The HRC plenary adopts an outcome report in respect of each state.

With 100 percent participation so far, the [first review cycle](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/uprcycle1) of all 193 UN members was completed in March 2012, the [second](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/uprcycle2) in May 2017 and the [third](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/uprcycle3) in July 2022. The [fourth cycle](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/upr/uprcycle4) started in November 2022 (HRC decision [47/115](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/DEC/47/115)). The order of review remains the same as in previous cycles.

The HRC adopted the UPR modalities in June 2007 (HRC res. [5/1](http://ap.ohchr.org/Documents/dpage_e.aspx?b=10&se=68&t=11)), updating them for the second cycle (HRC res. [16/21](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/16/21) and decision [17/119](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/DEC/17/119)).

Starting with the third cycle, OHCHR has developed tools to facilitate implementation and follow-up, available on the website under ‘[Documentation](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/UPR/Pages/Documentation.aspx)’. As requested by the UN Secretary- General’s [Call to Action for Human Rights](https://www.un.org/en/content/action-for-human-rights/index.shtml) (2020), a UPR Practical Guidance document was prepared by the OCHCR to provide advice for UN entities at country level to maximize use of the UPR and its integration with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (see [www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/UPR/UPR\_Practical\_Guidance.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/UPR/UPR_Practical_Guidance.pdf)). A Repository of UN good practices on how the UPR process supports sustainable development was issued in February 2022 by the OHCHR, the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the UN Development Coordination Office (DCO) (see [www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/2022-02/UPR\_good\_practices\_2022.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/2022-02/UPR_good_practices_2022.pdf)).

Meetings

The Working Group convenes three two-week sessions a year.

Human Rights Council Advisory Committee (HRCAC)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/advisory-committee/hrcac-index](http://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/advisory-committee/hrcac-index)

Purpose

The HRCAC provides thematic expertise to the Human Rights Council (HRC), mainly through [studies and research-based advice](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/advisory-committee/ac-thematic-reports). It is intended to function as a think tank to the HRC and work at its direction, and does not adopt resolutions but makes recommendations to the HRC. The HRC established the Advisory Committee in 2007 (HRC res. [5/1](http://ap.ohchr.org/Documents/dpage_e.aspx?b=10&se=68&t=11)) to replace the Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, which was a subsidiary body of the former Commission on Human Rights. The Committee first met in 2008. The Committee’s annual report is submitted to the HRC at its September session and is the subject of an interactive dialogue with the Committee Chair (HRC res. [16/21](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/16/21)).

Meetings

The Committee convenes two [session](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/advisorycommittee/next-sessions)s a year for a maximum of 10 days a year. Currently it meets for one week in February, immediately before the March session of the Council, and for one week in August. Additional sessions may be scheduled on an ad hoc basis with the HRC’s prior approval.

Membership

The Committee is composed of 18 [experts](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/advisory-committee/members), acting in their personal capacities, from different professional backgrounds and representing the regions of the world. Experts are nominated by governments according to criteria outlined in HRC res. 5/1, paras 66–67, and [elected](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/advisory-committee/elections) by the HRC during its last regular session of the year (September–October). Members serve for three years and may be re-elected once. Terms start on 1 October of the year of election. The geographic distribution of experts is: Africa five, Asia–Pacific five, Eastern Europe two, Latin America and Caribbean three, Western European and Others three.

Members (18)

Term ends 30 Sept 2025

Noor Al-Malki Al-Jehani, Qatar (Vice-Chair 2025)

Rabah Boudache, Algeria

Milena Costas Trascasas, Spain

Sebastião da Silva Isata, Angola

Javier Palummo, Uruguay

Vasilka Sancin, Slovenia

Zhang Yue, China

Term ends 30 Sept 2026

Joseph Gérard Angoh, Mauritius

Buhm-Suk Baek, ROK

Nadia Amal Bernoussi, Morocco (Chair 2025)

Riva Ganguly Das, India

Jewel Major, Bahamas

Patrycja Sasnal, Poland (Vice-Chair 2025)

Catherine Van de Heyning, Belgium (Rapporteur 2025)

Term ends 30 Sept 2027

Alessandra Devulsky, Brazil (Vice-Chair 2025)

Miznah Omair Alomair, Saudi Arabia

Vassilis Tzevelekos, Greece

Frans Viljoen, South Africa

Human Rights Council Complaint Procedure

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/complaint-procedure/hrc-complaint-procedure-index](http://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/complaint-procedure/hrc-complaint-procedure-index)

Purpose

The Human Rights Council (HRC) Complaint Procedure addresses consistent patterns of gross and reliably attested violations of all human rights and all fundamental freedoms occurring in any part of the world and under any circumstances. It is based on the former Commission on Human Rights’ 1503 procedure, improved to ensure that it is impartial, objective, efficient, victim-oriented and conducted in a timely manner.

The procedure is the only universal complaint procedure covering all human rights and fundamental freedoms in all states. Communications under it are not tied to the acceptance of treaty obligations by the country concerned or the existence of a Special Procedures mandate.

Structure

The Complaint Procedure comprises two working groups that were established in June 2007:

* The Working Group on Communications ([WGC](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/ComplaintProcedure/Pages/WGCommunications.aspx)) decides on the admissibility of communications (HRC res. [5/1](http://ap.ohchr.org/Documents/dpage_e.aspx?b=10&se=68&t=11)) and assesses the allegations of violations. It examines complaints and replies from governments with a view to bringing communications that appear to reveal consistent patterns of gross and reliably attested violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms to the attention of the Working Group on Situations ([WGS](http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/ComplaintProcedure/Pages/WGSituations.aspx)).

The WGS, on the basis of information and recommendations provided by the WGC, presents a report and makes recommendations for action to the HRC. Like the WGC, it can decide to keep a situation under review or to dismiss a case.

Both groups work on the basis of consensus, as far as possible. In the absence of consensus, decisions are taken by simple majority vote. The complaint procedure is confidential and this feature ensures greater cooperation of the state concerned with the procedure.

Meetings

Both working groups meet in private for five days twice a year. The HRC considers the WGS’s report and situations brought to its attention at least once a year.

Membership

The WGC comprises five independent experts from the HRC Advisory Committee (HRCAC), one from each regional group, who are usually appointed for three years, renewable once. In the years when terms end, the HRCAC usually appoints new members in August to take up terms starting on 1 October. The WGS comprises five members appointed by the HRC regional groups, who serve in their personal capacity. Appointments are for one year, renewable once. Terms start on 1 January.

Members

Working Group on Communications (WGC) 2025

Buhm-Suk Baek, ROK

Milena Costas Trascasas, Spain

Jewel Majors, Bahamas (Vice-Chair–Rapporteur)

Patrycja Sasnal, Poland

Frans Viljoen, South Africa (Chair–Rapporteur)

Working Group on Situations (WGS) 2025

Vàclav Bàlek, Czechia

Christian Guillermet Fernández, Costa Rica

Muhammadou M O Kah, Gambia

Gaëlle Powis de Tenbossche, Belgium (Vice-Chair–Rapporteur)

Salma Rasheed, Maldives (Chair–Rapporteur)

Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP)

Email: [expertmechanism@ohchr.org](mailto:expertmechanism@ohchr.org)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiaries/expert-mechanism-on-indigenous-peoples](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiaries/expert-mechanism-on-indigenous-peoples)

Purpose

EMRIP was established by the Human Rights Council (HRC) in 2007 under resolution [6/36](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/RES/6/36) as a subsidiary body of the Council. Its mandate was then amended in September 2016 by HRC res. [33/25](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/33/25). The Expert Mechanism provides the HRC with expertise and advice on the rights of Indigenous Peoples as set out in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), and assists Member States, upon request, in achieving the ends of the Declaration through the promotion, protection and fulfilment of the rights of Indigenous Peoples.

HRC res. [33/25](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/33/25) expanded EMRIP’s mandate to include country engagement. The Expert Mechanism should: facilitate dialogue between Indigenous Peoples, states and other stakeholders; provide independent advice on the implementation of laws and policies to implement UNDRIP; and provide capacity-building and technical cooperation to Indigenous Peoples and states upon request. More information, including details of country-specific advice to date, is available on the website under ‘[Country engagement](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/IPeoples/EMRIP/Pages/RequestsUnderNewMandate.aspx)’.

EMRIP submits annual [thematic studies and reports](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/IPeoples/EMRIP/Pages/AnnualReports.aspx) to the HRC, available on the website. Recent topics include the right of Indigenous Peoples to data, including with regard to [data](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/EMRIP/2025/2) collection and disaggregation, and the rights of Indigenous Peoples to their [traditional economies](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/EMRIP/2025/3).

Meetings

Meetings are held annually for up to five days, usually in July. Representatives from Member States, Indigenous Peoples, Indigenous Peoples’ organizations, civil society, intergovernmental organizations and academia take part.

Membership

EMRIP consists of seven [independent experts](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiaries/expert-mechanism-on-indigenous-peoples/current-experts), one from each of the seven Indigenous sociocultural regions. Members are appointed by the HRC with due regard to recognized competence in the rights of Indigenous Peoples, Indigenous origin and gender balance. Terms are for three years, renewable three times, and begin on 1 May.

Members (7)

Anexa Brendalee Alfred Cunningham, Nicaragua (term ends 2028)

Binota Moy Dhamai, Bangladesh (term ends 2026)

Antonina Gorbunova, Russian Federation (term ends 2028)

Sheryl Lightfoot, Canada (term ends 2027)

Ojot Miru Ojulu, Ethiopia (term ends 2027)

Dalee Sambo Dorough, USA (term ends 2026)

Valmaine Toki, New Zealand (term ends 2028)

Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development (EMRTD)

Email: [OHCHR-emrtd@un.org](mailto:OHCHR-emrtd%40un.org?subject=)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiaries/expert-mechanism-on-right-to-development](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiaries/expert-mechanism-on-right-to-development)

Purpose

EMRTD was established by the Human Rights Council (HRC) in 2019 under resolution [42/23](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/42/23) as a subsidiary body of the Council. The Expert Mechanism provides the HRC with thematic expertise on the right to development in searching for, identifying and sharing best practices with Member States and promotes the implementation of the right to development worldwide. HRC res. [45/6](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/45/6) (2020) expanded its mandate to include, among other things, [study visits](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiaries/expert-mechanism-on-right-to-development/thematic-studies/study-visits).

Meetings

The Expert Mechanism holds two annual [sessions](https://www.ohchr.org/en/events?event_status%5bstate%5d=all&field_entity_target_id%5b1184%5d=1184) for three days each, in Geneva and New York. Its [eleventh](https://www.ohchr.org/en/events/sessions/2025/eleventh-session-expert-mechanism-right-development) session took place in April 2025 in New York, and its [twelfth](https://www.ohchr.org/en/events/sessions/2025/twelfth-session-expert-mechanism-right-development) is scheduled to be held from 27 to 29 October 2025 in Geneva.

Membership

EMRTD consists of five [independent experts](https://www.ohchr.org/en/business/independent-experts) on the right to development, one from each of the five regions. Members are appointed by the HRC for three-year terms, renewable once.

Members (5)

Isabelle Durant, Belgium (term ends 30 April 2026)

Juana María Ibañez Rivas, Peru (term ends 31 July 2028)

Bonny Ibhawoh, Nigeria (term ends 30 April 2026)

Mihir Kanade, India (term ends 30 April 2026)

Klentiana Mahmutaj, Albania (term ends 30 April 2026)

Forum on Minority Issues

Email: [hrc-sr-minorityforum@un.org](mailto:hrc-sr-minorityforum%40un.org?subject=)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiary-bodies/minority-issues-forum](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiary-bodies/minority-issues-forum)

Purpose

The Forum provides a platform for promoting dialogue and cooperation amongst numerous stakeholders, and in particular between Member States and minorities, on issues relating to the recognition and effective protection of the human rights of national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities. It provides thematic contributions and expertise to the work of the Special Rapporteur on minority issues, and identifies best practices, challenges, opportunities and initiatives for implementing the UN [Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities](https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/declaration-rights-persons-belonging-national-or-ethnic). The Human Rights Council (HRC) established the Forum in its resolution [6/15](http://ap.ohchr.org/Documents/E/HRC/resolutions/A_HRC_RES_6_15.pdf) (2007) and renewed its mandate by resolution [19/23](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/19/23) (2012).

Meetings

The Forum meets for two days each year, usually in late November or early December, for thematic discussions. The Special Rapporteur on minority issues, currently Nicolas Levrat, Switzerland, is required by resolution [19/23](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/19/23) to guide the Forum’s work and prepare its annual meetings. In addition, the Special Rapporteur is invited to report on the Forum’s thematic recommendations, along with recommendations for future thematic subjects, for consideration by the HRC.

The Forum is open to a range of participants, including: UN Member States; UN and other international or regional mechanisms, bodies, specialized agencies and programmes; national human rights institutions and other relevant national bodies; academics; and non-governmental organizations. The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) supports the convening of the Forum and the participation of relevant stakeholders from every region, giving particular attention to ensuring broad and equitable participation, particularly including the representation of women. The largest number of participants come from minority representatives and organizations. Experts in the thematic areas covered by the Forum who are members of minorities are particularly encouraged to attend. A chair is appointed by the HRC President for each session on the basis of regional rotation and in consultation with regional groups. The Chair is also responsible for preparing a summary of the Forum’s discussion.

Social Forum

Email: [ohchr-socialforum@un.org](mailto:ohchr-socialforum%40un.org?subject=)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiaries/social-forum](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiaries/social-forum)

Purpose

The Social Forum of the Human Rights Council (HRC) is a space for dialogue between the UN human rights machinery and Member States and all other interested stakeholders, on contemporary thematic issues related to human rights. Stakeholders include intergovernmental organizations; different components of the UN system; representatives of the private sector; non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council; and representatives of other non-governmental organizations whose aim and purposes are in conformity with the spirit, purposes and principles of the UN Charter.

Since 2002, the Forum has focused on a range of issues, including poverty, globalization, the right to development, climate change, the rights of older persons, access to medicines, persons with disabilities, HIV and other communicable diseases, and sports and the Olympic ideal.

The Forum was initially a subsidiary body of the former Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, which was the main subsidiary body of the former Commission on Human Rights. The HRC decided to preserve the Forum and upgrade its status to be a subsidiary body of the HRC, not of its Advisory Committee that replaced the Sub-Commission (HRC res. [6/13](http://ap.ohchr.org/Documents/E/HRC/resolutions/A_HRC_RES_6_13.pdf) (2007)).

Meetings

The HRC Social Forum meets annually in Geneva. Through its resolution [56/12](https://docs.un.org/en/A/HRC/RES/56/12) the HRC decided that the [21st session](https://www.ohchr.org/en/events/forums/2025/2025-social-forum) of the Social Forum should focus on the contribution of education to the respect, promotion, protection and fulfilment of all human rights for all. The 21st session is scheduled to take place in Geneva from 30 to 31 October 2025. Side events organized by various stakeholders also take place during the two days of the Social Forum’s sessions.

The Social Forum is open to a wide range of participants, as listed in HRC res. [6/13](http://ap.ohchr.org/Documents/E/HRC/resolutions/A_HRC_RES_6_13.pdf) (2007). The Chair–Rapporteur is appointed for each session by the HRC President from candidates nominated by regional groups. The Co-Chair-Rapporteurs of the 2025 session are Anita Pipan, Slovenia, and Carlos D Sorreta, Philippines.

UN Forum on Business and Human Rights

Email: [ohchr-forumbhr@un.org](mailto:ohchr-forumbhr@un.org)

X: [@WGBizHRs](http://www.twitter.com/WGBizHRs)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiary-bodies/united-nations-forum-business-and-human-rights](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiary-bodies/united-nations-forum-business-and-human-rights)

Purpose

The Forum’s role is to discuss trends and challenges in the implementation of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (the UN ‘Protect, Respect and Remedy’ Framework). It also promotes dialogue and cooperation on issues linked to business and human rights, including challenges faced in particular sectors, operational environments or in relation to specific rights or groups, as well as identifying good practices. The Forum was established in 2011 by the Human Rights Council (res. [17/4](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/17/4)) and operates under the guidance of the UN Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises. Since 2017, the Working Group also chairs the Forum and prepares a report on the proceedings and thematic recommendations of the Forum (HRC resolutions [35/7](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/35/7) (2017), [44/15](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/44/15) (2020) and [53/3](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/53/3) (2023)).

Meetings

The annual Forum is usually held in November in Geneva, for a session of three working days. It is the world’s largest annual gathering on business and human rights, bringing together almost 4000 representatives from 140 countries. Participation is open and free of charge to all relevant stakeholders, including states, the wider UN system, intergovernmental and regional organizations, business enterprises, labour unions, national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations, academia and affected stakeholders (HRC res. [17/4](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/17/4)). Events organized on the margins of the Forum by other stakeholder groups generally take place before and/or after the Forum. The [2025 Forum](https://www.ohchr.org/en/events/sessions/2025/14th-united-nations-forum-business-and-human-rights) is scheduled to take place from 24 to 26 November, with the theme ‘Accelerating action on business and human rights amidst crises and transformations’.

Forum on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law

Email: [OHCHR-democracyforum@un.org](mailto:OHCHR-democracyforum@un.org)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiaries/democracy-forum](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiaries/democracy-forum)

Purpose

The Forum provides a platform for promoting dialogue and cooperation on issues pertaining to the relationship between human rights, democracy and the rule of law, and is mandated to identify and analyse best practices, challenges and opportunities for states in their efforts to secure respect for human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The Human Rights Council (HRC) established the Forum in its resolution [28/14](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/28/14) (2015).

Meetings

The Forum usually meets every two years in Geneva, for two days in November. Its [fifth session](https://www.ohchr.org/en/events/forums/2025/fifth-session-forum-human-rights-democracy-and-rule-law), scheduled to take place on 13 and 14 October 2025 (postponed from November 2024 due to the ongoing liquidity crisis), will focus on the theme ‘Democracy and climate change: focusing on solutions’.

Permanent Forum on People of African Descent

Email: [pfpad@un.org](mailto:pfpad%40un.org?subject=)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/permanent-forum-people-african-descent](http://www.ohchr.org/en/permanent-forum-people-african-descent)

Purpose

On 2 August 2021, the General Assembly adopted resolution [75/314](http://undocs.org/A/RES/75/314), which formally operationalized the Permanent Forum as a consultative mechanism for people of African descent and other relevant stakeholders and as a platform for improving the safety and quality of life and livelihoods of people of African descent. The Permanent Forum also serves as an advisory body to the Human Rights Council (HRC), in line with the programme of activities for the implementation of the International Decade for People of African Descent and in close coordination with existing mechanisms.

The Forum’s mandate includes providing expert advice and recommendations to the HRC, the General Assembly and other UN bodies, aimed at addressing challenges resulting from racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance confronting people of African descent that impede their human rights. It is also tasked with considering the elaboration of a UN declaration on the promotion, protection and full respect of the human rights of people of African descent. More detailed information is available on the website under ‘[Mandate](https://www.ohchr.org/en/permanent-forum-people-african-descent/mandate)’.

The General Assembly first decided to establish a forum to serve as a consultation mechanism in November 2014 (GA res. [69/16](http://undocs.org/A/RES/69/16)). The Permanent Forum’s modalities and mandate were further developed by HRC resolutions [30/17](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/30/17) (2015) and [34/33](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/34/33) (2017) and GA res. [73/262](http://undocs.org/A/RES/73/262) (2018) before being established by HRC res. [75/314](http://undocs.org/A/RES/75/314) (2021). More detailed information is available on the website under ‘[Background](https://www.ohchr.org/en/permanent-forum-people-african-descent/background-and-previous-meetings-establishment-permanent-forum-people-african-descent)’.

Meetings

The Permanent Forum is open to a wide range of participants, as listed in GA res. 75/314 (2021). Its annual sessions, focusing on thematic human rights concerns of people of African descent, alternate between Geneva and New York. Most recently, its [fourth session](https://www.ohchr.org/en/events/sessions/2025/fourth-session-permanent-forum-people-african-descent) was held in New York in April 2025.

Membership

The Permanent Forum consists of 10 experts who serve in an independent capacity. Five are nominated by governments and elected by the General Assembly, and five are appointed by the President of the HRC.

Members (10)

Appointed by the General Assembly

Ana Matarrita McCalla, Costa Rica

Justin Hansford, USA

Martin Kimani, Kenya (Chair)

Mona Omar, Egypt

June Soomer, Saint Lucia

Appointed by the HRC

Gaynel Curry, Bahamas (Vice-Chair)

Ma Yuanchun, China

Pastor Elías Murillo Martínez, Colombia (Rapporteur)

Michael McEachrane, Sweden

Alice Angèle Nkom, Cameroon

Thematic Working Groups of the Human Rights Council

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/open-ended-intergovernmental-working-groups](http://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/open-ended-intergovernmental-working-groups)

Working Group on the Right to Development

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiaries/iwg-on-development](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiaries/iwg-on-development)

Purpose

The Working Group was established by the Commission on Human Rights (res. [1998/72](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4600)) and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) (decision [1998/269](https://undocs.org/E/1998/98(SUPP))). It was set up to monitor and review progress made in the promotion and implementation of the right to development as elaborated in the Declaration on the Right to Development (adopted by GA res. [41/128](http://undocs.org/A/RES/41/128) (1986)). The Human Rights Council (HRC), which replaced the Commission in 2006, renewed the Working Group’s mandate until it completes the tasks entrusted to it in HRC res. [4/4](https://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/RES/4/4) of 2007 (HRC res. [9/3](https://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/RES/9/3) (2008)).

In its resolution [57/19](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/57/19) (2024), the HRC stressed the importance of the realization of the Working Group’s mandate, and recognized the need for renewed efforts within the Working Group so that it may fulfil its mandate.

The Working Group regularly engages with the Special Rapporteur on the right to development, established in 2016 (HRC res. [33/14](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/33/14)), and the Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development, established in 2019 (HRC res. [42/23](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/42/23)).

Meetings

The Group meets once a year for five working days in Geneva, usually in May. It elects the Chair–Rapporteur at each session, usually a government representative.

Membership

The Working Group is composed of all UN Member States. Its sessions can also be attended by non-Member States, intergovernmental organizations and other entities with observer status, specialized agencies and related organizations as well as non-governmental organizations with ECOSOC consultative status.

Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (DDPA)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiaries/iwg-on-durban](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiaries/iwg-on-durban)

Purpose

The Working Group was created in 2002 as a follow-up mechanism to the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (Durban, South Africa, 2001). It is mandated to:

* Review progress made in the implementation of the DDPA, including progress made in the implementation of the programme of activities of the International Decade for People of African Descent (2015–24)

Present a report on its deliberations, including conclusions and recommendations to the Human Rights Council (HRC).

The Group’s mandate was transferred from the Commission on Human Rights to the HRC in June 2006 (GA res. [60/251](http://undocs.org/A/RES/60/251)). Its mandate was most recently renewed for three years in March 2023 by HRC res. [52/37](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/52/37). GA res. [76/226](https://undocs.org/A/RES/76/226) (2022) requested that the Working Group devote at least half of its annual session to the elaboration of a draft UN declaration on the promotion and full respect of the human rights of people of African descent.

The DDPA records a commitment by governments, intergovernmental organizations, national human rights institutions and civil society organizations, including non-governmental organizations, to work together to eradicate racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance.

Meetings

The Group previously met once a year, usually in October. From 2023, the Group has met twice per year, and from 2024, it meets for one week in April/May and one week in October/November.

Membership

Membership is open to all UN Member States and observers. The Chair–Rapporteur is elected annually by the group.

Group of Independent Eminent Experts (IEE) on the Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (DDPA)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/chr-subsidiaries/group-of-experts-on-ddpa](https://www.ohchr.org/en/chr-subsidiaries/group-of-experts-on-ddpa)

Purpose

The Group of Independent Eminent Experts was established in paragraph 191(b) of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action ([DDPA](https://undocs.org/A/CONF.189/12)), adopted at the 2001 World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance, to follow the implementation of its provisions. The DDPA is the UN’s blueprint to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance globally.

The terms of reference of the Group were defined by the UN Commission on Human Rights in its resolution [2002/68](https://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4940) and readjusted in resolution [2003/30](https://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4980). In 2022, the Human Rights Council (HRC) decided that the Group would function as an advisory mechanism for the Council and the General Assembly on the implementation of the DDPA and work towards mobilizing global political will for concrete action to implement the DDPA (HRC res. [51/32](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/51/32)).

The members of the Group, one from each region, are appointed by the UN Secretary-General from among candidates proposed by the HRC President, after consultation with the regional groups, for a period of four years, renewable once.

Meetings

The Group meets annually in Geneva for a four-day session. Individual members also participate in various meetings and events at international, regional and national level in the field of human rights and anti-racism. The Group’s 11th session took place from 28 April to 1 May 2025 in Geneva. See the [website](https://www.ohchr.org/en/chr-subsidiaries/group-of-experts-on-ddpa/sessions-and-reports) for details.

Members (5)

José Antonio Aguilar Contreras, Mexico, Founder and Executive Director of civil society organization RacismoMX

Mansoor Ahmad Khan, Pakistan

Salome Mbugua, Ireland, CEO of AkiDwA – the Migrant Women’s Network

Joel Malesela Modiri, South Africa, Associate Professor of Jurisprudence, University of Pretoria

Hanna Suchocka, former Prime Minister of Poland

Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiaries/adhoc-committee-on-complementary-standards-to-icerd](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiaries/adhoc-committee-on-complementary-standards-to-icerd)

Purpose

The Ad Hoc Committee was established by Human Rights Council (HRC) decision [3/103](http://ap.ohchr.org/Documents/dpage_e.aspx?b=10&se=65&t=3) of 2006. Its mandate is to elaborate, as a matter of priority and necessity, complementary standards in the form of either a convention or additional protocol(s) to the [International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination](https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/international-convention-elimination-all-forms-racial), filling the existing gaps in the Convention; and to provide new normative standards aimed at combating all forms of contemporary racism, including incitement to racial and religious hatred. The HRC reiterated the Committee’s mandate in its resolutions [6/21](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/RES/6/21) (2007) and [10/30](https://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A%2FHRC%2FRES%2F10%2F30) (2009). The General Assembly (GA resolutions [71/181](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/71/181) (2016), [72/157](https://undocs.org/A/RES/72/157) (2017) and [73/262](https://undocs.org/A/RES/73/262) (2018)) and the Human Rights Council (HRC res. [34/36](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/34/36) (2017)) requested that the Chair–Rapporteur of the Ad Hoc Committee “ensure the commencement of the negotiations on the draft additional protocol to the Convention criminalizing acts of a racist and xenophobic nature”. Most recently, GA res. [79/161](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/79/161) (2024) requested that the Chair–Rapporteur present a progress report to the General Assembly at its 80th session.

Recently, the Committee has considered issues such as hate speech and hate crime, discrimination based on religion or belief, xenophobia, cybercrime and preventative measures against racism.

Meetings

The Committee held its first session in February 2008 and has subsequently met annually in Geneva. The 15th session took place from 9 to 11 April and 26 to 30 May 2025.

Membership

Membership is open to all Member States and observers. The Committee elects the Chair–Rapporteur annually.

Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group to elaborate the content of an international regulatory framework, without prejudging the nature thereof, relating to the activities of private military and security companies

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/pms-cs/igwg-index1](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/pms-cs/igwg-index1)

Purpose

The Intergovernmental Working Group is mandated by HRC res. [36/11](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/36/11) of 28 September 2017 to elaborate the content of an international regulatory framework, without prejudging the nature thereof, to protect human rights and ensure accountability for violations and abuses relating to the activities of private military and security companies. This work is informed by the discussion document ‘Elements for an international regulatory framework on the regulation, monitoring and oversight of the activities of private military and security companies’, as prepared by the Chair–Rapporteur in 2017 (see [A/HRC/36/36](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/36/36), also available on the [website](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/IGWG_PMSCs/Pages/IGWGIndex.aspx)), and further inputs from Member States and other stakeholders. The Working Group’s mandate has been renewed twice, most recently in October 2023 for a further three years (HRC res. [54/11](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/54/11)).

Meetings

The Working Group usually meets annually for five working days in Geneva. Most recently, at its [sixth session](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/pms-cs/igwg-index/6th-session-igwg-military) in April 2025, it considered the [revised fourth draft instrument](https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/hrbodies/hrcouncil/igwg-military/session6/IGWG-PMSCs-Revised-fourth-draft-PMSCs-clean-version.pdf) of an international regulatory framework on the regulation, monitoring of and oversight over the activities of private military and security companies. After each new draft of the instrument is released, intersessional consultations are usually held to discuss it, before a revised draft is issued ahead of the session.

Membership

All UN Member and Observer States, intergovernmental organizations, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations with ECOSOC consultative status may attend public meetings.

Open-ended intergovernmental working group on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/wg-trans-corp/igwg-on-tnc](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/wg-trans-corp/igwg-on-tnc)

Purpose

The Human Rights Council (HRC) established the Working Group in June 2014 in its resolution [26/9](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/26/9). It is mandated to elaborate an international legally binding instrument to regulate, in international human rights law, the activities of transnational corporations and other business enterprises.

Meetings

The Working Group usually meets annually in Geneva. Its [eleventh session](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/wg-trans-corp/session11) is scheduled to take place from 20 to 24 October 2025.

In July 2024, the HRC decided that starting in 2025, for a period of three years, the Working Group will convene intersessional thematic consultations each year, for the purpose of discussing clusters of articles of the draft legally binding instrument currently being negotiated (HRC decision [56/116](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/DEC/56/116)).

Membership

UN Member and Observer States, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental organizations, national human rights institutions with ‘A status’ accreditation and non-governmental organizations with ECOSOC consultative status may attend and participate in Working Group public meetings.

Open-ended intergovernmental working group on an optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the rights to early childhood education, free pre-primary education and free secondary education

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/wg-opcrc-education](http://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/wg-opcrc-education)

Purpose

The Human Rights Council (HRC) established the Working Group in its resolution [56/5](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/56/5) of 10 July 2024. It is mandated to explore the possibility of elaborating and submitting to the HRC a draft optional protocol to the [Convention on the Rights of the Child](https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-rights-child) with the aim to:

* Explicitly recognize that the right to education includes early childhood care and education
* Explicitly state that, with a view to achieving the right to education, States shall make public pre-primary education available free to all, beginning with at least one year, and make public secondary education available free to all
* Recall that States shall promote and encourage international cooperation in matters relating to education

Consider a provision that would allow for States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child to incorporate all reporting on their obligations under the optional protocol into their reports submitted under Article 44 of the Convention, eliminating the need for an initial or other separate reports.

The HRC decided that the working group shall invite experts and all relevant stakeholders, including the Committee on the Rights of the Child, relevant Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council and other relevant independent experts, States, and civil society, to engage with it. The HRC also emphasized the importance of the meaningful participation of children, in an ethical, safe and inclusive manner, and in particular to give children the opportunity to express their views on the topic and substance of the proposed optional protocol.

Meetings

The [first session](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/wg-opcrc-education/session1) of the intergovernmental working group was scheduled to take place from 1 to 5 September 2025 in Geneva.

Special Procedures of the Human Rights Council

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures-human-rights-council](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures-human-rights-council)

Purpose

The UN Human Rights Council’s (HRC’s) Special Procedures are independent human rights experts who investigate and report on thematic or country-specific human rights issues. They cover all rights – civil, cultural, economic, political and social – and are core to the UN human rights machinery.

The mandate holders – Special Rapporteurs, Independent Experts or Working Group members – serve in their personal capacities. They are not UN staff members and do not receive salaries or other financial remuneration for their work.

Mandate holders conduct studies, visit countries, provide advice, engage in advocacy, raise public awareness and work in partnership with non-governmental organizations. They regularly prepare written submissions, or ‘communications’, addressed to states and others, drawing attention to individual cases or situations where human rights have allegedly been violated. They interact regularly with actual and potential victims of human rights violations and constitute a unique link between states, national institutions and civil society.

The mandates are established by the HRC and supported by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR). The [Coordination Committee of Special Procedures](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures-human-rights-council/coordination-committee-special-procedures) promotes greater coordination among the mandate holders and acts as a bridge between them, the OHCHR, the broader UN rights framework and civil society.

OHCHR’s Special Procedures Branch provides direct support for all but one of the thematic mandates. It works closely with other parts of OHCHR that support the country mandates and other thematic Special Procedures, and supports their work in the field. OHCHR provides thematic, fact-finding, policy and legal expertise, conducts research and analysis, and provides assistance with logistical and administrative matters. The Branch also supports the system of Special Procedures as a whole, including its coordination and various related processes.

All mandate holders report annually to the HRC and the majority also report to the General Assembly. As at 1 July 2025, there were 46 [thematic](https://spinternet.ohchr.org/ViewAllCountryMandates.aspx?Type=TM) and 14 [country](https://spinternet.ohchr.org/ViewAllCountryMandates.aspx) mandates.

Special Rapporteurs, Independent Experts and Working Groups

Internet: [www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures-human-rights-council/current-and-former-mandate-holders-existing-mandates](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures-human-rights-council/current-and-former-mandate-holders-existing-mandates)

Country mandates\*

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in [Afghanistan](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-afghanistan)

Richard Bennett, New Zealand

Mandate established in 2021 by HRC res. [48/1](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/48/1); most recently extended in 2024 by HRC res. [57/3](http://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/57/3) for one year

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in [Belarus](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-belarus)

Nils Muižnieks, Latvia

Mandate established in 2012 by HRC res. [20/13](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/20/13); most recently extended in 2025 by HRC res. [58/19](http://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/58/19) for one year

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in [Burundi](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-burundi)

Fortuné Gaetan Zongo, Burkina Faso

Mandate established in 2021 by HRC res. [48/16](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/48/16); most recently extended in 2024 by HRC res. [57/22](http://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/57/22) for one year

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in [Cambodia](https://www.ohchr.org/en/countries/cambodia)

Vitit Muntarbhorn, Thailand

Mandate established in 1993 by CHR res. [1993/6](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4138); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [54/36](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/54/36) for two years

Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the [Central African Republic](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/ie-central-african-republic)

Yao Agbetse, Togo

Mandate established in 2013 by HRC res. [24/34](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/24/34), for one year, and HRC res. [S-20/1](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/S-20/1); most recently extended in 2024 by HRC res. [57/35](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/57/35) for one year

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the [Democratic People’s Republic of Korea](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-dprk)

Elizabeth Salmon, Peru

Mandate established in 2004 by CHR res. [2004/13](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=9760) for one year; most recently extended in 2025 by HRC res. [58/17](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/58/17) for one year

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in [Eritrea](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-eritrea)

Mohamed Abdelsalam Babiker, Sudan

Mandate established in 2012 by HRC res. [20/20](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/20/20) for one year; most recently extended in 2025 by HRC res. [59/1](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/59/1) for one year

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the [Islamic Republic of Iran](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-iran)

Mai Sato, Japan

Mandate established in 2011 by HRC res. [16/9](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/16/9); most recently extended in 2025 by HRC res. [58/21](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/58/21) for one year

Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in [Mali](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/ie-mali)

Eduardo Gonzalez, Peru

Mandate established in 2013 by HRC res. [22/18](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/22/18); most recently extended in 2025 by HRC res. [58/30](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/58/30) for one year

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in [Myanmar](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-myanmar)

Thomas H Andrews, USA

Mandate established in 1992 by CHR res. [1992/58](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4080); most recently extended in 2025 by HRC res. [58/20](http://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/58/20) for one year

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the [Palestinian territories occupied since 1967](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-palestine)

Francesca Albanese, Italy

Mandate established in 1993 by CHR res. [1993/2](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4083) until the end of the Israeli occupation

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the [Russian Federation](https://www.ohchr.org/en/specialprocedures/sr-russian-federation)

Mariana Katzarova, Bulgaria

Mandate established in 2022 by HRC res. [51/25](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/51/25); extended in 2024 by HRC res. [57/20](http://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/57/20) for one year

Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in [Somalia](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/ie-somalia)

Isha Dyfan, Sierra Leone

Mandate established in 1993 by CHR res. [1993/86](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4160); most recently extended in 2024 by HRC res. [57/27](http://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/57/27) for one year

Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the [Syrian Arab Republic](https://www.ohchr.org/en/countries/syrian-arab-republic)

Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro, Brazil, to start once the mandate of the Commission of Inquiry ends

Mandate established in 2011 by the 18th Special Session of the HRC [S-18/1](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/S-18/1)

Note

\* The Human Rights Council (HRC) replaced the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) in 2006.

Thematic mandates\*

Working Group of Experts on people of [African descent](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/wg-african-descent)

Bina D’Costa, Bangladesh

Miriam Ekiudoko, Hungary

Isabelle Mamadou, Spain

Catherine S Namakula, Uganda

Barbara G Reynolds, Guyana

Mandate established in 2002 by CHR res. [2002/68](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4940); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [54/26](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/54/26)

Independent Expert on the enjoyment of human rights of persons with [albinism](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/ie-albinism)

Muluka-Anne Miti-Drummond, Zambia

Mandate established in 2015 by HRC res. [28/6](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/28/6); most recently extended in 2024 by HRC res. [55/18](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/55/18)

Working Group on A[rbitrary Detention](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/wg-arbitrary-detention)

Miriam Estrada-Castillo, Ecuador

Mathew Gillett, New Zealand

Mumba Malila, Zambia

Hee-Seok Shin, ROK

Ganna Yudkivska, Ukraine

Mandate established in 1991 by CHR res. [1991/42](http://www.refworld.org/docid/3b00f0a118.html); most recently extended in 2022 by HRC res. [51/8](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/51/8)

Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other [business](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/wg-business) enterprises

Fernanda Hopenhaym, Mexico

Lyra Jakulevičienė, Lithuania

Robert McCorquodale, Australia

Damilola Olawuyi, Nigeria

Pichamon Yeophantong, Thailand

Mandate established in 2011 by HRC res. [17/4](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/17/4); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [53/3](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/53/3)

Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of [climate change](https://www.ohchr.org/en/specialprocedures/sr-climate-change)

Elisa Morgera, Italy

Mandate established in 2021 by HRC res. [48/14](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/48/14); extended in 2024 by HRC res. [57/31](http://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/57/31)

Special Rapporteur in the field of [cultural rights](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-cultural-rights)

Alexandra Xanthaki, Greece

Mandate established in 2009 by HRC res. [10/23](http://ap.ohchr.org/Documents/dpage_e.aspx?b=10&se=83&t=11); most recently extended in 2024 by HRC res. [55/5](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/55/5)

Special Rapporteur on the right to [development](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-development)

Surya Deva, India

Mandate established in 2016 by HRC res. [33/14](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/33/14); extended in 2022 by HRC res. [51/7](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/51/7)

Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with [disabilities](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-disability)

Heba Hagrass, Egypt

Mandate established in 2014 by HRC res. [26/20](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/26/20); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [53/14](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/53/14)

Working Group on enforced or involuntary [disappearances](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/wg-disappearances)

Aua Baldé, Guinea-Bissau

Grażyna Baranowska, Poland

Gabriella Citroni, Italy

Ana Lorena Delgadillo Pérez, Mexico

Mohammed Al-Obaidi, Iraq

Mandate established in 1980 by CHR res. [20](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Disappearances/E-CN.4-RES-1980-20_XXXVI.pdf) (XXXVI); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [54/14](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/54/14)

Special Rapporteur on the right to [education](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-education)

Farida Shaheed, Pakistan

Mandate established in 1998 by CHR res. [1998/33](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4560); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [53/7](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/53/7)

Special Rapporteur on the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable [environment](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-environment)

Astrid Puentes Riaño, Mexico

Mandate established in 2012 by HRC res. [19/10](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/19/10); most recently extended in 2024 by HRC res. [55/2](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/55/2)

Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, summary or arbitrary [executions](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-executions)

Morris Tidball-Binz, Chile

Mandate established in 1982 by CHR res. [1982/29](https://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4078) and ECOSOC res. [1982/35](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=8660); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [53/4](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/53/4)

Special Rapporteur on the right to [food](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-food)

Michael Fakhri, Lebanon

Mandate established in 2000 by CHR res. [2000/10](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4699); most recently extended in 2025 by HRC res. [58/10](http://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/58/10)

Independent Expert on the effects of [foreign debt](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/ie-foreign-debt) and other related international financial obligations of states on the full enjoyment of all human rights, particularly economic, social and cultural rights

Attiya Waris, Kenya

Mandate established in 2000 by CHR res. [2000/82](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4780); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [52/17](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/52/17)

Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to [freedom of opinion and expression](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-freedom-of-opinion-and-expression)

Irene Khan, Bangladesh

Mandate established in 1993 by CHR res. [1993/45](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4119); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [52/9](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/52/9)

Special Rapporteur on the rights to [freedom of peaceful assembly and of association](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-freedom-of-assembly-and-association)

Gina Paola Romero Rodríguez, Colombia

Mandate established in 2010 by HRC res. [15/21](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/15/21); most recently extended in 2025 by HRC res. [59/4](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/59/4)

Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental [health](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-health)

Tlaleng Mofokeng, South Africa

Mandate established in 2002 by CHR res. [2002/31](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4900); most recently extended in 2022 by HRC res. [51/21](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/51/21)

Special Rapporteur on adequate [housing](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-housing) as a component of the right to an adequate standard of living, and on the right to non-discrimination in this context

Balakrishnan Rajagopal, USA

Mandate established in 2000 by CHR res. [2000/9](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4780); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [52/10](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/52/10)

Special Rapporteur on the situation of [human rights defenders](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-human-rights-defenders)

Mary Lawlor, Ireland

Mandate established in 2000 by CHR res. [2000/61](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4764); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [52/4](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/52/4)

Special Rapporteur on the [independence of judges and lawyers](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-independence-of-judges-and-lawyers)

Margaret Satterthwaite, USA

Mandate established in 1994 by CHR res. [1994/41](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4220); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [53/12](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/53/12)

Special Rapporteur on the rights of I[ndigenous Peoples](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-indigenous-peoples)

Albert Kwokwo Barume, DR Congo

Mandate established in 2001 by CHR res. [2001/57](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4840); most recently extended in 2022 by HRC res. [51/16](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/51/16)

Special Rapporteur on the human rights of [internally displaced persons](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-internally-displaced-persons)

Paula Gaviria Betancur, Colombia

Mandate established in 2004 by CHR res. [2004/55](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=E/cn.4/res/2004/55); most recently extended in 2025 by HRC res. [59/12](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/59/12)

Independent Expert on the promotion of a democratic and equitable [international order](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/ie-international-order)

George Katrougalos, Greece

Mandate established in 2011 by HRC res. [18/6](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/18/6); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [54/4](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/54/4)

Independent Expert on human rights and [international solidarity](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/ie-international-solidarity)

Cecilia Bailliet, Argentina

Mandate established in 2005 by CHR res. [2005/55](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=11140); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [53/5](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/53/5)

Special Rapporteur on the elimination of discrimination against persons affected by [leprosy](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-leprosy) (Hansen's disease) and their family members

Beatriz Miranda Galarza, Ecuador

Mandate established in 2017 by HRC res. [35/9](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/35/9); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [53/8](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/53/8)

Working Group on the use of [mercenaries](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/wg-mercenaries) as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination

Ravindran Daniel, India

Jovana Jezdimirovice Ranito, Serbia

Joana Lopes de Deus Pereira, Portugal

Andrés Macias Tolosa, Colombia

Michelle René Small, South Africa

Mandate established in 2005 by CHR res. [2005/2](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=11060); most recently extended in 2022 by HRC res. [51/13](http://undocs.org/A/RES/51/13)

Special Rapporteur on the human rights of [migrants](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-migrants)

Gehad Madi, Egypt

Mandate established in 1999 by CHR res. [1999/44](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4660); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [52/20](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/52/20)

Special Rapporteur on [minority issues](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-minority-issues)

Nicolas Levrat, Switzerland

Mandate established in 2005 by CHR res. [2005/79](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=11120); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [52/5](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/52/5)

Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by [older persons](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/ie-older-persons)

Claudia Mahler, Austria

Mandate established in 2013 by HRC res. [24/20](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/24/20); most recently extended in 2022 by HRC res [51/4](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/51/4)

Working Group on the rights of [peasants](https://www.ohchr.org/en/specialprocedures/wg-peasants) and other people working in rural areas

Carlos Duarte, Colombia

Shalmali Guttal, India

Davit Hakobyan, Armenia

Uche Ewelukwa Ofodile, Nigeria

Geneviève Savigny, France

Mandate established in 2023 by HRC res. [54/9](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/54/9)

Special Rapporteur on extreme [poverty](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-poverty) and human rights

Olivier De Schutter, Belgium

Mandate established in 1998 by CHR res. [1998/25](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4546); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [53/10](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/53/10)

Special Rapporteur on the right to [privacy](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-privacy)

Ana Brian Nougrères, Uruguay

Mandate established in 2015 by HRC res. [28/16](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/28/16); most recently extended in 2024 by HRC res. [55/3](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/55/3)

Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of [racism](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-racism), racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance

Ashwini KP, India

Mandate established in 1993 by CHR res. [1993/20](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4099); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [52/36](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/52/36)

Special Rapporteur on freedom of [religion or belief](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-religion-or-belief)

Nazila Ghanea, Iran

Mandate established in 1986 by CHR res. [1986/20](https://spinternet.ohchr.org/Download.aspx?SymbolNo=E%2fCN.4%2f1986%2f20&Lang=en); most recently extended in 2025 by HRC res. [58/5](http://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/58/5)

Special Rapporteur on the [sale, sexual exploitation and sexual abuse of children](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-sale-of-children)

Mama Fatima Singhateh, Gambia

Mandate established in 1990 by CHR res. [1990/68](http://www2.ohchr.org/english/issues/children/rapporteur/docs/E.CN.4.RES.1990.68.E.pdf); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [52/26](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/52/26)

Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on [sexual orientation and gender identity](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/ie-sexual-orientation-and-gender-identity)

Graeme Reid, South Africa

Mandate established in 2016 by HRC res. [32/2](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/32/2); most recently extended in 2025 by HRC res. [59/5](http://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/59/5)

Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of [slavery](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-slavery)

Tomoya Obokata, Japan

Mandate established in 2007 by HRC res. [6/14](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=13380); most recently extended in 2022 by HRC res. [51/15](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/51/15)

Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering [terrorism](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-terrorism)

Ben Saul, Australia

Mandate established in 2005 by CHR res. [2005/80](http://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G05/104/91/PDF/G0510491.pdf?OpenElement); most recently extended in 2025 by HRC res. [58/14](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/58/14)

Special Rapporteur on [torture](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-torture)

Alice Jill Edwards, Australia

Mandate established in 1985 by CHR res. [1985/33](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=9900); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [52/7](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/52/7)

Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes ([toxics and human rights](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-toxics-and-human-rights))

Marcos A Orellana, Chile

Mandate established in 1995 by CHR res. [1995/81](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4359); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [54/10](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/54/10)

Special Rapporteur on [trafficking in persons](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-trafficking-in-persons), especially women and children

Siobhán Mullally, Ireland

Mandate established in 2004 by CHR res. [2004/110](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=9780); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [53/9](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/53/9)

Special Rapporteur on the promotion of [truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-truth-justice-reparation-and-non-recurrence)

Bernard Duhaime, Canada

Mandate established in 2011 by HRC res. [18/7](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/18/7); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [54/8](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/54/8)

Special Rapporteur on the negative impact of [unilateral coercive measures](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-unilateral-coercive-measures) on the enjoyment of human rights

Alena Douhan, Belarus

Mandate established in 2014 by HRC res. [27/21](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/27/21); most recently extended in 2023 by HRC res. [54/15](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/54/15)

Special Rapporteur on [violence against women and girls](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-violence-against-women), its causes and consequences

Reem Alsalem, Jordan

Mandate established in 1994 by CHR res. [1994/45](http://ap.ohchr.org/documents/alldocs.aspx?doc_id=4220); most recently extended in 2025 by HRC res. [59/20](http://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/59/20)

Special Rapporteur on the human rights to safe drinking [water and sanitation](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/sr-water-and-sanitation)

Pedro Arrojo-Agudo, Spain

Mandate established in 2008 by HRC res. [7/22](http://ap.ohchr.org/Documents/dpage_e.aspx?b=10&se=76&t=11); most recently extended in 2022 by HRC res. [51/19](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/51/19)

Working Group on the issue of discrimination against [women and girls](https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/wg-women-and-girls)

Dorothy Estrada-Tanck, Mexico

Claudia Flores, USA

Lu Haina, China

Ivana Krstić, Serbia

Laura Nyirinkindi, Uganda

Mandate established in 2010 by HRC res. [15/23](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/15/23); most recently extended in 2025 by HRC res. [59/14](http://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/59/14)

Note

\* The Human Rights Council (HRC) replaced the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) in 2006.

Human Rights Council-Mandated Investigations and Related Bodies

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/co-is](http://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/co-is)

Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic

Email: [ohchr-coisyria@un.org](mailto:ohchr-coisyria@un.org)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/coisyria](http://www.ohchr.org/coisyria)

Purpose

The Commission of Inquiry’s role is to investigate all alleged violations of international human rights law since March 2011 in the Syrian Arab Republic. It is also tasked with establishing the facts and circumstances that may amount to such violations and of the crimes perpetrated; and, where possible, to identify those responsible with a view to ensuring that perpetrators of violations, including those that may constitute crimes against humanity and war crimes, are held accountable. The Human Rights Council (HRC) established the Commission on 22 August 2011 (res. [S-17/1](http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/CoISyria/ResS17_1.pdf)). Its mandate has been extended several times, most recently in April 2025 for a further year (HRC res. [58/25](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/58/25)).

The Commission presented its first report to the HRC in December 2011, and has presented several reports since then detailing human rights and humanitarian law violations committed throughout the country. Its most recent report was presented in March 2025 ([A/HRC/58/66](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/58/66)).

Members

Hanny Legally, Egypt (appointed by the HRC President in October 2017)

Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro, Brazil (Chair) (appointed by the HRC President in September 2011)

Lynn Welchman, UK (appointed by the HRC President in December 2021)

International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism to assist in the Investigation and Prosecution of those Responsible for the Most Serious Crimes under International Law committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011 (IIIM)

Website: <https://iiim.un.org>

The Mechanism (IIIM) was established by GA res. [71/248](http://undocs.org/A/RES/71/248) in December 2016. It has two main tracks to its work: to collect, consolidate, preserve and analyse evidence of violations of international humanitarian law and human rights violations and abuses; and to share evidence and prepare files to facilitate and expedite fair and independent justice processes in national, regional or international courts, in accordance with international law. The Mechanism is headed by Robert Petit, Canada, who was appointed by the UN Secretary-General on 22 March 2024.

Independent Institution on Missing Persons in the Syrian Arab Republic (IIMP)

Email: [iimp-syria@un.org](mailto:iimp-syria@un.org)

Website: <https://iimp.un.org/en>

The Independent Institution was established by GA res. [77/301](http://undocs.org/A/RES/77/301) in June 2023 in response to the urgent calls for action from family members of Syria’s thousands of missing persons. Its role is to clarify the fate and whereabouts of all missing persons in the Syrian Arab Republic and to provide adequate support to victims, survivors and the families of those missing (res. [77/301](http://undocs.org/A/RES/77/301)). This work is carried out with the full and meaningful participation of victims, with sustained engagement with Syrian civil society including women’s organizations, and in close cooperation and complementarity with all relevant actors. The Independent Institution is headed by Karla Quintana, Mexico, who was appointed by the UN Secretary-General on 19 December 2024.

Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan

Email: [ohchr-chrsouthsudan@un.org](mailto:ohchr-chrsouthsudan@un.org)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/cohrsouthsudan](https://www.ohchr.org/cohrsouthsudan)

Purpose

The Human Rights Council (HRC) established the Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan on 23 March 2016 (res. [31/20](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/31/20)) for one year. Its mandate has been renewed nine times, most recently in April 2025 (HRC res. [58/1](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/58/1)) for an additional year. The Commission’s role is to monitor and report on the situation of human rights in South Sudan and make recommendations for its improvement. A core element of its mandate is to determine the facts and circumstances of, collect and preserve evidence of, and clarify responsibility for alleged gross violations and abuses of human rights and related crimes, including sexual and gender-based violence and ethnic violence. The Commission is tasked to assess the human rights situation in the country, in order to establish a factual basis for transitional justice and reconciliation; to provide guidance to the Government of South Sudan on transitional justice, accountability, reconciliation and healing issues; and to engage with other international and regional mechanisms to promote accountability for human rights violations and abuses.

The Commission began operations in July 2016. It has presented nine annual mandate reports to the HRC, most recently at its 58th session in February 2025 ([A/HRC/58/27](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/58/27)).

Members

Barney Afako, Uganda

Carlos Castresana Fernández, Spain

Yasmin Sooka, South Africa (Chair)

OHCHR Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) accountability project

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Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/democratic-People-Republic-Korea/index](http://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/democratic-People-Republic-Korea/index)

Purpose

On 28 March 2014, in response to the report of the Commission of Inquiry on the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, which found that systematic, widespread and gross human rights violations were being committed by the DPRK, the Human Rights Council (HRC) adopted resolution [25/25](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/25/25). The resolution requested that the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) follow up on the report’s recommendations by establishing “a field-based structure to strengthen monitoring and documentation of the situation of human rights in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, to ensure accountability, to enhance engagement and capacity-building with the Governments of all States concerned, civil society and other stakeholders, and to maintain visibility of the situation of human rights in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, including through sustained communications, advocacy and outreach initiatives”. The OHCHR [field-based structure in Seoul](https://seoul.ohchr.org/en) was established in June 2015.

In HRC res. [34/24](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/34/24) of 24 March 2017, the HRC strengthened the capacity of the OHCHR, including its field-based structure in Seoul, for two years, to allow for the implementation of relevant recommendations made by the group of independent experts on accountability in the DPRK in its report ([A/HRC/34/66/Add.1](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/34/66/Add.1)). The resolution specifically called for “strengthening current monitoring and documentation efforts, establishing a central information and evidence repository, and having experts in legal accountability assess all information and testimonies with a view to developing possible strategies to be used in any future accountability process”. In accordance with this mandate, staffing capacity was increased, to strengthen the Office’s ongoing work on promoting accountability in the DPRK. In HRC res. [49/22](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/49/22) (2022), the Council requested the OHCHR to organize “a series of consultations and outreach activities with victims, affected communities and other relevant stakeholders with a view to including their views into avenues for accountability”. This strengthened mandate has been renewed four times, most recently by HRC res. [58/17](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/58/17) (2025).

International Team of Experts on the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/kasai-region/index](http://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/kasai-region/index)

Purpose

On 23 June 2017, the Human Rights Council (HRC) requested the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights to dispatch a [team of international experts](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/ITEKasaiDRC/Pages/Index.aspx) to collect and preserve information, to determine the facts and circumstances concerning alleged human rights violations and abuses and violations of international humanitarian law in the Kasaï region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (res. [35/33](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/35/33)). That team’s report was presented to the HRC at its 38th session ([A/HRC/38/31](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/38/31), complemented by conference room paper [A/HRC/38/CRP.1](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/RegularSessions/Session38/Pages/ListReports.aspx)).

On 6 July 2018, the HRC requested the High Commissioner for Human Rights to dispatch a new team of two international human rights experts with a mandate to monitor, evaluate, provide support and report on the implementation by the Democratic Republic of the Congo of the recommendations of the previous team of experts, especially with respect to the fight against impunity and measures to promote reconciliation, and to make recommendations in that regard (res. [38/20](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/38/20)). HRC res. [48/20](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/48/20) of October 2021 extended the mandate to cover the entire national territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Team’s mandate has been renewed five times, most recently in October 2024 by HRC res. [57/34](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/57/34) for an additional year.

The Team presented its most recent report to the HRC at its 57th session ([A/HRC/57/81](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/57/81)) and its most recent oral update at the HRC’s 58th session. In HRC res. [57/34](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/57/34), the Council requested the team to present its final report at the HRC’s 60th session.

Members

Bessolé René Bagoro, Burkina Faso

Marie-Therese Keita-Bocoum, Côte d’Ivoire

Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar (IIMM)

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Website: <https://iimm.un.org>

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/MyanmarMechanism](http://www.facebook.com/MyanmarMechanism)

Purpose

The IIMM was established by the Human Rights Council (HRC) in September 2018 (res. [39/2](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/39/2)). It is mandated to collect evidence of the most serious international crimes and violations of international law committed in Myanmar since 2011 and prepare files for criminal proceedings in national, regional and international courts and tribunals. The Head of the Mechanism, Nicholas Koumjian, USA, was appointed by the UN Secretary-General on 2 April 2019. The IIMM became operational on 30 August 2019. The Mechanism is currently sharing evidence and information with investigative authorities working on ongoing cases at the International Criminal Court and in Argentina related to serious international crimes committed against the Rohingya population. The Mechanism is also sharing evidence and information with the parties in the case of The Gambia v. Myanmar at the International Court of Justice.

On 3 April 2025, the HRC called on all relevant actors in Myanmar and other Member States to cooperate with the Mechanism, to grant it access, including to witnesses and other information providers, and to provide it with every assistance in the execution of its mandate (HRC res. [58/20](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/58/20)).

Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Email: [ohchr-ffmvenezuela@un.org](mailto:ohchr-ffmvenezuela%40un.org?subject=)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/ffmv/index](http://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/ffmv/index)

Purpose

The Human Rights Council (HRC) established the Fact-Finding Mission on 27 September 2019 (HRC res. [42/25](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/42/25)). Its role is to investigate serious human rights violations committed in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela since 2014. The Mission’s mandate has been extended three times, most recently in October 2024 for two additional years (res. [57/36](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/57/36)).

The Mission has presented five reports to the HRC, most recently at its 57th session in September 2024 ([A/HRC/57/57](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/57/57)), complemented by conference room paper [A/HRC/57/CRP.5](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/ffmv/index)). It is due to present its next report to the HRC at its 60th session in September 2025.

Members

Francisco Cox Vial, Chile

Patricia Tappatá Valdez, Argentina

Marta Valiñas, Portugal (Chair)

OHCHR Sri Lanka accountability project

Email: [ohchr-slaccountability@un.org](mailto:ohchr-slaccountability@un.org)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/sri-lanka-accountability/index](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/sri-lanka-accountability/index)

Purpose

On 23 March 2021, the Human Rights Council (HRC) recognized “the importance of preserving and analysing evidence relating to violations and abuses of human rights and related crimes in Sri Lanka with a view to advancing accountability”, and strengthened the capacity of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) “to collect, consolidate, analyse and preserve information and evidence and to develop possible strategies for future accountability processes for gross violations of human rights or serious violations of international humanitarian law in Sri Lanka, to advocate for victims and survivors, and to support relevant judicial and other proceedings, including in Member States, with competent jurisdiction” (res. [46/1](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/46/1)). In accordance with this mandate, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights established the OHCHR Sri Lanka accountability project, based in Geneva. In October 2022, the HRC decided to extend and reinforce the capacity of the OHCHR in this regard (res. [51/1](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/51/1)). In October 2024, the HRC decided to extend the mandate of OHCHR and all work requested In Its resolution 51/1 (res. [57/1](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/57/1)).

In resolutions 46/1 and 51/1, the HRC also requested that the OHCHR continue to enhance its monitoring and reporting on the human rights situation in Sri Lanka, including on progress in reconciliation and accountability. The OHCHR presented a written update at the HRC’s 54th session in October 2023 ([A/HRC/54/20](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/54/20)) and a comprehensive report to the HRC at its 57th session in September 2024 ([A/HRC/57/19](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/57/19)). It presented its most recent oral report to the HRC at its 58th session in March 2025, and is due to present a comprehensive written report to the HRC at its 60th session in September 2025.

Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in Israel

Email: [coi-opteji@un.org](mailto:coi-opteji@un.org)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/co-israel/index](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/co-israel/index)

Purpose

On 27 May 2021, the Human Rights Council (HRC) established the Commission with an “ongoing″ mandate to investigate, in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and in Israel, all alleged violations and abuses of international human rights law leading up to and since 13 April 2021 (res. [S-30/1](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/S-30/1)). The resolution further requested the Commission to “investigate all underlying root causes of recurrent tensions, instability and protraction of conflict, including systematic discrimination and repression based on national, ethnic, racial or religious identity” and, among other things, to “identify, where possible, those responsible, with a view to ensuring that perpetrators of violations are held accountable″.

The Commission is mandated to report to the HRC and to the General Assembly on an annual basis from June 2022 and September 2022, respectively. It has presented six reports, most recently to the HRC’s 59th session in June 2025 ([A/HRC/59/](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/59/26)26), and is due to present its next report to the General Assembly during its annual session in September 2025.

Members

Miloon Kothari, India

Navanethem Pillay, South Africa (Chair)

Chris Sidoti, Australia

International Independent Expert Mechanism to Advance Racial Justice and Equality in Law Enforcement

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Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiaries/expert-mechanism-racial-justice-law-enforcement](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiaries/expert-mechanism-racial-justice-law-enforcement)

Purpose

The Human Rights Council (HRC) created the Expert Mechanism in 2021 for three years (res. [47/21](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/47/21)). It was established “in order to further transformative change for racial justice and equality in the context of law enforcement globally, especially where relating to the legacies of colonialism and the Transatlantic slave trade in enslaved Africans, to investigate Governments’ responses to peaceful anti-racism protests and all violations of international human rights law and to contribute to accountability and redress for victims”. In July 2024, the HRC renewed the Expert Mechanism’s mandate for a further three years (res. [56/13](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/56/13)).

The Mechanism is mandated to:

* Examine systemic racism, including as it relates to structural and institutional racism, faced by Africans and people of African descent, the excessive use of force and other violations of international human rights law by law enforcement officials
* Examine the root causes of systemic racism in law enforcement and the criminal justice system, the excessive use of force, racial profiling and other human rights violations by law enforcement officials against Africans and people of African descent

Make recommendations on: how domestic legal regimes on the use of force by law enforcement officials can be brought into line with the applicable human rights standards; the collection and publication of data on deaths and serious injuries by law enforcement officials and related prosecutions and convictions, as well as any disciplinary actions; addressing systemic racism, closing trust deficits, strengthening institutional oversight, adopting alternative and complementary methods to policing and the use of force, and encouraging stocktaking of lessons learned; and the concrete steps needed to ensure access to justice, accountability and redress for excessive use of force and other human rights violations by law enforcement officials.

The Mechanism functions in close collaboration with relevant Special Procedures mandate holders, including the Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent and the Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. It coordinates its work with a range of UN mechanisms, bodies and processes, regional human rights mechanisms and national human rights institutions.

The Mechanism has also undertaken [country visits](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hrc-subsidiaries/expert-mechanism-racial-justice-law-enforcement/country-visits), including to Belgium, Brazil ([A/HRC/57/71/Add.1](https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/country-reports/ahrc5771add1-international-independent-expert-mechanism-advance-racial)), Italy ([A/HRC/57/71/Add.2](https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/country-reports/ahrc5771add2-international-independent-expert-mechanism-advance-racial)), Sweden ([A/HRC/54/CRP.1](https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/country-reports/ahrc54crp1-international-independent-expert-mechanism-advance-racial)) and the USA ([A/HRC/54/CRP.7](https://www.ohchr.org/en/documents/country-reports/ahrc54crp7-international-independent-expert-mechanism-advance-racial)).

Meetings

The Mechanism meets once a year. Its [fourth session](https://www.ohchr.org/en/events/events/2025/4th-annual-session-international-independent-expert-mechanism-advance-racial) took place from 5 to 9 May 2025 in Geneva. It has presented three annual reports to the HRC and the General Assembly, most recently in October 2024 ([A/HRC/57/71](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/57/71), [A/79/165](https://docs.un.org/A/79/165)), and is due to present its fourth report at the HRC’s 60th session in September–October 2025.

Membership

The Mechanism consists of three experts with law enforcement and human rights expertise, appointed by the President of the HRC, and supported by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Members (3)

Tracie L Keesee, USA

Akua Kuenyehia, Ghana (Chair)

Víctor M Rodríguez Rescia, Costa Rica

Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine

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Website: [www.ohchr.org/coiukraine](http://www.ohchr.org/coiukraine)

Purpose

On 4 March 2022, the Human Rights Council (HRC) established the Commission of Inquiry for a period of one year (res. [49/1](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/49/1)). Its role is, among other things, to investigate all alleged violations and abuses of human rights, violations of international humanitarian law, and related crimes in the context of the aggression against Ukraine by the Russian Federation; to establish the facts, circumstances and root causes of any such violations and abuses; and to collect, consolidate and analyse evidence of such violations and abuses, including their gender dimension, in view of any future legal proceedings.

On 12 May 2022, the HRC requested the Commission of Inquiry to address the events in the areas of Kyiv, Chernihiv, Kharkiv and Sumy regions in late February and March 2022 (res. [S-34/1](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/S-34/1)). The HRC has extended the Commission of Inquiry’s mandate three times, most recently on 4 April 2025 for an additional year (HRC res. [58/24](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/58/24)).

The Commission presented its most recent report to the HRC’s 58th session in March 2025 ([A/HRC/58/67](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/iicihr-ukraine/index)) and a conference room paper on drone attacks in Kherson region in May 2025 ([A/HRC/59/CRP.2](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/iicihr-ukraine/index)). It is due to present a report to the General Assembly’s 80th session in October 2025.

Members

Pablo de Greiff, Colombia

Vrinda Grover, India

Erik Møse, Norway (Chair)

Group of Human Rights Experts on Nicaragua

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/GRHE-Nicaragua/index](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/GRHE-Nicaragua/index)

Purpose

On 31 March 2022, the Human Rights Council (HRC) established the Group of Experts for a period of one year (res. [49/3](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/49/3)). Its mandate is to investigate all alleged human rights violations and abuses committed in Nicaragua since April 2018, including the possible gender dimensions of such violations and abuses, and their structural root causes. The resolution also asked the group to “establish the facts and circumstances surrounding the alleged violations and abuses, to collect, consolidate, preserve and analyse information and evidence and, where possible, to identify those responsible, and to make such information accessible and usable in support of ongoing and future accountability efforts”. The HRC has extended the group’s mandate twice, most recently on 3 April 2025 for an additional two years (HRC res. [58/18](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/58/18)).

The group presented its most recent report to the HRC at its 58th session in March 2025 ([A/HRC/58/26](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/58/26)). It is due to present an oral update to the HRC at its 60th session in September/October 2025, as well as to the General Assembly at its 80th session in October 2025, and its next written report to the HRC at its 61st session in February–April 2026.

Members

Reed Bródy, Hungary

Ariela Peralta Distefano, Uruguay

Jan-Michael Simon, Germany (Chair)

Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Islamic Republic of Iran

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/ffm-iran/index](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/ffm-iran/index)

Purpose

On 24 November 2022, the Human Rights Council (HRC) established the Fact-Finding Mission, and requested that it present a comprehensive report to the Council at its 55th session in March 2024 (res. [S-35/1](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/S-35/1)). Its role is to investigate alleged human rights violations in the Islamic Republic of Iran related to the protests that began on 16 September 2022, especially with respect to women and children; to establish the facts and circumstances surrounding the alleged violations; and to collect, consolidate, analyse and preserve evidence of such violations, including in view of cooperation in any legal proceedings. The resolution requested the Mission to engage with all relevant stakeholders, including the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Islamic Republic of Iran, relevant UN entities, human rights organizations and civil society. The HRC has extended the Fact-Finding Mission’s mandate twice, most recently on 3 April 2025 for an additional year (HRC res. [58/21](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/58/21)).

The Fact-Finding Mission presented its first report to the HRC at its 55th session in March 2024 ([A/HRC/55/67](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/55/67)). It is due to present an oral update to the General Assembly at its 80th session in October 2025, and its next written report to the HRC at its 61st session in February–April 2026.

Members

Shaheen Sardar Ali, Pakistan

Sara Hossain, Bangladesh (Chair)

Viviana Krsticevic, Argentina

Independent International Fact-Finding Mission for the Sudan

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/ffm-sudan/index](http://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/ffm-sudan/index)

Purpose

The Human Rights Council (HRC) established the Fact-Finding Mission on 11 October 2023 for an initial period of one year (res. [54/2](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/54/2)). Its role is to investigate and establish the facts, circumstances and root causes of all alleged human rights violations and abuses and violations of international humanitarian law, including those committed against refugees, and related crimes in the context of the ongoing armed conflict that began on 15 April 2023, between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces, as well as other warring parties. On 9 October 2024, the HRC extended the Mission’s mandate for an additional year (HRC res. [57/2](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/57/2)).

The Fact-Finding Mission presented its first written report to the HRC at its 57th session in September–October 2024 ([A/HRC/57/23](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/57/23), complemented by conference room paper [A/HRC/57/CRP.6](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/ffm-sudan/index)), and its most recent oral update to the HRC at its 59th session in June 2025. It is due to present a comprehensive written report to the HRC at its 60th session in September–October 2025 and to the General Assembly at its 80th session in October 2025.

Members

Joy Ngozi Ezeilo, Nigeria

Mohamed Chande Othman, UR of Tanzania (Chair)

Mona Rishmawi, Jordan/Switzerland

Group of Independent Experts on the Human Rights Situation in Belarus

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Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/gie-belarus/index](http://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/gie-belarus/index)

Purpose

In March 2021, the Human Rights Council (HRC) requested the High Commissioner for Human Rights to monitor and report on the situation of human rights in Belarus in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election and in its aftermath (res. [46/20](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/46/20)). In order to implement this mandate, the High Commissioner established the [OHCHR examination of the human rights situation in Belarus](https://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/ohchr-belarus/index). The mandate was renewed twice, and the High Commissioner presented three reports, most recently at the HRC’s 55th session in March 2024 ([A/HRC/55/61](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/55/61)).

On 4 April 2024, the HRC established, for a renewable period of one year, a group of three independent experts on the situation of human rights in Belarus, to be appointed by the HRC President (HRC res. [55/27](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/55/27)). In April 2025, the HRC extended the Group’s mandate for a further year (HRC res. [58/19](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/58/19)). The role of the Group of Experts is to build on the work of and follow up on the findings in the reports of the Special Rapporteur and the reports of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, prepared with the assistance of experts appointed pursuant to HRC res. 46/20 (2021) and Special Procedures mandate holders. The Group’s mandate is to investigate and establish the facts, circumstances and root causes of all alleged human rights violations and abuses committed in Belarus since 1 May 2020, including their gender and age dimensions and their impact on victims and survivors, and to collect, consolidate, preserve and analyse evidence of such violations and abuses and, where possible, to identify those responsible in view of relevant judicial and other proceedings.

The Group of Experts presented an oral update to the HRC at its 57th session, in September–October 2024, and a comprehensive report at its 58th session, in February–April 2025 ([A/HRC/58/68](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/58/68)). It is due to present an oral update to the HRC at its 60th session, in September–October 2025, and a comprehensive report at its 61st session, in February 2026.

Members

Susan Bazilli, Canada

Karinna Moskalenko, Russian Federation (Chair)

Monika Stanisława Platek, Poland

OHCHR Fact-Finding Mission on the situation in the North and South Kivu provinces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (OFFMK)

Email: [offmk@un.org](mailto:offmk%40un.org?subject=)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/ffm-drc/index](http://www.ohchr.org/en/hr-bodies/hrc/ffm-drc/index)

Purpose

On 7 February 2025, in response to the worsening human rights and humanitarian crisis caused by the recent escalation of hostilities in the North and South Kivu provinces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Human Rights Council (HRC) requested the High Commissioner for Human Rights to urgently establish a Fact-Finding Mission on the serious human rights violations and abuses, as well as grave breaches of international humanitarian law committed in these provinces (HRC res. [S-37/1](https://docs.un.org/A/HRC/RES/S-37/1)).

The OFFMK’s mandate is to investigate and establish the facts, circumstances, and root causes of all alleged human rights violations and abuses, as well as violations of international humanitarian law and possible international crimes. It must also identify, to the extent possible, the individuals and entities responsible for human rights violations or abuses, violations of international humanitarian law, and potential international crimes in the context of the most recent escalation of hostilities in North and South Kivu provinces in January 2025.

The High Commissioner for Human Rights presented an oral update on the Fact-Finding Mission’s work to the HRC at its 59th session, in June 2025. The High Commissioner is due to present a comprehensive written report to the HRC at its 60th session, in September–October 2025, and to the General Assembly at its 80th session, in October 2025.

The Council also decided to establish an independent Commission of Inquiry, made up of three experts with competency in international rights law, human rights, and international humanitarian law, to be appointed as soon as possible by the President of the HRC, to continue the work undertaken by the Fact-Finding Mission after the presentation of its complete report, with the same mandate as the Fact-Finding Mission.

Recently Completed Investigations

International Commission of Human Rights Experts on Ethiopia

The Commission was established on 17 December 2021 (HRC res. [S-33/1](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/RES/S-33/1)). Its role was to conduct an impartial investigation into allegations of violations and abuses of international human rights, humanitarian and refugee law in Ethiopia committed since 3 November 2020 by all parties to the conflict. The Commission presented two reports to the HRC, most recently at its 54th session in September 2023 ([A/HRC/54/55](http://undocs.org/A/HRC/54/55)).

Other past HRC-mandated Investigations

A list of past mandates can be found on the [website](https://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/HRC/Pages/ListHRCMandat.aspx).

#### Other Intergovernmental Bodies

Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean

Website: [www.un.org/en/ga/about/subsidiary/committees.shtml](http://www.un.org/en/ga/about/subsidiary/committees.shtml)

Purpose

The Ad Hoc Committee was established by GA res. [2992](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2992(XXVII)) (XXVII) (1972) to study the implications of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace (GA res. [2832](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2832(XXVI)) (XXVI) (1971)).

Following GA res. [32/86](http://undocs.org/A/RES/32/86) (1977), a meeting of the Indian Ocean coastal and hinterland states was held in New York in 1979 as a step towards convening a conference on the Indian Ocean. However, efforts at reaching a consensus on when the conference should be held have not been successful. GA res. [46/49](http://undocs.org/A/RES/46/49) (1991) decided the conference should be structured in more than one stage and that the first stage should be convened in Colombo, Sri Lanka, in 1993 or as soon as possible. The Committee has not yet been able to reach consensus on the implementation of the Declaration.

The Committee’s most recent report to the General Assembly was in July 2023 ([A/78/29](https://undocs.org/A/78/29)). GA res. [78/13](http://undocs.org/A/RES/78/13) (2023) requested the Committee Chair to continue informal consultations with members and report through the Committee to the General Assembly at its 80th session.

Meetings

The Committee holds biennial formal sessions, most recently in July 2025 in New York.

Membership

Originally 15 members, the Committee has been progressively enlarged, most recently by GA res. [34/80](http://undocs.org/A/RES/34/80) (1979). Further changes to membership were brought about by the reunification of Germany; General Assembly resolutions regarding the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia; and the 6 April 1990 withdrawal from the Committee of France, UK and USA. The Committee now comprises 43 members.

Members (43)

Australia (Vice-Chair)

Bangladesh

Bulgaria

Canada

China

Djibouti

Egypt

Ethiopia

Germany

Greece

India

Indonesia (Vice-Chair)

Iran

Iraq

Italy

Japan

Kenya

Liberia

Madagascar (Rapporteur)

Malaysia

Maldives

Mauritius

Mozambique (Vice-Chair)

Netherlands

Norway

Oman

Pakistan

Panama

Poland

Romania

Russian Federation

Seychelles

Singapore

Somalia

Sri Lanka (Chair)

Sudan

Thailand

Uganda

UAE

UR of Tanzania

Yemen

Zambia

Zimbabwe

Observers

Nepal

South Africa

Sweden

Ad Hoc Committee established by the General Assembly in its resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996

Website: <http://legal.un.org/committees/terrorism>

The Committee was established in 1996 to develop an international convention for the suppression of terrorist bombings and, subsequently, an international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism, to supplement related existing international instruments, and thereafter to address means of further developing a comprehensive legal framework of conventions dealing with international terrorism (GA res. [51/210](http://undocs.org/A/RES/51/210) (1996)). It negotiated several texts, resulting in the adoption of three treaties: the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings (1997); the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism (1999); and the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (2005). By the end of 2000, work had begun on a draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism.

The Ad Hoc Committee last met in 2013 ([A/68/37](http://undocs.org/A/68/37)). It is not envisaged that the Committee will meet in 2025. At its last meeting in 2013, the Ad Hoc Committee recommended that more time was required to achieve substantive progress on outstanding issues. Taking this into account, the General Assembly recommended (res. [68/119](http://undocs.org/A/RES/68/119) (2013)) that the Sixth Committee, at the 69th session of the General Assembly, establish a working group with a view to finalizing the process on the draft comprehensive convention on international terrorism as well as discussions concerning the question of convening a high-level conference under the auspices of the United Nations (see GA res. [54/110](http://undocs.org/A/RES/54/110) (2000)). Since the 69th session (2014), work has continued in the framework of a working group of the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly. The Working Group has been established annually, most recently in GA res. [79/129](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/79/129) (2024) for the 80th session (2025–26). Resolutions are listed on the [website](https://legal.un.org/committees/terrorism/resolutions.shtml).

Committee on Conferences

Website: [www.un.org/dgacm/en/content/coc](https://www.un.org/dgacm/en/content/coc)

Purpose

The Committee advises the General Assembly on all matters pertaining to the organization of UN conferences. Its mandate includes:

* Planning and coordinating conferences and meetings in close consultation with the Secretariat and all relevant bodies, and avoiding overlapping of meetings in the same sector of activity, wherever possible
* Recommending to the General Assembly a draft calendar of conferences and dealing with administrative and financial implications of departures from the approved calendar
* Recommending the best use of conference-servicing resources, including the introduction of new technology for interpretation, translation, meetings and documentation
* Advising on current and future conference-servicing requirements and means to ensure improved coordination of conferences within the UN system

Monitoring the organization’s policy on publications.

The Committee was established by GA res. [3351](http://undocs.org/A/RES/3351(XXIX)) (XXIX) (1974). GA res. [43/222](http://undocs.org/A/RES/43/222) (B) (1988) retained the Committee as a permanent subsidiary organ, set the membership at 21 and contains the Committee’s terms of reference.

Meetings

The Committee meets in New York, holding an annual organizational session in the northern hemisphere spring and an annual substantive session in the northern hemisphere fall. Additionally, the Committee is entitled to meet on an ‘as required’ basis to consider matters that may be deemed urgent.

Membership

[Members](https://www.un.org/dgacm/en/content/coc/current-membership) are appointed by the General Assembly President, after consultations with the regional group Chairs, for three-year terms. The 21 members are appointed on the basis of geographical distribution: six members from African states, five from Asia–Pacific states, four from Latin American and Caribbean states, two from Eastern European states, and four from Western European and Other states. One-third of the Committee’s membership retires annually. Retiring members are eligible for reappointment. The Committee’s Bureau consists of a chair, three vice-chairs and a rapporteur, representing all UN regional groups. The Committee agreed at its 1999 substantive session to a procedure for the participation of observers in its work.

Members (21)

Term ends 31 Dec 2025

Austria

China

Djibouti

Egypt

Guatemala

Japan

USA

Term ends 31 Dec 2026

Argentina

Botswana

France

Philippines

Russian Federation

Sierra Leone

Sri Lanka

Term ends 31 Dec 2027

Brazil

Congo

Hungary

Iran

Mali

Paraguay

Portugal

Bureau 2025

Chair

Hussein Roshdy, Egypt

Vice-Chairs

Mohammad Taghi Amrollahi, Iran

Johanna Bischof, Austria

Nikoletta Csók, Hungary

Rapporteur

Maria Gloria B Sanabria de Montiel, Paraguay

Committee on Information

Website: [www.un.org/en/ga/coi](http://www.un.org/en/ga/coi)

Purpose

The Committee was established by the General Assembly to deal with questions relating to public information. It is responsible for overseeing the work of the Department of Global Communications and providing it with guidance on policies, programmes and activities.

Evolution

The Committee was originally established by GA res. [33/115C](http://undocs.org/A/RES/33/115) (1978) to review UN public information policies and activities. It comprised 41 Member States appointed by the General Assembly President, after consultation with regional groups, on the basis of equitable geographical distribution. It was mandated to report to the General Assembly on the policies and activities of the UN public information services.

GA res. [34/182](http://undocs.org/A/RES/34/182) (1979) changed the Committee’s name to the UN Committee on Information, and its membership was increased to 66. Membership has increased further over the years and now stands at 124.

Meetings

The Committee usually meets annually in New York in April/May.

Membership

The Committee is an open-ended body, and any UN Member State can request membership by applying through the Secretariat. The Committee reached an agreement in 1980 to apply the principle of geographical rotation to all officers and that they would be elected for two-year terms.

Members (124)

African states

Algeria

Angola

Benin

Burkina Faso

Burundi

Cabo Verde

Congo

Côte d’Ivoire

Djibouti

DR Congo

Egypt

Ethiopia

Gabon

Ghana

Guinea

Kenya

Liberia

Libya

Madagascar

Morocco

Mozambique

Niger

Nigeria

Senegal

Sierra Leone

Somalia

South Africa

Sudan

Togo

Tunisia

Uganda

UR of Tanzania

Zambia

Zimbabwe

Asia–Pacific states

Bangladesh

China

Cyprus

DPRK

India

Indonesia

Iran

Iraq

Japan

Jordan

Kazakhstan

Lebanon

Malaysia

Mongolia

Nepal

Oman

Pakistan

Philippines

Qatar

ROK

Saudi Arabia

Singapore

Solomon Islands

Sri Lanka

Syrian AR

Thailand

Viet Nam

Yemen

Eastern European states

Armenia

Azerbaijan

Belarus

Bulgaria

Croatia

Czechia

Estonia

Georgia

Hungary

Latvia

Poland

Republic of Moldova

Romania

Russian Federation

Slovakia

Ukraine

Latin American and Caribbean states

Antigua and Barbuda

Argentina

Belize

Bolivia

Brazil

Chile

Colombia

Costa Rica

Cuba

Dominican Republic

Ecuador

El Salvador

Guatemala

Guyana

Haiti

Honduras

Jamaica

Mexico

Paraguay

Peru

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Suriname

Trinidad and Tobago

Uruguay

Venezuela

Western European and Other states

Austria

Belgium

Denmark

Finland

France

Germany

Greece

Iceland

Ireland

Israel

Italy

Luxembourg

Malta

Monaco

Netherlands

Portugal

Spain

Switzerland

Türkiye

UK

USA

Office holders 2025–26

Chair

Rein Tammsaar, Estonia

Vice-Chair

Youssouf Aden Moussa, Djibouti

Carmen Rosa Rios, Bolivia

Rawa Zoghbi, Lebanon

Vice-Chair–Rapporteur

Alyson Calem Sangiorgio, Monaco

Committee on Relations with the Host Country

Website: [www.un.org/en/ga/about/subsidiary/committees.shtml](https://www.un.org/en/ga/about/subsidiary/committees.shtml)

Purpose

The Committee deals with questions related to the relationship between the UN and the host country, including, amongst other things, the implementation of the Agreement between the UN and USA regarding UN Headquarters (the ‘Headquarters Agreement’); privileges and immunities, including the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the UN (‘the Convention’); and the security of missions accredited to the UN and the safety of their staff. The Secretary-General may also bring to the Committee’s attention issues of mutual concern relating to the implementation of the Headquarters Agreement and the Convention.

The Committee was established by GA res. [2819](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2819(XXVI)) (XXVI) (1971), which determined its terms of reference, and replaced the Informal Joint Committee on Host Country Relations, which had been reconvened under GA res. [2618](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2618(XXIV)) (XXIV) (1969). In May 1992, the Committee adopted a detailed list of topics for its consideration, which was modified slightly in March 1994. The list of topics is set out in annex I to the Committee’s annual report. Its most recent report ([A/79/26](http://undocs.org/A/79/26)) was endorsed by GA res. [79/130](http://undocs.org/A/RES/79/130) (2024).

Meetings

The Committee holds meetings throughout the year.

Membership

The Committee originally comprised the host country and 14 Member States chosen by the General Assembly President. GA res. [53/104](http://undocs.org/A/RES/53/104) (1998) increased the Committee’s membership by four (one each from African, Asia–Pacific, Latin American and Caribbean, and Eastern European states), bringing the total membership to 19. The Committee is chaired by the Permanent Representative of Cyprus.

Members (19)

African states

Côte d’Ivoire (Vice-Chair)

Libya

Mali

Senegal

Asia–Pacific states

China

Cyprus (Chair)

Iraq

Malaysia

Eastern European states

Bulgaria (Vice-Chair)

Hungary

Russian Federation

Latin American and Caribbean states

Costa Rica (Rapporteur)

Cuba

Honduras

Western European and Other states

Canada (Vice-Chair)

France

Spain

UK

USA

Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People

Website: [www.un.org/unispal/committee/](https://www.un.org/unispal/committee/)

Purpose

The Committee is exclusively devoted to the question of Palestine. It is mandated by the General Assembly to promote the realization of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, to support the peace process for the achievement of the two-state solution on the basis of pre-1967 borders and the just resolution of all final status issues, and to mobilize assistance to the Palestinian people.

The Committee was established by GA res. [3376](http://undocs.org/A/RES/3376(XXX)) (XXX) (1975) to consider and recommend a programme that would enable the Palestinian people to exercise the rights recognized in GA res. [3236](http://undocs.org/A/RES/3236(XXIX)) (XXIX) (1974).

The Committee’s mandate was most recently renewed in November 2022 by GA res. [77/2](http://undocs.org/A/RES/77/24)4 (2022), with an amendment that it should thereafter be reviewed only as necessary. The resolution also requested the Committee continue to exert all efforts to support the Middle East peace process and mobilize international support for, and assistance to, the Palestinian people (GA res. [69/20](http://undocs.org/A/RES/69/20) (2014)). The General Assembly requested that the [75th anniversary](https://www.un.org/unispal/nakba75/) of the [Nakba](https://www.un.org/unispal/about-the-nakba/) be commemorated on 15 May 2023 (GA res. [77/23](http://undocs.org/A/RES/77/23) (2022)). The General Assembly mandated the Committee to keep under review the question of Palestine, and to report and make suggestions toward its resolution to the General Assembly, the Security Council or the Secretary-General as appropriate. It also authorized the Committee to adjust its approved Programme of Work as it considered appropriate and necessary. It further requested the Committee to work with Palestinian and other civil society organizations to reach a peaceful settlement of the question of Palestine and realize the Palestinian people’s inalienable rights.

The Committee, through statements delivered by its Chair, regularly participates in Security Council Quarterly Open Debates on the Palestinian Question and presents its position and recommendations.

The Committee is serviced by the Division for Palestinian Rights in the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. Its annual Programme of Work, Annual Report to the General Assembly and other information can be found at [www.un.org/unispal/](https://www.un.org/unispal/).

Meetings

The Committee holds several formal and informal meetings over the course of the year, including an annual opening session in New York at the beginning of the year to elect its Bureau and adopt its annual Programme of Work. It holds a high-level special session on 29 November on the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, encouraging Member States to give the widest support and send messages of solidarity. In connection with this commemoration, the Committee also organizes an annual exhibit on Palestinian rights or a cultural event in cooperation with the Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine to the UN.

The Committee organizes other meetings and conferences across the globe, as well as virtual events, which bring together diplomatic representatives of UN Member States, parliamentarians, international experts, scholars and civil society to raise awareness about the question of Palestine and discuss ways to find a peaceful solution to the conflict. Additionally, the Committee carries out delegation visits to meet governments and civil society and implements a General Assembly-mandated annual capacity-building programme for staff of the Palestinian Government, in consultation with the Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine to the UN in New York.

Membership

The Committee originally had 20 members. It now consists of 25 Member States and 24 observers. The State of Palestine participates in the work of the Bureau as an observer.

Members (25)

Afghanistan

Belarus

Bolivia

Cuba

Cyprus

Ecuador

Guinea

Guyana

India

Indonesia

Lao PDR

Madagascar

Malaysia

Mali

Malta

Namibia

Nicaragua

Nigeria

Pakistan

Senegal

Sierra Leone

South Africa

Tunisia

Türkiye

Venezuela

Observers (24)

African Union

Algeria

Bangladesh

Bulgaria

China

Egypt

Iraq

Jordan

Kuwait

League of Arab States

Lebanon

Libya

Mauritania

Morocco

Niger

Organisation of Islamic Cooperation

Qatar

Saudi Arabia

Sri Lanka

State of Palestine

Syrian AR

UAE

Viet Nam

Yemen

Bureau 2025

Chair

Coly Seck, Senegal

Vice-Chairs

Neville Melvin Gertze, Namibia

Jaime Hermida Castillo, Nicaragua

Arrmanatha C Nasir, Indonesia

Ernesto Soberón Guzman, Cuba

Vice-Chair–Rapporteur

Ahmad Faisal Muhamad, Malaysia

Division for Palestinian Rights

As mandated by the General Assembly, the Division for Palestinian Rights of the UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs serves as a secretariat to the Committee, including its Bureau, substantively supporting its proceedings and the implementation of its programme of work. This includes planning and implementing international meetings, conferences and delegation visits, maintaining liaison with civil society groups, organizing the annual observance of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, as well as the Committee’s capacity-building programme. The Division for Palestinian Rights also monitors political and other relevant developments in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, drafts documentation for consideration of the Committee, including its annual report to the General Assembly, and develops and maintains the website ‘[The Question of Palestine](https://www.un.org/unispal/)’, including the UN Information System on the Question of Palestine ([UNISPAL](https://www.un.org/unispal/data-collection/)), as well as the Committee’s social media advocacy channels.

Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS)

Website: [www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/copuos/index.html](http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/copuos/index.html)

Purpose

COPUOS was set up as a permanent body in 1959 by the General Assembly (res. [1472](http://undocs.org/A/RES/1472(XIV)) (XIV)). It succeeded the 18-nation ad hoc committee of the same name established by GA res. [1348](http://undocs.org/A/RES/1348(XIII)) (XIII) (1958). It is mandated to govern the exploration and use of space for the benefit of all humanity: for peace and development. The Committee is also tasked with reviewing international cooperation in peaceful uses of outer space, studying space-related activities that could be undertaken by the UN, encouraging space research programmes, and studying legal problems arising from the exploration of outer space.

COPUOS has been instrumental in developing key frameworks of international space law, including five treaties on outer space, which provide rules of the road for space activities and lay out the basis for preserving the long-term sustainability of outer space activities. In 2019, the Committee adopted the preamble and 21 Guidelines for the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities. In 2021, the Space2030 agenda and its implementation plan agreed through COPUOS were adopted by the General Assembly (GA res. [76/3](http://undocs.org/A/RES/76/3) (2021)) to chart the way to enhance the contribution of space and its applications to sustainable development. In 2022, COPUOS’s work resulted in the adoption of GA res. [77/120](http://undocs.org/A/RES/77/120) (2022) on space and global health.

The Committee has two standing sub-committees: Scientific and Technical; and Legal.

Meetings

The Committee usually meets annually in Vienna, Austria, in June. The [68th session](https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/copuos/2025/index.html) took place from 25 June to 4 July 2025. The Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and the Legal Subcommittee meet annually, usually in February and April, respectively.

Membership

The Committee originally comprised 24 members whose terms of office expired at the end of 1961. The General Assembly decided to continue the Committee and increase its membership to 28 (GA res. [1721](http://undocs.org/A/RES/1721(XVI)) (XVI) (1961)). Membership has since increased further, most recently from 102 to 104 (GA decisions 79/519 A and 79/519 B (2024)).

Members (104)

African states

Algeria

Angola

Benin

Burkina Faso

Cameroon

Chad

Djibouti

Egypt

Ethiopia

Ghana

Kenya

Libya

Mauritius

Morocco

Niger

Nigeria

Rwanda

Senegal

Sierra Leone

South Africa

Sudan

Tunisia

Asia–Pacific states

Bahrain

Bangladesh

China

Cyprus

India

Indonesia

Iran

Iraq

Japan

Jordan

Kazakhstan

Kuwait

Lebanon

Malaysia

Mongolia

Oman

Pakistan

Philippines

Qatar

ROK

Saudi Arabia

Singapore

Sri Lanka

Syrian AR

Thailand

UAE

Uzbekistan

Viet Nam

Eastern European states

Albania

Armenia

Azerbaijan

Belarus

Bulgaria

Czechia

Hungary

Latvia

Poland

Romania

Russian Federation

Slovakia

Slovenia

Ukraine

Latin American and Caribbean states

Argentina

Bolivia

Brazil

Chile

Colombia

Costa Rica

Cuba

Dominican Republic

Ecuador

El Salvador

Guatemala

Mexico

Nicaragua

Panama

Paraguay

Peru

Uruguay

Venezuela

Western European and Other states

Australia

Austria

Belgium

Canada

Denmark

Finland

France

Germany

Greece

Israel

Italy

Luxembourg

Netherlands

New Zealand

Norway

Portugal

Spain

Sweden

Switzerland

Türkiye

UK

USA

Bureau 2025 (68th session) and Subcommittee Chairs 2025

Chair

Rafiq Akram, Morocco

First Vice-Chair

Juan Francisco Facetti, Paraguay

Second Vice-Chair and Rapporteur

Hesa Al-Khalifa, Bahrain

Chair of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (62nd session)

Ulpia-Elena Botezatu, Romania

Chair of the Legal Subcommittee (64th session)

Santiago Ripol Carulla, Spain

Conference on Disarmament (CD)

Palais des Nations

1211 Geneva 10

Switzerland

Telephone: +41 22 917 2281

Email: [cd@un.org](mailto:cd%40un.org?subject=)

Website: <https://disarmament.unoda.org/conference-on-disarmament>

Secretary-General and Personal Representative of the UN Secretary-General to the CD: Tatiana Valovaya, Russian Federation (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in May 2019)

Purpose

The Conference on Disarmament was established in 1979 as the single multilateral disarmament-negotiating forum of the international community. It was established as a result of the UN General Assembly’s first Special Session on Disarmament ([UNSSOD I](https://front.un-arm.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/GA-10th-special-session.pdf)), which was held in 1978. The Conference succeeded other Geneva-based disarmament-negotiating bodies, which included the Ten-Nation Committee on Disarmament (1960), Eighteen-Nation Committee on Disarmament (1962–68) and the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (1969–78).

The CD and its predecessors have negotiated major multilateral arms limitation and disarmament agreements, including the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (BWC), the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction (CWC), the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), the Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons and Other Weapons of Mass Destruction on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor and in the Subsoil Thereof (Sea-Bed Treaty) and the Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques (ENMOD).

The Conference’s agenda since 1997 has included: cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament; prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters; prevention of an arms race in outer space; effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon states against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons; new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons including radiological weapons; a comprehensive programme of disarmament; and transparency in armaments. At the beginning of its annual session, and taking into account General Assembly recommendations and proposals from its members, the Conference adopts its agenda (for 2025, [CD/2442](http://undocs.org/CD/2442)).

The Conference is funded from the UN regular budget, holds its meetings on UN premises and is supported by the Geneva Branch of the Office for Disarmament Affairs. It conducts its work by consensus and submits its annual report to the UN General Assembly.

Meetings

The Conference’s annual session, held in Geneva, is divided into three parts of 10, seven and seven weeks under a presidency that rotates among the membership every four working weeks, following the English alphabetical list of membership. The Conference pursues its mandate in plenary meetings, as well as under any additional arrangements agreed by the Conference and according to its own Rules of Procedure ([CD/8/Rev.](http://undocs.org/CD/8/Rev.10)10).

Membership

The Conference originally had 40 members. Membership has expanded and is currently 65. Rules 33–35 of the Rules of Procedure provide that states not members of the Conference may request, in writing through the President, to follow its work as observers.

Members (65)

Algeria

Argentina

Australia

Austria

Bangladesh

Belarus

Belgium

Brazil

Bulgaria

Cameroon

Canada

Chile

China

Colombia

Cuba

DPRK

DR Congo

Ecuador

Egypt

Ethiopia

Finland

France

Germany

Hungary

India

Indonesia

Iran

Iraq

Ireland

Israel

Italy

Japan

Kazakhstan

Kenya

Malaysia

Mexico

Mongolia

Morocco

Myanmar

Netherlands

New Zealand

Nigeria

Norway

Pakistan

Peru

Poland

ROK

Romania

Russian Federation

Senegal

Slovakia

South Africa

Spain

Sri Lanka

Sweden

Switzerland

Syrian AR

Tunisia

Türkiye

Ukraine

UK

USA

Venezuela

Viet Nam

Zimbabwe

Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C34)

Website: <https://peacekeeping.un.org>

Purpose

The Committee was established by GA res. [2006](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2006(XIX)) (XIX) (1965) to conduct a comprehensive review of all issues relating to peacekeeping. It [reports](https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/recommendations-of-special-committee-peacekeeping-operations-c34) to the General Assembly on its work through the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee).

Meetings

The Committee usually holds an annual substantive session in New York in February–March.

Membership

The Committee comprises 157 Member States, mostly past or current troop and financial contributors to peacekeeping operations. Other Member States, intergovernmental organizations and entities participate as observers.

Members (157)

Afghanistan

Albania

Algeria

Angola

Argentina

Armenia

Australia

Austria

Azerbaijan

Bangladesh

Belarus

Belgium

Benin

Bhutan

Bolivia

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Botswana

Brazil

Brunei Darussalam

Bulgaria

Burkina Faso

Burundi

Cambodia

Cameroon

Canada

Central African Republic

Chad

Chile

China

Colombia

Congo

Costa Rica

Côte d’Ivoire

Croatia

Cuba

Cyprus

Czechia

DR Congo

Denmark

Djibouti

Dominican Republic

Ecuador

Egypt

El Salvador

Eritrea

Estonia

Eswatini

Ethiopia

Fiji

Finland

France

Gabon

Gambia

Georgia

Germany

Ghana

Greece

Grenada

Guatemala

Guinea

Guyana

Haiti

Honduras

Hungary

Iceland

India

Indonesia

Iran

Iraq

Ireland

Israel

Italy

Jamaica

Japan

Jordan

Kazakhstan

Kenya

Kuwait

Kyrgyzstan

Lao PDR

Latvia

Lebanon

Lesotho

Liberia

Libya

Lithuania

Luxembourg

Madagascar

Malawi

Malaysia

Mali

Malta

Mauritania

Mauritius

Mexico

Mongolia

Montenegro

Morocco

Mozambique

Myanmar

Namibia

Nepal

Netherlands

New Zealand

Nicaragua

Niger

Nigeria

North Macedonia

Norway

Pakistan

Palau

Papua New Guinea

Paraguay

Peru

Philippines

Poland

Portugal

Qatar

ROK

Republic of Moldova

Romania

Russian Federation

Rwanda

Samoa

Saudi Arabia

Senegal

Serbia

Sierra Leone

Singapore

Slovakia

Slovenia

South Africa

Spain

Sri Lanka

Sudan

Sweden

Switzerland

Syrian AR

Tajikistan

Thailand

Timor-Leste

Togo

Tunisia

Türkiye

Uganda

Ukraine

UAE

UK

UR of Tanzania

USA

Uruguay

Vanuatu

Venezuela

Viet Nam

Yemen

Zambia

Zimbabwe

Observers (6)

Holy See

African Union

European Union

International Criminal Court

International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)

International Organization of la Francophonie

Bureau for 2025

Chair

To be advised, Nigeria

Vice-Chairs

Michael Gort, Canada

Takayuki Iriya, Japan

Michal Miarka, Poland

Francisco Tropepi, Argentina

Rapporteur

Mohamed Soliman, Egypt

Special Committee on the Charter of the UN and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

Website: <http://legal.un.org/committees/charter/>

Purpose

The Special Committee was initially established in 1974 under GA res. [3349](http://undocs.org/A/RES/3349(XXIX)) (XXIX) as an ad hoc committee to consider, amongst other things, any specific proposals that governments might make with a view to enhancing the ability of the UN to achieve its purposes as well as other suggestions for the more effective functioning of the UN that might not require amendments to the Charter. It was reconvened under GA res. [3499](http://undocs.org/A/RES/3499(XXX)) (XXX) (1975) as the Special Committee on the Charter.

The Committee’s mandate has been renewed annually by the General Assembly since then, most recently by GA res. [79/125](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/79/125) (2024). Its current mandate includes the consideration of proposals concerning the maintenance of international peace and security and the peaceful settlement of disputes.

Meetings

The Committee holds one session a year over seven days in New York at the end of February.

Membership

Under GA res. [50/52](http://undocs.org/A/RES/50/52) (1995), the Committee’s membership was expanded to include all Member States. It has a chair, three vice-chairs and a rapporteur, representing the UN regional groups, and an open-ended working group with the same chair and officers as the Committee.

Bureau (elected in February 2025)

Chair

Nathaniel Khng, Singapore

Vice-Chairs

Elisa De Raes, Belgium

Amanuel Giorgio, Eritrea

Eduardo Manuel López Echevarria, Peru

Rapporteur

Eliza Grisle, Latvia

Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (Committee of 24 or C24)

Website: [www.un.org/dppa/decolonization/en/c24/about](https://www.un.org/dppa/decolonization/en/c24/about)

Purpose

The Committee was established by the General Assembly in 1961 to monitor the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (GA res. [1514](http://undocs.org/A/RES/1514(XV)) (XV) (1960)).

The Committee annually reviews the list of territories to which the Declaration is applicable and makes recommendations on its implementation and on the dissemination of public information on decolonization. It also hears statements from Non-Self-Governing Territories ([NSGTs](https://www.un.org/dppa/decolonization/en/nsgt)), dispatches visiting missions and organizes seminars on the political, social and economic situation in the territories.

The Committee is also known as the Special Committee on Decolonization, Committee of 24 or C24, although it now has 29 members.

Territories on the Committee’s agenda

American Samoa

Anguilla

Bermuda

British Virgin Islands

Cayman Islands

Falkland Islands (Malvinas)\*

French Polynesia

Gibraltar

Guam

Montserrat

New Caledonia

Pitcairn

Saint Helena

Tokelau

Turks and Caicos Islands

United States Virgin Islands

Western Sahara

Meetings

The Committee holds its main [session](https://www.un.org/dppa/decolonization/en/c24/sessions) in New York in June and an annual [seminar](https://www.un.org/dppa/decolonization/en/c24/regional-seminars) intended to be held in the Caribbean and Pacific alternately. In 2025, the seminar was held in Dili, Timor-Leste.

Membership

Originally comprising 17 members, the Committee was enlarged to 24 by GA res. [1810](http://undocs.org/A/RES/1810(XVII)) (XVII) (1962). The membership increased again in 1979, 2004, 2008 and 2010 and now stands at 29.

Members (29)

Antigua and Barbuda

Bolivia

Chile

China

Congo

Côte d’Ivoire

Cuba

Dominica

Ecuador

Ethiopia

Fiji

Grenada

India

Indonesia

Iran

Iraq

Mali

Nicaragua

Papua New Guinea

Russian Federation

Saint Kitts and Nevis

Saint Lucia

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Sierra Leone

Syrian AR

Timor-Leste

Tunisia

UR of Tanzania

Venezuela

Bureau 2025

Chair

Menissa Rambally, Saint Lucia

Vice-Chairs

Michael Imran Kanu, Sierra Leone

Hari Prabowo, Indonesia

Ernesto Soberon Guzman, Cuba

Rapporteur

Koussay Aldahhak, Syrian AR

Note

\* A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the UK concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/countries/palestine/special-committee-reports](https://www.ohchr.org/en/countries/palestine/special-committee-reports)

Purpose

GA res. [2443](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2443(XXIII)) (XXIII) (1968) established the Special Committee, composed of three Member States appointed by the General Assembly President.

The occupied territories are considered those remaining under Israeli occupation since 1967, namely, the occupied Syrian Golan and the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which comprises the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip.

The Special Committee is mandated by the GA until the complete termination of the Israeli occupation. The GA issues a biannual resolution to confirm this mandate, most recently GA res. [78/76](http://undocs.org/A/RES/78/76) (2023). Its [reports](https://www.ohchr.org/en/countries/palestine/special-committee-reports#Reports) are available on the website.

Members

Jayantha Jayasuriya, Sri Lanka (Chair)

Ahmad Faisal Muhamad, Malaysia

Cheikh Niang, Senegal

UN Conciliation Commission for Palestine

Purpose

GA res. [194](https://www.undocs.org/A/RES/194(III)) (III) (1948) established the Commission to:

* Help with the repatriation of refugees
* Arrange for compensation for the property of those choosing not to return

Assist Israel and the Arab states to achieve a final settlement of all questions outstanding.

GA res. [79/89](http://undocs.org/A/RES/79/89) (2024) requested the Secretary-General to take all appropriate steps, in consultation with the United Nations Conciliation Commission for Palestine, for the protection of Arab property, assets and property rights in Israel.

Membership

The Commission members are France, Türkiye and the USA. As set out in GA res. [194](http://undocs.org/A/RES/194(III)) (III) (1948), they were selected by a committee of the General Assembly consisting of the five permanent members of the Security Council.

UN Disarmament Commission (UNDC)

Website: <https://disarmament.unoda.org/institutions/disarmament-commission/>

Secretary: Alexander Lomaia

Purpose

The UNDC was created under the Security Council by GA res. [502](https://undocs.org/A/RES/502(VI)) (VI) in 1952, and re-established as a subsidiary body of the General Assembly in 1978 at its 10th special session, the first devoted to disarmament (GA res. [S-10/2](http://undocs.org/A/RES/S-10/2) para. 118). It was created as a deliberative body to consider and make recommendations on disarmament problems, and to follow up decisions and recommendations of the 10th Special Session. GA res. [37/78H](http://undocs.org/A/RES/37/78) (1982) requested the UNDC direct its attention to specific subjects, taking into account the relevant General Assembly resolutions, and to make concrete recommendations to each General Assembly session. In 1998, the General Assembly decided that, from 2000, the UNDC’s agenda would normally comprise two substantive items, with one on nuclear disarmament, which are then debated for three consecutive years (decision 52/492).

The UNDC operates by way of plenary meetings and working groups. The number of working groups depends on the number of substantive items on its agenda. The Commission’s agenda items for the 2024 substantive session were: (a) Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons; and (b) Preparation of recommendations on common understandings related to emerging technologies in the context of international security.

In April 2017 the UNDC’s Working Group II adopted by consensus its report on agenda item 5 and a text entitled ‘Recommendations on practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons’ ([A/72/42](https://undocs.org/A/72/42)). In April 2023, the UNDC’s Working Group II adopted by consensus its report on agenda item 5 and a text entitled ‘Recommendations to promote the practical implementation of the transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities with the goal of preventing an arms race in outer space’ ([A/78/42](https://docs.un.org/A/78/42)).

Meetings

The UNDC meets for three weeks annually, usually in New York. Due to disagreement on organizational matters, as well as the COVID-19 pandemic, the UNDC did not hold its substantive session in the years 2019–21. It resumed official meetings with its substantive session in April 2022, and its most recent session was held in April 2025.

Membership

All UN Member States are members of the UNDC, and the five regional groups take turns as the Chair. Working Group Chairs are selected in accordance with the principle of equitable geographical representation.

Office holders for the 2025 session

Chair

José Pereira, Paraguay

Vice-Chairs

Amr Essam, Egypt

Mahmud Mohammed Lawal, Nigeria

Vivica Münkner, Germany

Rapporteur

Syed Atif Raza, Pakistan

Chair of Working Group I

Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons

Akaki Dvali, Georgia

Chair of Working Group II

Recommendations on common understandings related to emerging technologies in the context of international security

Julia Elizabeth Rodríguez Acosta, El Salvador

UN Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR)

Vienna International Centre

PO Box 500

A–1400 Vienna

Austria

Telephone: +43 1 26060 4330

Fax: +43 1 26060 5902

Website: [www.unscear.org](http://www.unscear.org)

Secretary: Paul Egerton, UK

Purpose

UNSCEAR was established by GA res. [913](http://undocs.org/A/RES/913(X)) (X) (1955). The resolution requested that the Committee receive and evaluate radiological information furnished by UN Member States or members of the specialized agencies, and summarize reports received on radiation levels and radiation effects.

The Committee submits annual progress [reports](http://www.unscear.org/unscear/en/ga/general-assembly.html) to the General Assembly and periodically publishes comprehensive scientific annexes to these reports. These contain systematic assessments of all major sources of exposure to ionizing radiation. They have provided the scientific basis that has prompted significant worldwide reductions in unnecessary radiation exposure, and continue to underpin the risk management programmes of international bodies such as the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), World Health Organization (WHO), International Labour Organization (ILO) and UN Environment Programme (UNEP).

The Committee also conducts periodic evaluations of the evidence for radiation-induced health effects from survivors of the atomic bombings in Japan in 1945 and other exposed groups. It has published landmark reports on the levels and effects of exposure to ionizing radiation following the accidents at Chornobyl and Fukushima nuclear power stations. It has evaluated advances in scientific understanding of the mechanisms by which radiation effects can occur. These assessments provided the scientific foundation used by the relevant agencies in the UN system in formulating international radiation protection standards and other instruments.

Meetings

The Committee usually meets annually in Vienna during the second quarter for five days.

Membership

Originally 15, the membership of UNSCEAR has gradually increased, most recently by GA res. [76/75](https://www.undocs.org/A/RES/76/75) (2021), to 31 scientists representing their [Member States](https://www.unscear.org/unscear/en/about-us/member-states.html). The [Bureau](https://www.unscear.org/unscear/en/about-us/officers.html) comprises five officers elected to serve for two sessions, as well as three ex officio advisers: the Committee’s immediate past Chair, the Secretary and the Deputy Secretary.

Members (31)

African states

Algeria

Egypt

Sudan

Asia–Pacific states

China

India

Indonesia

Iran

Japan

Pakistan

ROK

UAE

Eastern European states

Belarus

Poland

Russian Federation

Slovakia

Ukraine

Latin American and Caribbean states

Argentina

Brazil

Mexico

Peru

Western European and Other states

Australia

Belgium

Canada

Finland

France

Germany

Norway

Spain

Sweden

UK

USA

Office holders 71st and 72nd sessions (2024–25)

Chair

Sarah Baatout, Belgium

Vice-Chairs

Ayda Al Shehhi, UAE

Anssi Auvinen, Finland

Reiko Kanda, Japan

Rapporteur

Carol Robinson, Norway

Working Group on the Financing of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

Purpose

The General Assembly established the Working Group (GA res. [2656](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2656(XXV)) (XXV) of 7 December 1970) to study all aspects of the financing of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). In that resolution, the Assembly requested the Working Group to assist the Secretary-General and the Commissioner-General of UNRWA in reaching solutions to problems posed by the Agency’s financial crisis.

Each year, the General Assembly has endorsed the Working Group’s efforts and requested it to continue, most recently in GA res. [78/73](http://undocs.org/A/RES/78/73) (2023). In December 2024, at the 10th Emergency Special Session, the Assembly adopted GA res. [ES-10/25](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/ES-10/25), taking note of the Working Group's report.

Membership

On 11 December 1970, the President of the General Assembly, in consultation with the Secretary-General and pursuant to para. 2 of GA res. 2656 (XXV), designated the following nine members of the Working Group.

Members (9)\*

France

Ghana

Japan

Lebanon

Norway (Rapporteur)

Trinidad and Tobago

Türkiye (Chair)

UK

USA\*

Note

\* The USA ceased participation in the Working Group on 7 July 2025.

UN Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (Informal Consultative Process)

Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

Office of Legal Affairs

2 United Nations Plaza, Room DC2–0450

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 963 3962

Email: [doalos@un.org](mailto:doalos@un.org)

Website: [www.un.org/depts/los/consultative\_process/consultative\_process.htm](http://www.un.org/depts/los/consultative_process/consultative_process.htm)

Purpose

The purpose of the Informal Consultative Process is to facilitate the UN General Assembly’s annual review of developments in ocean affairs and the law of the sea by considering the Secretary-General’s report on oceans and the law of the sea and by suggesting particular issues to be considered by the General Assembly, with an emphasis on identifying areas where coordination and cooperation at the intergovernmental and inter-agency levels should be enhanced.

The General Assembly created the Informal Consultative Process in 1999 (GA res. [54/33](http://undocs.org/A/RES/54/33)), consistent with the legal framework provided by the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and the goals of chapter 17 of Agenda 21, following a review by the Commission on Sustainable Development of the sectoral theme of ‘Oceans and Seas’. The Process has been extended regularly, most recently by GA res. [78/69](http://undocs.org/A/RES/78/69) (2023).

Meetings

The Informal Consultative Process meets once a year to consider a topic or topics identified in the annual General Assembly resolution on oceans and the law of the sea. The 25th meeting, held in June 2025, focused on the topic ‘Capacity building and the transfer of marine technology: New developments, approaches and challenges’.

Membership

The Informal Consultative Process is open to all UN Member States, states members of the specialized agencies and parties to the Convention. It is also open to entities that have a standing invitation to participate as observers in the work of the General Assembly and to intergovernmental organizations with competence in ocean affairs. The format of the Informal Consultative Process provides the opportunity to receive input from representatives of the major groups identified in Agenda 21, particularly through discussion panels.

Co-Chairs

Appointed by the President of the General Assembly for the 25th meeting (June 2025)

François Jackman, Barbados

Anna Jóhannsdóttir, Iceland

Preparatory Commission for the entry into force of the Agreement under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement) and the convening of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Agreement

Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

Office of Legal Affairs

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United States of America

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Email: [doalos@un.org](mailto:doalos%40un.org?subject=)

Website: [www.un.org/bbnjagreement](https://www.un.org/bbnjagreement/en)

Purpose

In GA res. [78/272](http://undocs.org/A/RES/78/272) of 24 April 2024, the General Assembly decided to establish a Preparatory Commission to prepare for the entry into force of the BBNJ Agreement, and to prepare for the convening of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Agreement, at the conclusion of which the Commission will cease to exist.

The BBNJ Agreement’s adoption on 19 June 2023 ([A/CONF.232/2023/4](http://docs.un.org/A/CONF.232/2023/4)) marked a historic achievement in efforts to ensure the health and resilience of ocean ecosystems, and to level the playing field in the capacity to participate in and benefit from activities in areas beyond national jurisdiction. The third implementing agreement to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, it was the outcome of nearly 20 years of discussions in different formats. Background information is available on the website under ‘[History](https://www.un.org/bbnjagreement/en/bbnj-agreement/history)’.

The Agreement is open for signature by all Member States and regional economic integration organizations from 20 September 2023 to 20 September 2025, and will enter into force 120 days after the date of deposit of the 60th instrument of ratification, approval, acceptance or accession. As at 1 July 2025, there were 137 signatories and 51 [ratifications](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=XXI-10&chapter=21&clang=_en).

Article 50 of the BBNJ Agreement establishes a secretariat, and provides that the Conference of the Parties to the Agreement, at its first meeting, shall make arrangements for the functioning of the [secretariat](https://www.un.org/bbnjagreement/en/secretariat-0), including deciding on its seat. Until the secretariat commences its functions, the UN Secretary-General, through the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the Office of Legal Affairs (DOALOS) of the United Nations Secretariat, shall perform the [secretariat](https://www.un.org/bbnjagreement/en/secretariat-0) functions under the Agreement.

Meetings

The Preparatory Commission held its organizational meeting from 24 to 26 June 2024 in New York, at which it elected a [Bureau](https://www.un.org/bbnjagreement/en/meetings/preparatory-commission/officers) comprising two Co-Chairs and 15 Vice-Chairs. The [first substantive session](https://www.un.org/bbnjagreement/en/meetings/preparatory-commission/documents/first-session) took place in April 2025. The [second session](https://www.un.org/bbnjagreement/en/meetings/preparatory-commission/documents/second-session) was scheduled to be held from 18 to 29 August 2025, and the third from 23 March to 2 April 2026.

Membership

The Preparatory Commission is open to all UN Member States, members of the specialized agencies and parties to the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea. GA res. [78/272](http://undocs.org/A/RES/78/272) also lists a range of other organizations and entities who may participate as observers.

Co-Chairs

Janine Coye-Felson, Belize

Adam McCarthy, Australia

Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects

Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

Office of Legal Affairs

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Instagram: [@undoalos](https://www.instagram.com/undoalos/)

Linkedin: [www.linkedin.com/company/united-nations-world-ocean-assessment/](http://www.linkedin.com/company/united-nations-world-ocean-assessment/)

Website: [www.un.org/regularprocess/](http://www.un.org/regularprocess/)

Purpose

The General Assembly established the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects (Regular Process) in 2004, following the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa (GA res. [57/141](http://undocs.org/A/RES/57/141)). Through its main outputs, such as the World Ocean Assessments and its coherent capacity-building programme, the Regular Process aims to reinforce the science–policy interface by providing a scientific basis for informed decisions on ocean issues by governments and other policy makers.

The Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process (the Working Group) was initially established in 2008 (GA res. [63/111](http://undocs.org/A/RES/63/111)). Its role is to oversee and guide the Regular Process. The General Assembly also established a [Group of Experts](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/content/group-experts), consisting of 25 members from all regions of the world, to be an integral part of the Regular Process. The Group of Experts is assisted by a wider [Pool of Experts](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/content/pool-experts), composed of more than 1500 members nominated by states, recommended by intergovernmental organizations or self-recommended.

The first cycle of the Regular Process ran from 2010 to 2014. The summary of the First Global Integrated Marine Assessment (World Ocean Assessment I or WOA I) was issued as an official document of the General Assembly ([A/70/112](http://undocs.org/A/70/112)) on 22 July 2015, and approved by the Assembly in December 2015 (GA res. [70/235](http://undocs.org/A/RES/70/235)).

The [second cycle](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/content/second-cycle-regular-process) of the Regular Process ran from 2016 to 2020. The summary of the second World Ocean Assessment (WOA II) was issued as an official document of the General Assembly ([A/75/232/Rev.1](https://undocs.org/A/75/232/Rev.1)) and approved by the Assembly in December 2020 (GA res. [75/239](https://undocs.org/A/RES/75/239)), and [WOA II](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/woa2) was launched on 21 April 2021. In accordance with the programme of work 2017–20 for the second cycle of the Regular Process, three [technical abstracts](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/content/technical-abstracts) of WOA I were prepared by the Group of Experts in 2017, on: the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction; the ocean and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) under the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; and the impacts of climate change and related changes in the atmosphere on the oceans.

The [third cycle](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/cycle3) of the Regular Process was launched by the General Assembly in December 2019, to cover the five-year period from 2021 to 2025. In accordance with the [programme of work](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/sites/www.un.org.regularprocess/files/programme_of_work_3rd_cycle.pdf) for the third cycle ([A/75/362](https://undocs.org/a/75/362)), one of its main outputs will be the production of the Third World Ocean Assessment ([WOA III](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/woa3)). In addition, the Regular Process has continued to provide support for and interaction with other ocean-related intergovernmental processes, including through the development of a series of [policy briefs](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/woa2-policybriefs) outlining relevant information from WOA II for the benefit of policy makers and other stakeholders, on: climate change; marine biodiversity; SDG14 – life below water; and the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development and UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. The third cycle also includes a coherent [capacity-building](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/content/capacity-building) programme with the aim of strengthening the ocean science–policy interface at national, regional and global levels.

The fourth cycle of the Regular Process was launched by the General Assembly in December 2024, to cover the five-year period from 2026 to 2030 (GA res. [79/144](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/79/144), para. 333). The draft programme of work and preliminary resource requirements for the fourth cycle are being developed, pursuant to GA res. [79/144](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/79/144), paras. 333 and 335.

Evolution

The General Assembly launched the ‘Assessment of Assessments’ as the start-up phase of the Regular Process (GA resolutions [58/240](http://undocs.org/A/RES/58/240) (2003) and [60/30](http://undocs.org/A/RES/60/30) (2005)). In December 2009, it endorsed the recommendations adopted by the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole that proposed a framework for the Regular Process (GA res. [64/71](http://undocs.org/A/RES/64/71)). In December 2010, the General Assembly endorsed recommendations ([A/64/347](http://undocs.org/A/64/347)) that proposed modalities for implementing the Regular Process, including the key features, institutional arrangements, capacity-building and financing (GA res. [65/37](http://undocs.org/A/RES/65/37)). The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea was designated to provide secretariat support to the Regular Process.

The programme of work for the third cycle was approved by GA res. [75/239](https://undocs.org/A/RES/75/239) (2020). The [Group of Experts](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/content/group-of-experts) for the third cycle was constituted in 2021, and an [updated mechanism](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/sites/www.un.org.regularprocess/files/mechanism_for_the_establishment_of_the_pool_of_experts_for_the_third_cycle_of_the_regular_process.pdf) to establish the [Pool of Experts](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/content/pool-experts) for the third cycle was issued by the 15th meeting of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole. The same meeting also considered the [Terms of Reference](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/sites/www.un.org.regularprocess/files/terms_of_reference_for_nfps_and_ifps.pdf) for the National and Intergovernmental [Focal Points](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/content/national-focal-points-and-intergovernmental-focal-points), both aimed at facilitating the implementation of the programme of work for the third cycle.

[Regional workshops](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/content/first-round-regional-workshops) in support of the first cycle of the Regular Process took place between 2011 and 2014, and w[orkshops](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/content/workshops) in support of the second cycle in 2017 and 2018. For the third cycle, the [first round](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/first-round-regional-workshops) of regional workshops to support the development of WOA III and on capacity-building took place in 2022, hosted by the United Republic of Tanzania, Jamaica, Argentina, the Netherlands and Indonesia. The [second round](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/second-round-regional-workshops-2023), aimed at collecting regional-level information and data for the development of WOA III and strengthening the research–policy interface, took place in 2023, hosted by Brazil, Jamaica, Seychelles, Portugal and USA. More information is available on the [website](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/Workshops).

Meetings

The Working Group has held 21 meetings in New York between February 2011 and September 2024.

Membership

The meetings of the Working Group are open to UN Member States and observers, relevant intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with ECOSOC, and relevant scientific institutions and major groups identified in Agenda 21 that request an invitation to participate (GA res. [65/37 A](https://undocs.org/A/RES/65/37)). The Working Group’s 15-member [Bureau](https://www.un.org/regularprocess/bureau) meets on a regular basis. Its two co-chairs represent developed and developing countries and are appointed by the President of the General Assembly in consultation with regional groups.

Co-Chairs (as at July 2025)

Kimberly K Louis, Saint Lucia

Bahia Tahzib-Lie, Netherlands

Bureau (as at July 2025)

African states

Ghana

Kenya

UR of Tanzania

Asia–Pacific states

China

ROK

Sri Lanka

Eastern European states

Bulgaria

Estonia

Ukraine

Latin American and Caribbean states

Argentina

Chile

Ecuador

Western European and Other states

Greece

Spain

USA

Open-ended Working Group on Ageing for the purpose of strengthening the protection of the human rights of older persons

Website: <http://social.un.org/ageing-working-group>

Purpose

The Working Group was established in December 2010 by GA res. [65/182](http://undocs.org/A/RES/65/182). Its role was to consider the existing international framework of the human rights of older persons and identify possible gaps and how best to address them, including the feasibility of further instruments and measures. By GA res. [67/139](http://undocs.org/A/RES/67/139) (2012), the mandate also included consideration of proposals for an international legal instrument to promote and protect the rights and dignity of older persons.

At its 14th session, in May 2024, the Working Group adopted decision 14/1, ‘Recommendations regarding the identification of possible gaps in the protection of the human rights of older persons and how best to address them’, as contained in its report on the 14th session ([A/AC.278/2024/2](https://docs.un.org/A/AC.278/2024/2)). In August 2024, the General Assembly decided that the Working Group had completed its work (GA res. [78/324](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/78/324)), and in December 2024, it decided to formally conclude the Working Group’s mandate (GA res. [79/147](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/79/147)).

Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council

GA res. [48/26](http://undocs.org/A/RES/48/26) (1993) established an open-ended working group to consider all aspects of the question of an increase in the membership of the Security Council and other matters related to the Security Council.

The Working Group’s mandate has usually been renewed annually for the General Assembly’s upcoming session, but only to convene if Member States so decided.

Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly

Website: [www.un.org/en/ga/revitalization/ahwg.shtml](http://www.un.org/en/ga/revitalization/ahwg.shtml)

Purpose

The General Assembly, at its 60th session and continuously since its 62nd session, has annually established an Ad Hoc Working Group tasked with identifying ways to enhance the role, authority, effectiveness and efficiency of the Assembly. The Ad Hoc Working Group’s mandate was most recently renewed for the Assembly’s 78th and 79th sessions by GA res. [77/335](http://undocs.org/A/RES/77/335) (2023), which also decided that the mandate should be considered at the 79th session and biennially thereafter.

Co-chairs

Cornel Feruță, Romania

Mathu Joyini, South Africa

#### Advisory Bodies

Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters

United Nations

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United States of America

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Email: [unoda-web@un.org](mailto:unoda-web%40un.org?subject=)

Website: <https://disarmament.unoda.org/institutions/advisoryboard>

Secretary: Suzanne Oosterwijk

Purpose

The functions of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters are to:

* Advise the Secretary-General on arms limitation and disarmament matters, including studies and research under the auspices of the UN or institutions within the UN
* Serve as the Board of Trustees of the UN Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR)

Advise the Secretary-General on implementation of the UN Disarmament Information Programme.

The Board was established in 1978 under paragraph 124 of the Final Document of the 10th Special Session of the General Assembly (GA res. [S-10/2](http://undocs.org/A/RES/S-10/2)). It received its current mandate through GA decision [54/418](https://unoda-web.s3-accelerate.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/assets/HomePage/AdvisoryBoard/PDF/GA_54_418.pdf) (1999).

Meetings

The Board holds two sessions a year, alternating between Geneva and New York.

Membership

The Secretary-General chooses the Board’s members from all regions of the world for their knowledge and experience in the field of disarmament and international security. Members participate in their individual expert capacity. There are currently 15 members. The UNIDIR Director is an ex officio member. The Chair rotates by region.

Members, 83rd and 84th sessions, 2025 (15)

Nabeela Abdulla Almulla, Kuwait

Thompson Chengeta, Zimbabwe

Dong Zhihua, China

Rose Gottemoeller, USA

Jean-Marie Guéhenno, France

Mary Kaldor, UK

Anton Khlopkov, Russian Federation

Jina Kim, ROK

Federica Mogherini, Italy

Elina Noor, Malaysia

Eghosa Osaghae, Nigeria

Patryk Pawlak, Poland

Carolina Ricardo, Brazil

Shorna-Kay Richards, Jamaica (Chair)

D B Venkatesh Varma, India

Ex officio member: Robin Geiss, Germany (UNIDIR Director)

Advisory Committee on the UN Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

United Nations

2 United Nations Plaza, Room DC2–0566

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 917 367 3154

Email: [pallek@un.org](mailto:pallek%40un.org?subject=)

Website: <https://legal.un.org/poa/>

Secretary: Markus Pallek

Purpose

The General Assembly established a programme of assistance and exchange in the field of international law through GA res. [2099](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2099(XX)) (XX) (1965). This resolution set up the Committee to advise the Secretary-General on substantive aspects of the Programme. The Committee was given its current title by GA res. [2204](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2204(XXI)) (XXI) (1966).

The Programme of Assistance was established to contribute to a better knowledge of international law. It provides direct assistance by means of the:

* [International Law Fellowship Programme](http://legal.un.org/poa/ilfp/)
* [Regional Courses in International Law](http://legal.un.org/poa/rcil.html) for Africa, Asia–Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean
* [Audiovisual Library of International Law](http://legal.un.org/poa/avl.html), which was launched in October 2008

Preparation and dissemination of [publications and other information](http://legal.un.org/poa/publications.html) relating to international law.

The General Assembly authorized the Programme’s continuation annually until its 26th session, then every two years, then again annually since its 64th session in 2009–10 (GA res. [64/113](http://undocs.org/A/RES/64/113)). The Secretary-General reports to the General Assembly on the implementation of the Programme and is then authorized to carry out activities in subsequent years.

The Codification Division of the UN Office of Legal Affairs is responsible for implementing the Programme.

Membership

GA res. [78/107](https://undocs.org/A/RES/78/107) (2023) appointed 25 Member States to serve on the Committee for the four years 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2027.

Members (25)

African states

Equatorial Guinea

Ethiopia

Ghana

Kenya

Nigeria

South Africa

Asia–Pacific states

Iran

Lebanon

Malaysia

Philippines

Singapore

Eastern European states

Poland

Russian Federation

Slovakia

Latin American and Caribbean states

Chile

Colombia

El Salvador

Mexico

Trinidad and Tobago

Western European and Other states

Canada

France

Israel

Italy

Portugal

USA

Independent Audit Advisory Committee (IAAC)

United Nations

405 East 42nd Street, Room S-21FWS

Secretariat Building

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 963 0788

Email: [bamuwamye@un.org](mailto:bamuwamye@un.org)

Website: [www.un.org/ga/iaac/](http://www.un.org/ga/iaac/)

Executive Secretary: Moses Bamuwamye

Purpose

The IAAC was established by GA res. [60/248](http://undocs.org/A/RES/60/248) (2005) as a subsidiary body of the General Assembly to serve in an expert advisory capacity and assist the General Assembly in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities.

The Committee’s responsibilities are to provide independent advice to the General Assembly on: the scope, results and effectiveness of audit as well as other oversight functions, especially the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS); measures to ensure the compliance of management with audit and other oversight recommendations; and on various risk management, internal control, operational, accounting and disclosure issues.

The terms of reference for the IAAC were established in GA res. [61/275](http://undocs.org/A/RES/61/275) (2007) and the new body started functioning in January 2008. The General Assembly reviewed the terms of reference in 2010, 2015 and 2023 and no changes were made (GA resolutions [65/250](http://undocs.org/A/RES/65/250), [70/111](http://undocs.org/A/RES/70/111) and [78/247](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/78/247)). In April 2023, the General Assembly approved a new mandate for the Committee, aimed at strengthening the independence of the Ethics Office and including an enhanced role for the Committee, to strengthen the accountability framework (GA res. [77/278](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/77/278)).

Meetings

The IAAC meets up to four times a year, usually in New York.

Membership

The IAAC consists of five members, who serve three-year terms, renewable at least once. Members are appointed by the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee, and serve in their personal capacities as experts in financial, audit and/or other oversight-related activities.

Members (5)

Term ends 31 Dec 2025

Dorothy A Bradley, Belize

Anton V Kosyanenko, Russian Federation (Chair)

Suresh Sharma, Nepal (Vice-Chair)

Term ends 31 Dec 2026

Jeanette Franzel, USA

Eric O Osae, Ghana

#### Expert Bodies

Board of Auditors

2 United Nations Plaza, Room DC2–21st Floor

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 963 2451

Fax: +1 212 963 3684

Email: [lee6@un.org](mailto:lee6@un.org)

Website: [www.un.org/auditors/board/](http://www.un.org/auditors/board/)

Executive Secretary: Sejong Lee

Purpose

The General Assembly established the Board to audit the accounts of the UN and its funds and programmes, and to report its findings and recommendations to the General Assembly through the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ). It submits reports to the General Assembly annually or every two years, depending on the financial regulations and rules adopted by the respective organizations. The Board was established in 1946 by GA res. [74](http://undocs.org/A/RES/74(I)) (I).

The Board is responsible for the audit of 25 UN organizations and four Special Projects. With the concurrence of ACABQ, the Board allocates and rotates assignments among individual members. However, responsibility for the Board’s reports is collegial.

Structure

The Board is composed of the Auditors-General (or officers holding the equivalent title) of three UN Member States. To enable the Board to carry out its mandate, an Audit Operations Committee was established at UN Headquarters. This comprises three full-time Directors of External Audit, each representing a member of the Board. In addition to a full-time director and deputy director stationed in New York, each member provides audit staff from their national audit office to conduct audits at various UN locations. For the purpose of making a local or special examination, or for economies in the audit cost, the Board may engage the services of any national Auditor-General (or officer holding the equivalent title), commercial public auditors of known repute or any other person or firm that, in the opinion of the Board, is technically qualified.

Meetings

The Board meets twice a year, in a regular session in New York in July and in a special session in November/December, at a location determined by the Panel of External Auditors, usually alternating between New York and elsewhere.

Membership

The three Board members are appointed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee and retire by rotation. GA res. [55/248](http://undocs.org/A/RES/55/248) (2001) approved a change in the term of office to a non-consecutive six years, beginning 1 July 2002. Previously, members were appointed for three-year terms, which were renewable.

Board members

Pierre Moscovici, First President of the Court of Accounts of France (term ends 30 June 2028) (Chair)

Hou Kai, Auditor General of the People’s Republic of China (term ends 30 June 2026)

Vital do Rego Filho, President of the Brazilian Federal Court of Accounts (term ends 30 June 2030)

Panel of External Auditors

2 United Nations Plaza, Room DC2–21st Floor

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 963 2451

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Email: [lee6@un.org](mailto:lee6@un.org)

Website: [www.un.org/en/auditors/panel/](http://www.un.org/en/auditors/panel/)

Executive Secretary: Sejong Lee

Purpose

The main objectives of the Panel of External Auditors are to further the coordination of the audits for which its members are responsible and to exchange information on audit methods and findings. The Panel was established by GA res. [1438](http://undocs.org/A/RES/1438(XIV)) (XIV) (1959).

The Panel may submit to the executive heads of the organizations audited any observations or recommendations it may wish to make in relation to the accounts and financial procedures of the organization concerned. The executive heads of the participating organizations may also, through their auditors, submit requests to the Panel for its opinion or recommendation on any matter within its competence.

Membership

The Panel comprises the members of the UN Board of Auditors and the external auditors of the UN specialized agencies and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The current members, their term of office expiry and organizations audited are listed on the [website](https://www.un.org/en/auditors/panel/mandate.shtml).

Chair and Vice-Chair of the Panel (since 1 January 2025)

Chair

Gareth Davies, Comptroller and Auditor General of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Vice-Chair

Vital do Rego Filho, President of the Brazilian Federal Court of Accounts

International Civil Service Commission (ICSC)

ICSC Headquarters

2 United Nations Plaza, 10th Floor

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 963 3294

Fax: +1 212 963 0159

Website: <http://icsc.un.org>

Acting Executive Secretary: Yuri Orlov, Russian Federation

Purpose

The ICSC is responsible for the regulation and coordination of staff conditions of service within the UN, the specialized agencies and other international organizations that participate in the UN common system and accept the Commission’s Statute.

The Commission also has some decision-making functions with respect to post-adjustment indices, daily subsistence allowances, methodologies to determine salary levels and job classification standards. For other compensation issues and on human resource matters, it makes recommendations to the General Assembly or the executive heads of the participating organizations. The ICSC was established by GA res. [3357](http://undocs.org/A/RES/3357(XXIX)) (XXIX) (1974).

Meetings

The full Commission meets twice a year.

Membership

The Commission comprises 15 independent experts, appointed in their individual capacities by, and answerable as a body to, the General Assembly. Due regard is given to broad geographical representation. Members are appointed for four years, on the recommendation of the Fifth Committee, from a list of candidates compiled by the Secretary-General. Members may be reappointed. The Chair and Vice-Chair serve in a full-time capacity and are based in New York.

Members (15)

Term ends 31 Dec 2025

Claudia A Bueno Reynaga, Mexico

Spyridon Flogaitis, Greece

Misako Kaji, Japan

Jeffrey Mounts, USA

Shauna Olney, Canada

Term ends 31 Dec 2026

Andrew G Bangali, Sierra Leone

Xavier Bellmont Roldán, Spain

Ali Kurer, Libya

João Vargas, Brazil

Boguslaw Winid, Poland (Vice-Chair 2022–25)

Term ends 31 Dec 2028

Larbi Djacta, Algeria (Chair 2023–26)

Andrei Ivanov, Russian Federation

Muhammad Abdul Muhith, Bangladesh

Sun Xudong, China

El Hassane Zahid, Morocco

International Law Commission (ILC)

ILC Secretariat

Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs

2 United Nations Plaza

323 East 44th Street, Room DC2–0566

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 963 5331

Fax: +1 212 963 1963

Email: [6thcommittee@un.org](mailto:6thcommittee%40un.org?subject=) or [ola-codification@un.org](mailto:ola-codification%40un.org?subject=)

Website: <http://legal.un.org/ilc/>

Purpose

The ILC was established by GA res. [174](http://undocs.org/A/RES/174(II)) (II) (1947) to encourage the progressive development and codification of international law.

The substantive items on its [programme of work](http://legal.un.org/ilc/status.shtml), as at July 2025, were:

* Immunity of state officials from foreign criminal jurisdiction
* Succession of states in respect of state responsibility
* General principles of law
* Settlement of disputes to which international organizations are parties
* Prevention and repression of piracy and armed robbery at sea
* Subsidiary means for the determination of rules of international law
* Non-legally binding international agreements
* Compensation for the damage caused by internationally wrongful acts

Due diligence in international law.

The tenth edition of the publication ‘[Work of the International Law Commission](http://legal.un.org/ilc/publications/)’, issued in 2023, reviews the Commission’s work over more than seven decades.

Meetings

The Commission usually meets in Geneva in a split session each year, starting in the northern hemisphere spring and concluding in the summer.

Membership

The Commission’s [membership](https://legal.un.org/ilc/ilcmembe.shtml) has been increased several times, most recently by GA res. [36/39](http://undocs.org/A/RES/36/39) (1981), and now stands at 34. By GA res. 36/39 (1981), the General Assembly decided the members should be elected according to the following pattern: eight from African states, seven from Asia–Pacific states, three from Eastern European states, six from Latin American and Caribbean states, and eight from Western European and Other states; plus one from African or Eastern European states in rotation, and one from Asia–Pacific or Latin American and Caribbean states in rotation.

The regional group allocation for the current five-year term is: nine from African states, eight from Asia–Pacific states, three from Eastern European states, six from Latin American and Caribbean states, and eight from Western European and Other states.

Commission members are elected by the General Assembly for five-year terms1 and are eligible for re-election. They are elected on a personal basis and sit in their personal capacities as experts. Casual vacancies during the term following resignation or death are filled by the Commission.

Members (34) 1 Jan 2023 to 31 Dec 2027

Dapo Akande, UK

Carlos J Argüello-Goméz, Nicaragua

Masahiko Asada, Japan

Yacouba Cissé, Côte d’Ivoire

Ahmed Amin Fathalla, Egypt

Rolf Einar Fife, Norway

Mathias Forteau, France

George Rodrigo Bandeira Galindo, Brazil

Patrícia Galvão Teles, Portugal

Claudio Grossman Guiloff, Chile

Charles Chernor Jalloh, Sierra Leone

Ahmed Laraba, Algeria

Lee Keun-Gwan, ROK

Ma Xinmin, China2

Vilawan Mangklatanakul, Thailand

Andreas Mavroyiannis, Cyprus

Ivon Mingashang, DR Congo

Giuseppe Nesi, Italy

Hong Thao Nguyen, Viet Nam

Phoebe Okowa, Kenya

Nilüfer Oral, Türkiye

Alina Orosan, Romania3

Hassan Ouazzani Chahdi, Morocco

Mario Oyarzábal, Argentina

Mārtinš Paparinskis, Latvia

Bimal N Patel, India

August Reinisch, Austria

Penelope Ridings, New Zealand

Juan José Ruda Santolaria, Peru

Alioune Sall, Senegal

Louis Savadogo, Burkina Faso

Munkh-Orgil Tsend, Mongolia

Marcelo Vázquez-Bermúdez, Ecuador

Evgeny Zagaynov, Russian Federation

Notes

1 In accordance with GA decision 74/566 of 12 August 2020, the 2017–21 term of office was extended by one year, to 31 December 2022.

2 Elected in 2025 to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Huang Huikang, China.

3 Elected in 2024 to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Bogdan Aurescu, Romania.

Investments Committee

Purpose

The Investments Committee was established by GA res. [155](http://undocs.org/A/RES/155(II)) (II) (1947) to advise the Secretary-General on the UN Joint Staff Pension Fund and UN Library Endowment Fund investments.

Meetings

The Committee meets at least four times a year, including one meeting held in conjunction with the UN Joint Staff Pension Board. The meetings are normally held in New York or, on occasion, in another UN member country.

Membership

Investments Committee members are internationally respected for their in-depth knowledge and expertise in the investment and pension industries, and they are in a unique position to give up-to-date advice to the Secretary-General and the Representative of the Secretary-General on investment-related matters.

Committee members are appointed by the Secretary-General for three-year terms (renewable, but no more than 15 years in total), after consultation with the UN Joint Staff Pension Board and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ). Appointments are recommended by the Fifth Committee and are subject to confirmation by the General Assembly.

In addition to the regular members, the Secretary-General may also appoint ad hoc members, who serve one-year terms, to broaden the expertise available to the Fund with regard to potential new asset classes and financial instruments, and to achieve wider geographical and gender representation.

Members (10)

Sarah Omotunde Alade, Nigeria (2024–26)

Yasir O Al-Rumayyan, Saudi Arabia (2024–26)

Jens Fricke, Germany (2023–25)

Keiko Honda, Japan (2025–27)

Natalia Khanjenkova, Russian Federation (2024–26)

Michael Klein, USA (2023–25)

Shan Li, China (2024–26)

Patricia Parise, Argentina (2024–26)

Luciane Ribeiro, Brazil (2023–25)

Macky Tall, Mali (2025)

Joint Inspection Unit (JIU)

Palais des Nations

CH 1211 Geneva 10

Switzerland

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Email: [jiu\_jointinspectionunit@un.org](mailto:jiu_jointinspectionunit@un.org)

Website: [www.unjiu.org](http://www.unjiu.org)

Executive Secretary: Uren Pillay

Purpose

The JIU assists the legislative bodies of numerous UN organizations in meeting their governance responsibilities. JIU provides support in the context of these agencies’ oversight function regarding human, financial and other resources. In its reports and notes, the Unit identifies best practices, proposes benchmarks and facilitates information-sharing throughout the organizations of the UN system that have adopted its [Statute](https://www.unjiu.org/content/statute).

The JIU is the only independent external oversight body of the UN system mandated to conduct evaluations, inspections and investigations system-wide. Its inspectors have the broadest powers of investigation in all matters having a bearing on the efficiency of the services and the proper use of funds and, to these ends, may make on-the-spot inquiries and investigations. They are mandated to provide an independent view through inspections and evaluations aimed at improving management and methods and at achieving greater coordination between organizations.

The Unit began its work in 1968 following recommendations by the Ad hoc Committee of Experts to Examine the Finances of the United Nations and the Specialized Agencies (GA res. [2150](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2150(XXI)) (XXI) (1966) and as further confirmed in GA res. [2360](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2360(XXII)) (XXII) (1967)). After eight years, the General Assembly approved the JIU [Statute](https://www.unjiu.org/content/statute) as the annex of GA res. [31/192](http://undocs.org/A/RES/31/192) (1976). The JIU’s mandate covers the UN, its separately administered funds and programmes, and the specialized agencies that have accepted the Statute. It reports to the General Assembly and is responsible to the competent legislative organs of its participating organizations. The JIU’s budget is included in the regular UN budget as a jointly financed activity, with expenditure shared by its 28 participating organizations.

Meetings

The JIU holds an annual winter session, usually in two parts, one in December and the second in January, as well as a summer session in early July.

Membership

In accordance with chapter II of the JIU [Statute](https://www.unjiu.org/content/statute), the Unit consists of no more than 11 [inspectors](https://www.unjiu.org/content/current-inspectors), including a chair and vice-chair elected by the Unit each year. Inspectors are nominated by the General Assembly President and appointed by the Assembly based on their experience in national or international administrative and financial matters, including management questions, taking into account the principle of equitable geographical distribution and reasonable rotation. They serve in their personal capacities for five-year terms that can be renewed once.

Inspectors (11)

Term ends 31 Dec 2025

Jesús Miranda Hita, Spain

Victor Moraru, Republic of Moldova

Gönke Roscher, Germany

Tesfa Alem Seyoum, Eritrea

Term ends 31 Dec 2026

Eileen Cronin, USA

Carolina Fernández Opazo, Mexico

Term ends 31 Dec 2027

Mohanad Ali Omran Al-Musawi, Iraq

Pavel Chernikov, Russian Federation

Gaeimelwe Goitsemang, Botswana

Toshiya Hoshino, Japan

Conrod Cecil Hunte, Antigua and Barbuda

UN Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)

Vienna International Centre

PO Box 500

A–1400 Vienna

Austria

Telephone: +43 1 26060 4060

Fax: +43 1 26060 7 4060

Email: [uncitral@un.org](mailto:uncitral@un.org)

Website: <https://uncitral.un.org>

Secretary: Anna Joubin-Bret, France (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in 2017)

Purpose

The General Assembly established UNCITRAL to promote the harmonization and unification of the law of international trade (GA res. [2205](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2205(XXI)) (XXI) (1966)). The Commission has since become the core legal body in the UN system in the field of international trade law. It pursues its mandate through preparation of texts dealing with the substantive law that governs trade transactions or other aspects of business law that have an impact on international trade.

The Commission also undertakes technical assistance activities to promote the use and adoption of the texts it has developed, and it ensures coordination of the work of organizations active in the international trade law field to encourage cooperation, avoid duplication of effort and promote efficiency, consistency and coherence.

Structure

UNCITRAL’s work is organized and conducted at three levels. The first level is the [Commission](https://uncitral.un.org/en/commission) itself. The second is intergovernmental [working groups](https://uncitral.un.org/en/working_groups), which to a large extent undertake the development of the topics on UNCITRAL’s work programme. The third is the UNCITRAL secretariat, which assists the Commission and its working groups in the preparation and conduct of their work.

Meetings

UNCITRAL holds an annual plenary session, usually in June/July, alternating between New York and Vienna. The Working Groups usually hold one or two sessions a year, also alternating meetings between New York and Vienna. More information is available at <https://uncitral.un.org/en/gateway/meetings>.

Membership

Originally 29 states, membership increased to 36 in 1973, to 60 in 2003 (GA res. [57/20](http://undocs.org/A/RES/57/20)), and to 70 in 2021 (GA res. [76/109](http://undocs.org/A/RES/76/109)). GA res. 76/109 (2021) established that five of the 10 additional members would be elected during the General Assembly’s 76th session and the remaining five during its 79th. Members take office at the beginning of the first day of the Commission’s regular annual session immediately following their election (GA res. [31/99](http://undocs.org/A/RES/31/99) (1976)). Terms, renewable, are usually six years, with the terms of half the members expiring every three years. The geographical distribution of seats is noted in the list below.

Members (70) as at 7 July 2025 and year term ends

African states (16 seats)

Burundi 2031

Congo 2031

Côte d’Ivoire 2031

DR Congo 2028

Ghana 2031

Kenya 2028

Malawi 2028

Mauritania 2031

Mauritius 2028

Morocco 2028

Nigeria 2028

Sierra Leone 2031

Somalia 2028

South Africa 2031

Uganda 2028

Zambia 2031

Asia–Pacific states (16 seats)

Afghanistan 2028

China 2031

India 2028

Iran 2028

Iraq 2028

Japan 2031

Kuwait 2028

Malaysia 2031

Philippines 2031

ROK 2031

Saudi Arabia 2028

Singapore 2031

Sri Lanka 2031

Thailand 2028

Turkmenistan 2028

Viet Nam 2031

Eastern European states (10 seats)

Armenia 2028

Belarus 2028

Bulgaria 2028

Czechia 2028

Hungary 2031

Poland 2028

Russian Federation 2031

Ukraine 2031

Vacant 2031

Vacant 2031

Latin American and Caribbean states (12 seats)

Argentina 2028

Bolivia 2031

Brazil 2028

Chile 2028

Colombia 2028

Dominican Republic 2031

El Salvador 2031

Mexico 2031

Panama 2028

Peru 2031

Uruguay 2031

Venezuela 2028

Western European and Other states (16 seats)

Australia 2028

Austria 2028

Belgium 2031

Canada 2031

France 2031

Germany 2031

Greece 2028

Israel 2028

Italy 2028

Netherlands 2031

Spain 2028

Sweden 2031

Switzerland 2031

Türkiye 2028

UK 2031

USA 2028

UN Internal Justice System

Website: [www.un.org/en/internaljustice/](https://www.un.org/en/internaljustice/)

Purpose

Work-related disputes at the UN cannot be resolved through national courts due to the organization’s unique international legal status giving it immunity from domestic jurisdiction. For this reason, an internal system of justice is provided for all UN system staff. A two-tier formal internal justice system comprising a first instance [UN Dispute Tribunal](https://www.un.org/en/internaljustice/undt/) (UNDT), with seats in New York, Geneva and Nairobi, and an appellate instance, the [UN Appeals Tribunal](https://www.un.org/en/internaljustice/unat/) (UNAT), seated in New York, adjudicates applications by current or former UN staff members regarding alleged non-compliance with their employment contracts or conditions.

The system is coordinated by an independent [Office of Administration of Justice](https://www.un.org/en/internaljustice/oaj/) (OAJ), headed by an Executive Director appointed by the Secretary-General. The Registries supporting UNAT and UNDT, each headed by a Registrar and with an overall Principal Registrar, are part of the OAJ. The OAJ also includes the [Office of Staff Legal Assistance](https://www.un.org/en/internaljustice/osla/) (OSLA), which advises staff members (and former staff and their dependants) who wish to appeal an adverse administrative decision and may also represent staff before the Tribunals, in management evaluation matters, and in disciplinary proceedings or mediation.

Evolution

The Assembly’s intention to establish a “new, independent, transparent, professionalized, adequately resourced and decentralized system of administration of justice” was stipulated in GA res. [61/261](http://undocs.org/A/RES/61/261) (2007) and reaffirmed in GA res. [62/228](http://undocs.org/A/RES/62/228) (2008).

The Statutes for the UNAT and UNDT were adopted by the General Assembly in res. [63/253](http://undocs.org/A/RES/63/253) (2008), and the two Tribunals became operational on 1 July 2009. The former UN Administrative Tribunal was abolished as of 31 December 2009.

The Statutes for the UNAT and UNDT were amended by the General Assembly in resolutions [66/237](http://undocs.org/A/RES/66/237) (2011), [69/203](http://undocs.org/A/RES/69/203) (2014), [70/112](http://undocs.org/A/RES/70/112) (2015), [71/266](http://undocs.org/A/RES/71/266) (2016), [73/276](https://www.undocs.org/A/RES/73/276) (2018) and [78/248](http://undocs.org/A/RES/78/248) (2023). In resolution 78/248, the Assembly amended Article 9 of the UNDT Statute by adding paragraph 4 in respect of the UNDT’s jurisdiction over administrative decisions imposing disciplinary measures.

Office of Administration of Justice (OAJ)

2 United Nations Plaza, Room DC2–2427

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 963 2525

Email: [oaj@un.org](mailto:oaj@un.org)

Executive Director: Alayne Frankson-Wallace

The OAJ is an independent office responsible for the overall coordination of the formal system of administration of justice, and for contributing to its functioning in a fair, transparent and efficient manner. The OAJ provides substantive, technical and administrative support to the judges of the UN Dispute Tribunal (UNDT) and UN Appeals Tribunal (UNAT) through the registries, as well as to the Office of Staff Legal Assistance (OSLA). The Tribunals have professional independent judges adjudicating cases. The OSLA has professional lawyers who provide independent and confidential legal assistance to staff members, in accordance with standards established for legal practitioners.

With its headquarters in New York, the OAJ also has a presence – through the UNDT registries in Geneva and Nairobi and the branch offices of the OSLA – in Addis Ababa, Beirut, Entebbe, Geneva and Nairobi.

Office of Staff Legal Assistance (OSLA)

2 United Nations Plaza, Room DC2-0650

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

New York telephone: +1 212 963 3957

Nairobi telephone: + 254 20 762 6734

Chief: Marcos Zunino

OSLA was established within the Office of Administration of Justice as of 1 July 2009, pursuant to GA res. [63/253](http://undocs.org/A/RES/63/253) of 24 December 2008. OSLA is independent from the UN staff unions, management or other actors. OSLA counsel have a responsibility to act in the interest of the client staff member, former staff member or affected dependant of a staff member. As officers of the court before the UN Dispute and Appeals Tribunals, OSLA counsel are required to perform their duties in accordance with established professional, ethical and legal obligations. Their actions are governed by a code of conduct which includes a provision that: “counsel shall neither seek nor accept directions from any quarter whatever in the discharge of his or her duties to a client, save those arising from the counsel/client relationship”.

OSLA is based at UN Headquarters in New York, with legal officers in Addis Ababa, Beirut, Entebbe, Geneva and Nairobi. OSLA may work in cooperation with UN staff members or former staff members who have legal experience, as well as pro bono external counsel.

UN Appeals Tribunal (UNAT) and UN Dispute Tribunal (UNDT)

UN Appeals Tribunal Registry

2 United Nations Plaza, Room DC2–2409

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 963 9511

Email: [unat1@un.org](mailto:unat1@un.org)

Registrar: Juliet Johnson

UNDT Registry New York

2 United Nations Plaza, Room DC2–2440

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 963 3901

Email: [undt-newyork@un.org](mailto:undt-newyork@un.org)

Registrar: Isaac Endeley

UNDT Registry Geneva

Palais des Nations, Office S.102

8-14 Avenue de la Paix

1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland

Telephone: +41 22 917 2256

Email: [undt.geneva@un.org](mailto:undt.geneva@un.org)

Registrar: Liliana Lopez-Bello

UNDT Registry Nairobi

UN Avenue, Gigiri, Room CW–302

PO Box 67578 (00200)

Nairobi, Kenya

Telephone: +254 20 762 1073

Email: [undtnairobi@un.org](mailto:undtnairobi@un.org)

Registrar: Wanda Carter

Principal Registrar: Christian Rohde

Judges

Judges are non-staff officials of the UN. They are appointed to both tribunals by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Internal Justice Council.

UNAT Judges (as at 1 July 2025)

Nassib Ziadé, Lebanon/Chile (seven-year term 1 July 2023–30 June 2030) (President 2025)

Katharine Mary Savage, South Africa (seven-year term 1 July 2023–30 June 2030) (First Vice-President 2025)

Leslie Formine Forbang, Cameroon (seven-year term 1 July 2023–30 June 2030) (Second Vice-President 2025)

Graeme Colgan, New Zealand (seven-year term 1 July 2019–30 June 2026)

Kanwaldeep Sandhu, Canada (seven-year term 1 July 2019–30 June 2026)

Gao Xiaoli, China (completing a former judge’s seven-year term ending 30 June 2026)1

Abdelmohsen Ahmed Sheha, Egypt (seven-year term 1 July 2023–30 June 2030)

UNDT full-time Judges (as at 1 July 2025)

Geneva: Sun Xiangzhuang, China (seven-year term 1 July 2023–30 June 2030)

Nairobi: Sean Daniel Wallace, USA (seven-year term 1 July 2023–30 June 2030) (President 2025)

New York: Appointment pending2

UNDT half-time Judges (as at 1 July 2025)

Eleanor Donaldson-Honeywell, Trinidad and Tobago (seven-year term 10 July 2019–9 July 2026)

Francesco Buffa, Italy (seven-year term 1 July 2019–30 June 2026)

Francis H V Belle, Barbados (seven-year term 10 July 2019–9 July 2026)

Margaret Tibulya, Uganda (seven-year term 10 July 2019–9 July 2026)

Rachel Sophie Sikwese, Malawi (seven-year term 10 July 2019–9 July 2026)

Solomon Areda Waktolla, Ethiopia (seven-year term 1 July 2023–30 June 2030)

Notes

1 Elected on 15 November 2022 to fill a vacancy after Jean-François Neven, Belgium, resigned effective 10 January 2022.

2 Joëlle Adda, France, resigned effective 31 December 2024.

UN Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF)

PO Box 5036

New York, NY 10163-5036

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 963 6931

Fax: +1 212 963 3146

Palais des Nations

1211 Geneva 10

Switzerland

Telephone: +41 022 928 8800

Fax: +41 022 928 9099

Email: Please use the contact form on [www.unjspf.org](https://www.unjspf.org/contact-us/)

Website: [www.unjspf.org](http://www.unjspf.org)

Purpose

The Pension Fund was established under regulations adopted by the General Assembly in GA res. [248](http://undocs.org/A/RES/248(III)) (III) (1948) to provide retirement, death, disability and related benefits for staff of the UN and the other organizations admitted to membership in the Fund. The regulations, which have been amended at various times, provide for the admission of other organizations to the Fund.

The Fund is administered by the UN Joint Staff Pension Board, the Chief Executive of Pension Administration, a staff pension committee for each member organization and a secretariat to each such committee. The Board reports to the General Assembly every two years on the operations of the Fund and, when necessary, recommends amendments to the regulations governing its activities. The UN Secretary-General reports to the General Assembly on the investments of the Fund.

Expenses incurred by the Board in the administration of the Fund, principally the cost of its central Secretariat at UN Headquarters in New York and the management expenses of its investments, are met by the Fund.

Membership

Twenty-five organizations, including the UN, are members of the Fund (listed on the [website](https://www.unjspf.org/about-us/member-organizations/)). The Board has 33 members, of which 12 are from the [UN Staff Pension Committee](https://www.unjspf.org/united-nations-staff-pension-committee/) (four chosen by the General Assembly, four by the Secretary-General and four by participants in service) and 21 are from the other member organizations. All members are appointed from their respective organization’s Staff Pension Committee, which can also appoint alternate members.

UN Committee members and alternates

Members appointed by the General Assembly (four-year terms ending 31 Dec 2028)

Dmitry S Chumakov, Russian Federation

Philip Richard Okanda Owade, Kenya

Mustafizur Rahman, Bangladesh

David Traystman, USA

Hitoshi Kozaki, Japan (alternate member)

Lovemore Mazemo, Zimbabwe (alternate member)

Guillermo Rodolico, Argentina (alternate member)

Jörg Stosberg, Germany (alternate member)

Members appointed by the Secretary-General (no terms)

Kathryn Alford

Martha Helena Lopez

Catherine Pollard

Arnab Roy

Maria Costa (alternate member)

Chandramouli Ramanathan (alternate member)

Representatives of UN participants (four-year terms ending 30 June 2029 or until election of successors)

Mary Abu-Rakabeh, UNICEF

Ane Hess-Nielsen, UNHCR

Patricia Nemeth, UNFCCC

Ian Richards, UN

Gabriele Borla, UNON (alternate member)

Francisco Brito, UN (alternate member)

UN Register of Damage Caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (UNRoD)

Vienna International Centre

Wagramer Strasse 5

PO Box 500

A–1400 Vienna

Austria

Website: [www.unrod.org](http://www.unrod.org)

Executive Director: Leonid Frolov, Russian Federation (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in April 2021)

Purpose

GA res. [ES-10/17](http://undocs.org/A/RES/ES-10/17) (2007) established UNRoD to serve as a record, in documentary form, of the damage caused to all natural and legal persons concerned as a result of the construction of the Wall by Israel in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem. UNRoD is not a compensation commission, claims-resolution facility, judicial or quasi-judicial body.

To fulfil its mandate, UNRoD undertakes outreach activities in the Occupied Palestinian Territory to inform potential claimants of the existence and purpose of UNRoD and the procedure for filing a claim for registration of damage. UNRoD also assists claimants in completing the official UNRoD claim forms and collects completed claims forms for processing in Vienna. UNRoD’s three-member Board has the ultimate authority to decide, based on criteria established by it, whether or not a loss or damage claimed is to be included in the UN Register of Damage.

As at 9 July 2025, a total of 74,262 claim forms had been collected in 269 affected communities where the construction of the Wall was either completed or ongoing. Claim intake activities had been conducted in all nine of the affected governorates – Tubas, Jenin, Tulkarem, Qalqiliya, Salfit, Hebron, Ramallah, Bethlehem and Jerusalem. As at 16 May 2025, the Board of UNRoD had reviewed and decided on 47,855 of the collected claims.

UNRoD is a subsidiary organ of the UN General Assembly and operates under the administrative authority of the Secretary-General.

Membership

Board members are appointed by the UN Secretary-General. The Executive Director is an ex officio member.

Members

Vladimir Goryayev, Russian Federation

Mariana Salazar Albornoz, Mexico

Jeremy K Sharpe, USA

Ex officio: Executive Director Leonid Frolov, Russian Federation (since July 2021)

## SECURITY COUNCIL

Website: [https://main.un.org/securitycouncil](https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en)

### CHARTER PROVISIONS

Under Article 24 of the UN [Charter](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter), the members of the UN conferred on the Security Council primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security.

The functions of the Council fall mainly under two headings:

* Pacific settlement of disputes

Action with respect to threats to the peace, breaches of the peace and acts of aggression.

Decisions on procedural matters are made by an affirmative vote of any nine members. Decisions on other matters are made by an affirmative vote of nine members, including the concurring votes of the five permanent members of the Council. Parties to a dispute must abstain from voting on measures for the pacific settlement of that dispute.

The [Charter](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter) provisions relating to the Security Council are contained in Chapter [V](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-5) (Articles 23–32), Chapter [VI](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-6) (Articles 33–38), Chapter [VII](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-7) (Articles 39–51), Chapter [VIII](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-8) (Articles 52–54) and Articles 76 and 82–84 of Chapter [XII](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-12). Other provisions are found in Articles 1, 2, 4–7, 10–12, 15, 18, 20, 65, 93, 94, 96–99, 106, 108 and 109 of the Charter and Articles 4, 7–15, 35, 41 and 69 of the [Statute](http://www.icj-cij.org/en/statute) of the International Court of Justice.

### MEMBERSHIP

The Security Council [consists](https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/content/current-members) of five permanent members and 10 non-permanent members. Five of the non-permanent members are elected each year by the General Assembly for a term of two years. Terms for each non-permanent member end on 31 December of the year indicated in the membership list. Countries that have not served on the Security Council are not listed.

In electing the Security Council’s non-permanent members, the General Assembly is required by the Charter to pay due regard, in the first instance, to the contribution of UN members to the maintenance of international peace and security, the other purposes of the organization and also to equitable geographical distribution. A retiring member is not eligible for immediate re-election.

The [Presidency](https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/presidency) is held in turn by Security Council members in the English alphabetical order of their country names, each holding office for one month.

By GA res. [1991A](http://undocs.org/A/RES/1991(XVIII)) (XVIII) (1963), the General Assembly adopted and submitted for ratification by UN Member States amendments to the [Charter](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter) provisions relating to membership of the Security Council (Articles 23 and 27). It was decided to increase the number of non-permanent members from six to 10, and that the 10 non-permanent members should be elected according to the following pattern: five from African and Asia–Pacific states, one from Eastern European states, two from Latin American and Caribbean states, and two from Western European and Other states. These amendments took effect in 1965, having been ratified by more than two-thirds of UN Member States, including all the permanent members of the Security Council. The first expanded Council was elected in 1965.

Security Council permanent members

China

France

Russian Federation

UK

USA

Security Council non-permanent members\* (10)

Previous Current

African and Asia–Pacific states (5 non-permanent seats)

Algeria 1968–69 88–89 2004–05 2024–25

Angola 2003–04 15–16

Bahrain 1998–99

Bangladesh 1979–80 2000–01

Benin 1976–77 2004–05

Botswana 1995–96

Burkina Faso 1984–85 2008–09

Burundi 1970–71

Cameroon 1974–75 2002–03

Cabo Verde 1992–93

Chad 2014–15

Congo 1986–87 2006–07

Côte d’Ivoire 1964–65 90–91 2018–19

DR Congo 1982–83 90–91

Djibouti 1993–94

Egypt 1946 49–50 61–621 84–85 96–97 2016–17

Equatorial Guinea 2018–19

Ethiopia 1967–68 89–90 2017–18

Gabon 1978–79 98–99 2010–11 22–23

Gambia 1998–99

Ghana 1962–63 86–87 2006–07 22–23

Guinea 1972–73 2002–03

Guinea-Bissau 1996–97

India 1950–51 67–68 72–73 77–78 84–85 91–92 2011–12 21–22

Indonesia 1973–74 95–96 2007–08 19–20

Iran 1955–56

Iraq 1957–58 74–75

Japan 1958–59 66–67 71–72 75–76 81–82 87–88 92–93 97–98 2005–06 09–10 16–17 23–24

Jordan 1965–66 82–83 2014–15

Kazakhstan 2017–18

Kenya 1973–74 97–98 2021–22

Kuwait 1978–79 2018–19

Lebanon 1953–54 2010–11

Liberia 19612

Libya 1976–77 2008–09

Madagascar 1985–86

Malaysia 19653 89–90 1999–2000 15–16

Mali 1966–67 2000–01

Mauritania 1974–75

Mauritius 1977–78 2001–02

Morocco 1963–64 92–93 2012–13

Mozambique 2023–24

Namibia 1999–2000

Nepal 1969–70 88–89

Niger 1980–81 20–21

Nigeria 1966–67 78–79 94–95 2010–11 14–15

Oman 1994–95

Pakistan 1952–53 68–69 76–77 83–84 93–94 2003–04 12–13 2025–26

Philippines 19574 635 80–81 2004–05

Qatar 2006–07

ROK 1996–97 2013–14 2024–25

Rwanda 1994–95 2013–14

Senegal 1968–69 88–89 2016–17

Sierra Leone 1970–71 2024–25

Singapore 2001–02

Somalia 1971–72 2025–26

South Africa 2007–08 11–12 19–20

Sri Lanka 1960–61

Sudan 1972–73

Syrian AR1 1947–48 70–71 2002–03

Thailand 1985–86

Togo 1982–83 2012–13

Tunisia 1959–60 80–81 2000–01 20–21

Uganda 19666 81–82 2009–10

UAE 1986–87 22–23

UR of Tanzania 1975–76 2005–06

Viet Nam 2008–09 20–21

Yemen 1990–91

Zambia 1969–70 79–80 87–88

Zimbabwe 1983–84 91–92

Eastern European states (1 non-permanent seat)7

Albania 2022–23

Azerbaijan 2012–13

Belarus 1974–75

Bosnia and Herzegovina 2010–11

Bulgaria 1966–67 86–87 2002–03

Czechia 1994–95

Croatia 2008–09

Estonia 2020–21

Hungary 1968–69 92–93

Lithuania 2014–15

Poland 1946–47 608 70–71 82–83 96–97 2018–19

Romania 19625 76–77 90–91 2004–05

Slovakia 2006–07

Slovenia 1998–99 2024–25

Ukraine 1948–49 84–85 2000–01 16–17

Latin American and Caribbean states (2 non-permanent seats)

Argentina 1948–49 59–60 66–67 71–72 87–88 94–95 1999–2000 05–06 13–14

Bolivia 1964–65 78–79 2017–18

Brazil 1946–47 51–52 54–55 63–64 67–68 88–89 93–94 98–99 2004–05 10–11 22–23

Chile 1952–53 61–62 96–97 2003–04 14–15

Colombia 1947–48 53–54 57–58 69–70 89–90 2001–02 11–12

Costa Rica 1974–75 97–98 2008–09

Cuba 1949–50 56–57 90–91

Dominican Republic 2019–20

Ecuador 1950–51 60–61 91–92 2023–24

Guatemala 2012–13

Guyana 1975–76 82–83 2024–25

Honduras 1995–96

Jamaica 1979–80 2000–01

Mexico 1946 80–81 2002–03 09–10 21–22

Nicaragua 1970–71 83–84

Panama 1958–59 72–73 76–77 81–82 2007–08 2025–26

Paraguay 1968–69

Peru 1955–56 73–74 84–85 2006–07 18–19

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 2020–21

Trinidad and Tobago 1985–86

Uruguay 1965–66 2016–17

Venezuela 1962–63 77–78 86–87 92–93 2015–16

Western European and Other states (2 non-permanent seats)

Australia 1946–47 56–57 73–74 85–86 2013–14

Austria 1973–74 91–92 2009–10

Belgium 1947–48 55–56 71–72 91–92 2007–08 19–20

Canada 1948–49 58–59 67–68 77–78 89–90 1999–2000

Denmark 1953–54 67–68 85–86 2005–06 2025–26

Finland 1969–70 89–90

Germany9 1977–78 87–88 95–96 2003–04 11–12 19–20

Greece 1952–53 2005–06 2025–26

Ireland 19622 81–82 2001–02 21–22

Italy 1959–60 71–72 75–76 87–88 95–96 2007–08 1710

Luxembourg 2013–14

Malta 1983–84 2023–24

Netherlands 1946 51–52 65–66 83–84 1999–2000 1810

New Zealand 1954–55 666 93–94 2015–16

Norway 1949–50 63–64 79–80 2001–02 21–22

Portugal 1979–80 97–98 2011–12

Spain 1969–70 81–82 93–94 2003–04 15–16

Sweden 1957–58 75–76 97–98 2017–18

Switzerland 2023–24

Türkiye 1951–52 54–55 618 2009–10

Notes

\* On 3 June 2025, the General Assembly elected Bahrain, Colombia, DR Congo, Latvia and Liberia to serve a two-year term from 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2027.

1 The United Arab Republic served on the Council in 1961. Egypt and Syria were original Members of the UN from 24 October 1945. Following a plebiscite on 21 February 1958, the United Arab Republic was established by a union of Egypt and Syria and continued as a single Member. On 13 October 1961, the Syrian Arab Republic, having resumed its status as an independent state, resumed its separate membership in the United Nations. On 2 September 1971, the United Arab Republic changed its name to the Arab Republic of Egypt.

2 The 1961–62 term was split between Liberia and Ireland.

3 The 1964–65 term was split between Czechoslovakia and Malaysia.

4 The 1956–57 term was split between Yugoslavia and Philippines.

5 The 1962–63 term was split between Romania and Philippines.

6 One-year term pursuant to elections held in accordance with Article 23(2) of the Charter.

7 Czechoslovakia served on the Council in 1964 (split term shared with Malaysia) and 1978–79. The Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia served on the Council in 1950–51, 1956 (split term with Philippines), 1972–73 and 1988–89. It was not succeeded by any of the new states following its dissolution.

8 The 1960–61 term was split between Poland and Türkiye.

9 The German Democratic Republic served a term on the Council in 1980–81.

10 The 2017–18 term was split between Italy and the Netherlands.

### SUBSIDIARY BODIES

#### Standing Committees

Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/content/repertoire/standing-and-ad-hoc-committees>

The Security Council has four standing committees:

* Committee of Experts on Rules of Procedure
* Committee on Council Meetings away from Headquarters
* Committee on Admission of New Members

Committee of Experts established by the Security Council at its 1506th meeting in connection with the question of the “Creation of a category of associate membership”.

Each of these committees comprises representatives of all Security Council members. The Chair is the Council President, rotating monthly.

#### Working Groups

Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC)

Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/subsidiary/wgcaac>

The Working Group, established in July 2005 by SC res. [1612](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1612(2005)) (2005), is mandated to:

* Review reports of the monitoring and reporting mechanism referred to in para. 3 of res. [1612](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1612(2005)), on violations against children affected by armed conflict committed by parties that are listed in the annexes to the Secretary-General’s report on children and armed conflict
* Review progress in the development and implementation of the action plans mentioned in para. 5(a) of res. [1539](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1539(2004)) (2004), para. 7 of res. [1612](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1612(2005)) (2005), para. 5 of res. [1882](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1882(2009)) (2009) and para. 6 of res. [1998](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1998(2011)) (2011) and consider other relevant information presented to it
* Make recommendations to the Security Council on possible measures to promote the protection of children affected by armed conflict, including through recommendations on appropriate mandates for peacekeeping missions and recommendations with respect to parties to the conflict

Address requests to other bodies within the UN system for action to support implementation of res. [1612](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1612(2005)) (2005) in accordance with their respective mandates.

Security Council resolutions [1882](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1882(2009)) (2009) and [1998](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1998(2011)) (2011), paras. 7 and 9 respectively, requested enhanced communication between the Working Group and relevant Security Council sanctions committees, including through the exchange of pertinent information on violations and abuses committed against children in armed conflict. SC res. [2427](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2427(2018)) (2018) provided a comprehensive framework for mainstreaming protection, rights, well-being and the empowerment of children through the conflict cycle and emphasized how the children and armed conflict agenda is integral to conflict prevention and sustaining peace.

The Working Group consists of representatives of all 15 Security Council members. The Chair for 2025 is Evangelos Sekeris, Greece. The Vice-Chair is Panama.

#### Ad Hoc Working Groups

Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions

Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/subsidiary/wgdocs>

Established in June 1993, the Informal Working Group is concerned with improving the process by which the Security Council addresses issues concerning its documentation and other procedural questions. Further to the discussions in the Informal Working Group, the Security Council has issued a series of [Notes by the President](https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/subsidiary/wgdocs/notes) concerning its working methods, including measures to enhance its efficiency, transparency and interactivity. The most comprehensive compilation of these measures is the Note by the President of 13 December 2024 ([S/2024/507](https://docs.un.org/S/2024/507)), which incorporates and further develops the Note by the President of 30 August 2017 ([S/2017/507](http://undocs.org/S/2017/507)) and the subsequent Notes by the President.

The Working Group consists of representatives of all Security Council members. The Co-Chairs for 2025 are Asim Iftikhar Ahmad, Pakistan, and Christina Markus Lassen, Denmark.

Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations

Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/subsidiary/wgpko>

Established on 31 January 2001 ([S/PRST/2001/3](http://undocs.org/S/PRST/2001/3)), the Working Group addresses both generic peacekeeping issues relevant to the responsibility of the Security Council and technical aspects of individual peacekeeping operations. This is done without prejudice to the competence of the General Assembly’s Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations. The Working Group’s joint meetings with relevant troop-contributing countries, as agreed by the Council on 22 January 2002, complement the format of public and private meetings provided for by SC res. [1353](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1353(2001)) (2001).

The Working Group consists of representatives of the Security Council members and normally troop- and police-contributing countries. The Chair for 2025 is Joonkook Hwang, ROK. The Vice-Chairs are China and the UK.

Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa

Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/subsidiary/africa-ad-hoc-wg>

The Working Group was established on 1 March 2002 ([S/2002/207](http://undocs.org/S/2002/207)) to monitor the implementation of recommendations contained in Presidential Statement [2002/2](http://undocs.org/S/PRST/2002/2) and previous presidential statements and resolutions regarding conflict prevention and resolution in Africa. The Group is mandated to examine regional and cross-conflict issues that affect the Security Council’s work on African conflict prevention and resolution, and to propose recommendations to the Security Council to enhance cooperation on conflict prevention and resolution among the UN, regional (African Union) and sub-regional organizations. The Group has also been asked to follow up on the communiqués of the annual joint consultative meetings between the members of the Security Council and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union.

The Working Group consists of representatives of the Security Council members. The Chair for 2025 is Abukar Dahir Osman, Somalia. The Vice-Chair is Sierra Leone.

Working Group Established Pursuant to SC Res. 1566 (2004)

Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/subsidiary/1566>

By res. [1566](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1566(2004)) (2004), the Security Council established the Working Group to examine:

* Practical measures to be imposed on individuals, groups or entities involved in or associated with terrorist activities, other than those designated by the Al-Qaida/Taliban Sanctions Committee (now two committees)

The possibility of establishing an international fund to compensate victims of terrorist acts and their families.

The Working Group consists of representatives of the Security Council members. The Chair for 2025 is Amar Bendjama, Algeria. The Vice-Chairs are France and the Russian Federation.

Informal Working Group on International Tribunals

The Informal Working Group was established in June 2000 to deal with a specific issue pertaining to the Statute of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia or ICTY).

It was subsequently mandated to deal with other legal issues pertaining to the ICTY as well as the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January 1994 and 31 December 1994 (International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda or ICTR). It also deals with the UN International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (IRMCT), which was established by the Security Council on 22 December 2010 to perform a number of essential functions previously carried out by the ICTR and the ICTY.

The Chair for 2025 is Michael Imran Kanu, Sierra Leone. The Vice-Chair is Denmark.

#### Military Staff Committee

Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/subsidiary/msc>

The Committee was established by SC res. [1](https://undocs.org/S/RES/1(1946)) (1946) under Article [47](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-7) of the UN [Charter](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter) and consists of the Chiefs of Staff of the Permanent Members of the Security Council or their representatives. Its function is to advise and assist the Security Council on all questions relating to the Security Council’s military requirements for the maintenance of international peace and security, as laid down in Articles [26](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-5), [42](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-7), [43](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-7), [44](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-7), [45](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-7) and [47](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-7) of the Charter. The Committee is so organized as to be able to function continuously. Its headquarters are located at the seat of the Security Council.

GA res. [1235](http://undocs.org/A/RES/1235(XII)) (XII) (1957) authorized the integration of the Committee civilian staff with the UN Secretariat. By way of GA res. [60/1](http://undocs.org/A/RES/60/1) (2005), paragraph 178 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome, the General Assembly requested the Security Council to consider the composition, mandate and working methods of the Committee. On 12 April 2012, the Committee endorsed a handbook of ‘Working Methods of the Military Staff Committee’, which was updated in July 2015 and revised in 2018 and 2021.

The Committee meets at any time the Chair deems necessary, but at intervals not exceeding 14 days. Since 2010, the Committee has routinely invited military representatives of the elected members of the Security Council to participate in its informal sessions, and since January 2017, to its formal meetings. The Committee also regularly invites representatives from various departments and offices of the UN Secretariat, UN Force Commanders and regional organizations to its meetings to hold briefings and discuss current issues. The Committee is also deployed in peacekeeping missions twice a year to provide the Security Council with a military assessment of their performance. In October 2023, the Committee established a partnership with the African Union Peace and Security Council Military Staff Committee, which includes regular meetings and joint activities.

#### Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC)

Website: [www.un.org/securitycouncil/ctc/](https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/ctc/)

The CTC was established by SC res. [1373](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1373(2001)) (2001), which was adopted unanimously on 28 September 2001 in the wake of the 11 September terrorist attacks in the USA. The Committee was tasked with monitoring implementation of the resolution, which requested countries to implement measures intended to enhance their legal and institutional ability to counter terrorist activities at home, in their regions and around the world, including taking steps to:

* Criminalize the financing of terrorism
* Freeze without delay any funds related to persons involved in acts of terrorism
* Deny all forms of financial support for terrorist groups
* Suppress the provision of safe haven, sustenance or support for terrorists
* Share information with other governments on any groups practising or planning terrorist acts
* Cooperate with other governments in the investigation, detection, arrest, extradition and prosecution of those involved in such acts
* Criminalize active and passive assistance for terrorism in domestic law and bring violators to justice

Implement effective border-control measures.

The resolution also calls on states to become parties, as soon as possible, to the relevant international counter-terrorism legal instruments.

In 2005, the Security Council directed the CTC to include resolution [1624](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1624(2005)) (2005), on the incitement to commit acts of terrorism, in its ongoing dialogue with countries on their efforts to counter terrorism.

SC res. [2178](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2178(2014)) (2014) requires Member States to take certain steps to address the threat of foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs), including preventing suspected FTFs from entering or transiting their territories and to implement legislation to prosecute FTFs. It also calls on states to take various steps to improve international cooperation in this field, including sharing information on criminal investigations, interdictions and prosecutions. The resolution is the first in which the Council stresses that countering violent extremism (CVE) is an essential element of an effective response to the FTF phenomenon. Pursuant to the resolution, the CTC has strengthened its focus on FTFs, providing a framework for long-term monitoring and assistance to states in their efforts to address the threat. In addition, SC res. [2482](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2482(2019)) (2019) calls upon Member States to enhance coordination of efforts at all levels in order to strengthen a global response to linkages between international terrorism and organized crime, whether domestic or transnational.

Under resolution [1535](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1535(2004)) (2004), the Security Council established the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) as a special political mission to assist the CTC. CTED’s mandate was most recently extended by SC res. [2617](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2617(2021)) (2021) until 31 December 2025. CTED’s tasks include monitoring, facilitating and promoting the implementation of SC resolutions [1373](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1373(2001)) (2001), [1624](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1624(2005)) (2005), [2178](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2178(2014)) (2014) and other relevant counter-terrorism resolutions. It also works within the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact to strengthen a common action approach to coordination and coherence in the UN system’s work on counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism, as well as to strengthen support to Member States in the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy. The CTED Executive Director is Natalia Gherman, Republic of Moldova (since December 2022).

Membership

The Committee comprises representatives of the 15 Security Council members.

Office holders for 2025

Chair

Amar Bendjama, Algeria

Vice-Chairs

France

Pakistan

Russian Federation

#### SC Res. 1540 Committee – Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction by Non-State Actors

Website: [www.un.org/en/sc/1540](http://www.un.org/en/sc/1540)

Purpose

The Committee was established by SC res. [1540](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1540(2004)) (2004) para. 4 to report to the Security Council on implementation of the same resolution, which is aimed at preventing the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) and their means of delivery to non-state actors. The resolution, adopted unanimously by the Security Council under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, obliges states, amongst other things, to refrain from supporting by any means non-state actors from developing, acquiring, manufacturing, possessing, transporting, transferring or using nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery.

The resolution also imposes binding obligations on all states to adopt legislation to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons, and their means of delivery, and to establish appropriate domestic controls over related materials to prevent their illicit trafficking.

The Security Council called on Member States to report to the Committee on steps they have taken, or intend to take, to implement the resolution. The Committee is assisted by experts appointed by the Secretary-General with the consent of the Committee.

Evolution

By SC res. [1673](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1673(2006)) (2006), the Security Council reiterated its call to Member States to present reports on their implementation of SC res. [1540](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1540(2004)) and encouraged them to provide additional information. The Council decided the Committee should intensify its efforts to promote the full implementation of the resolution.

By SC res. [1810](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1810(2008)) (2008), the Council extended the Committee’s mandate until 25 April 2011. It also requested the Committee to consider a comprehensive review of the status of the implementation of SC res. [1540](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1540(2004)). The key findings and recommendations were issued on 1 February 2010 ([S/2010/52](http://undocs.org/S/2010/52)).

In 2009, the Committee established four working groups on a trial basis to focus on important and recurring issues:

* Monitoring and national implementation
* Assistance
* Cooperation with international organizations, including the Security Council committees established pursuant to resolutions [1267](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1267(1999)) (1999) and [1373](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1373(2001)) (2001)

Transparency and media outreach.

By SC res. [1977](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1977(2011)) (2011), the Council extended the Committee’s mandate until 25 April 2021 and decided the Committee would: conduct a comprehensive review on implementation of SC res. [1540](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1540(2004)), both after five years (before December 2016) and prior to the renewal of its mandate; include, if necessary, recommendations on adjustment to the mandate; and submit a report on the conclusion of these reviews to the Security Council.

On 15 December 2016, the Security Council adopted SC res. [2325](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2325(2016)) (2016), calling on all states to strengthen national non-proliferation regimes in implementation of SC res. [1540](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1540(2004)) (2004) and submit timely reports on their efforts.

The Committee’s mandate has been further extended several times, most recently by SC res. [2663](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2663(2022)) (2022) until 30 November 2032. In this resolution, the Council decided that the Committee shall continue to conduct and complete comprehensive reviews on the status of implementation of SC res. 1540 (2004), with the first to be held before December 2027.

The 20th [anniversary](https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2024-04-28/secretary-generals-message-marking-the-20th-anniversary-of-security-council-resolution-1540) of the adoption of SC res. 1540 was marked on 28 April 2024.

Further by SC res. [1977](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1977(2011)) (2011), the Council requested the Secretary-General to establish, in consultation with the 1540 Committee, a group of nine experts (SC res. [2055](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2055(2012)) (2012)) to assist the Committee in carrying out its mandate under resolutions [1540](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1540(2004)) (2004), [1673](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1673(2006)) (2006), [1810](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1810(2008)) (2008) and [1977](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1977(2011)) (2011).

Membership

The Committee comprises representatives of the 15 Security Council members.

Bureau for 2025

Chair

Eloy Alfaro de Alba, Panama

Vice-Chairs

Greece

UK

#### Sanctions Committees

Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/information>

Under Chapter VII of the UN [Charter](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter), the Security Council can take enforcement measures to maintain or restore international peace and security. Such measures include comprehensive economic and trade sanctions and/or more targeted measures such as arms embargoes, travel bans, financial or commodity restrictions.

As at July 2025, there were 14 Security Council sanctions committees, as well as nine monitoring groups, teams and panels that support the work of 10 of the 14 sanctions committees. The 14 Committees are detailed here. However, there are frequent changes to the various sanctions regimes and the most recent information, as well as more detail, should be sought from the Committee web pages and applicable Security Council resolutions.

Membership

Each Sanctions Committee comprises all 15 Security Council members and meets in closed session. The office holders (chairs and vice-chairs) are normally elected by the Security Council in early January for terms that run to 31 December of that year and may be renewed.

UN sanctions lists

The sanctions lists comprise individuals and entities subject to targeted measures and designated by sanctions committees. Committee-specific sanctions lists may be found on the respective web pages of the relevant sanctions committees.

In addition, the UN Security Council [Consolidated List](https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/un-sc-consolidated-list), comprising Committee-specific sanctions lists, was made available online on 29 October 2014. As at 1 July 2025, there were 683 individuals and 194 entities on the Consolidated List.

The inclusion of all names on the Consolidated List is to facilitate implementation of the measures. This implies neither that all names are listed under one regime, nor that the criteria for listing names are the same.

Focal point for de-listing

In 2006, the Security Council adopted res. [1730](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1730(2006)) to try to ensure fair and clear procedures exist for placing individuals and entities on sanctions lists and for removing them, as well as for granting humanitarian exemptions. The resolution requested the Secretary-General establish a focal point to receive de-listing requests and perform the tasks described in the annex to that resolution.

On 19 July 2024, the Security Council adopted res. [2744](https://eur02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.undocs.org%2FS%2FRES%2F2744(2024)&data=05%7C02%7Cmada%40un.org%7Cd75db14efbba4caceef808dcdf105e83%7C0f9e35db544f4f60bdcc5ea416e6dc70%7C0%7C0%7C638630508589442117%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=1dTroVZK4SwFdLv%2Fdg%2FFqmeCm39qUxus5%2BlelA7JaSs%3D&reserved=0) (2024), introducing new procedures for the consideration of de-listing requests, with the exception of the ISIL (Da’esh) and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee list, which remains under the purview of the [Office of the Ombudsperson](https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/ombudsperson). More information is available on the [website](https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/sanctions/delisting).

Office of the Ombudsperson

In 2009, the Security Council established the Office of the [Ombudsperson](https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/ombudsperson) (SC res. [1904](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1904(2009)) (2009)). Its mandate (described in SC res. [2734](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2734(2024)) (2024)) is to review requests from individuals and entities seeking removal from the Security Council’s ISIL (Da’esh) and Al-Qaida Sanctions List and to make recommendations to the SC res. 1267/1989/2253 Sanctions Committee (ISIL (Da′esh) and Al-Qaida) on these requests.

More information about the Office of the Ombudsperson is included on page 108, in the entry ‘SC res. 1267/1989/2253 Sanctions Committee (ISIL (Da’esh) and Al-Qaida)’. Further information and contact details for the Office are available on the [website](https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/ombudsperson).

Interagency Working Group on UN Sanctions

The Interagency Working Group on UN Sanctions is a standing working group in the UN Secretariat, which brings together 20 UN departments and offices, agencies, funds and programmes working on sanctions issues from peace and security, humanitarian, human rights, legal, protection and development perspectives. The Interagency Working Group was originally formed to consolidate UN system-wide inputs for submission to the High Level Review.

##### SC Res. 2713 Sanctions Committee (Al-Shabaab)

Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/2713>

The Committee was initially established by SC res. [751](https://undocs.org/S/RES/751(1992)) (1992) to oversee the arms embargo imposed on Somalia under SC res. [733](https://undocs.org/S/RES/733(1992)) (1992). Thereafter, a series of resolutions modified the sanctions regime, including expanding the Committee’s mandate, imposing targeted sanctions, a travel ban and an assets freeze, and providing some exemptions.

Following the adoption of SC res. [1907](https://undocs.org/S/RES/1907(2009)) (2009), which imposed a sanctions regime on Eritrea and expanded the Committee’s mandate, the Committee changed its full name in February 2010 to ‘Security Council Committee pursuant to resolution 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) concerning Somalia and Eritrea’. In SC res. [2093](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2093(2013)) (2013), the Security Council partially lifted the arms embargo for the development of the Federal Government of Somalia’s security forces.

With the adoption of SC res. [2444](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2444(2018)) (2018), which terminated the Eritrea sanctions regime, the Committee’s name was changed to ‘Security Council Committee pursuant to resolution [751](https://undocs.org/S/RES/751(1992)) (1992) concerning Somalia’. SC res. [2498](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2498(2019)) (2019) imposed an improvised explosive device (IED) components ban in relation to Somalia. With the adoption of SC res. [2662](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2662(2022)) (2022), the name of the Committee was further changed to ‘Security Council Committee pursuant to resolution 751 (1992) concerning Al-Shabaab’. SC res. [2696](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2696(2023)) (2023) authorized the Federal Government of Somalia to implement its proposal for the one-off, complete disposal of the charcoal stockpile.

On 1 December 2023, the Security Council adopted resolution [2713](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2713(2023)) (2023), by which it imposed a general and complete arms embargo on Al-Shabaab in Somalia, and changed the name of the Committee to ‘Security Council Committee pursuant to resolution [2713](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2713(2023)) (2023) concerning Al-Shabaab’. On the same date, the Council adopted resolution [2714](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2714(2023)) (2023), by which it lifted the arms embargo imposed in resolution 733 (1992). The sanctions regime was most recently renewed until 13 December 2025 by SC res. [2776](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/2776(2025)) (2025).

The sanctions regime includes an arms embargo focused on Al-Shabaab, a travel ban, an assets freeze and a ban on charcoal import and export, whether or not such charcoal originated in Somalia, as well as an IED components ban. The sanctions regime also includes an authorization, which is renewed annually, for the maritime interdiction of charcoal, weapons or military equipment and IED components being shipped in violation of the relevant measures.

The first Panel of Experts on Somalia was established by SC res. [1425](https://undocs.org/S/RES/1425(2002)) (2002) to generate information on violations of the arms embargo on Somalia, with a view toward strengthening it. In SC res. [1519](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1519(2003)) (2003), the Council requested the Secretary-General to establish a Monitoring Group on Somalia, composed of up to four experts, which replaced the former Panel of Experts. With the expansion of the Committee’s mandate to include Eritrea (SC res. [1907](https://undocs.org/S/RES/1907(2009)) (2009)), the group’s name became the Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group (SEMG), and its mandate further expanded to include monitoring and reporting on implementation of the measures on Eritrea. Through SC res. [2444](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2444(2018)) (2018), the Council terminated the mandate of the SEMG from 16 December 2018 and established the Panel of Experts on Somalia to oversee the remaining sanctions on that country. The Panel, which is now known as the Panel of Experts pursuant to resolution [2713](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2713(2023)) (2023), is composed of six experts and its mandate was most recently renewed until 13 January 2026 by SC res. [2776](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/2776(2025)) (2025).

Office holders for 2025

Chair

Eloy Alfaro de Alba, Panama

Vice-Chair

China

##### SC Res. 1267/1989/2253 Sanctions Committee (ISIL (Da’esh) and Al-Qaida)

##### Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/1267>

The Committee was first established by SC res. [1267](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1267(1999)) on 15 October 1999 to oversee aviation and financial sanctions imposed on the Taliban regarding Taliban-controlled territory in Afghanistan. The aim was to secure the surrender of Osama bin Laden to the appropriate authorities for prosecution and to close down terrorist camps in Afghan territory.

The regime has since expanded considerably. Under SC resolutions [1988](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1988(2011)) (2011) and [1989](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1989(2011)) (2011), the Committee was split to form the Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee and the 1988 Sanctions Committee (Taliban). This split was to reflect the disassociation of many of the Taliban from Al-Qaida and a focus on encouraging peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan. Further expansion came with the adoption of SC res. [2253](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2253(2015)) (2015), when the mandate of the Committee was broadened to include the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Da’esh) in addition to Al-Qaida.

The Council has reaffirmed the assets freeze, travel ban and arms embargo in successive resolutions, most recently in SC res. [2734](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/2734(2024)) (2024). More detailed information is available on the website under ‘[Resolutions](https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/sanctions/1267/resolutions)’.

A list of the individuals and entities subject to the assets freeze, travel ban and arms embargo sanctions is maintained by the ISIL (Da’esh) and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee on the basis of information provided by Member States and regional organizations. The key criterion for listing of individuals or entities is an association with ISIL (Da’esh) or Al-Qaida.

Since 2011, listed entities and individuals can submit a de-listing request to the Ombudsperson to the ISIL (Da’esh) and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee, appointed by the UN Secretary-General. See ‘Office of the Ombudsperson’ (below) for more information.

Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team

Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/1267/monitoring-team/work-and-mandate>

‘The Monitoring Team’ was established under SC res. [1526](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1526(2004)) (2004) to operate under the direction of the Committee established pursuant to SC res. [1267](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1267(1999)) (1999), providing analytical support and monitoring implementation of the sanctions measures. In 2011, its mandate subsequently included support to the 1988 Sanctions Committee (see the following entry on the SC Res. [1988](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1988(2011)) Sanctions Committee (Taliban)).

The Monitoring Team and its mandate have expanded since the Team’s inception. Resolution [2253](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2253(2015)) (2015) authorized the appointment of up to 10 New York-based experts to serve on the Team, supported by a team of UN staff. The mandate of the Monitoring Team is described in paragraphs 51–52 and Annex I of SC res. [2255](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2255(2015)) (2015), paragraphs 94–100 and Annex I of SC res. [2368](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2368(2017)) (2017), paragraphs 98–105 and Annex I of SC res. [2610](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2610(2021)) (2021) and paragraphs 101–108 and Annex I of SC res. [2734](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/2734(2024)) (2024). The Monitoring Team has also been tasked to work on the issue of foreign terrorist fighters and on the threat posed by ISIL (Da’esh) and the Al-Nusrah Front.

Experts in the Monitoring Team are appointed by the Secretary-General, in close consultation with both the ISIL (Da’esh) and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee and the SC Res. [1988](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1988(2011)) Sanctions Committee (Taliban). The mandate of the Monitoring Team expires on 17 June 2027 (SC res. [2734](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/2734(2024)) (2024)).

Office of the Ombudsperson

The Office of the Ombudsperson was established under SC res. [1904](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1904(2009)) (2009) to review requests for removal from the ‘ISIL (Da’esh) and Al-Qaida Sanctions List’ (de-listing). The Office is unique to this Committee, and the Ombudsperson is independent and impartial. The Ombudsperson receives de-listing requests from individuals, groups, undertakings or entities seeking to be removed from the List. The Ombudsperson can either recommend the listing is retained or recommend that the Committee consider de-listing. Where the Ombudsperson recommends a de-listing, under SC res. [2368](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2368(2017)) (2017), also reflected in SC res. [2734](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/2734(2024)) (2024), the recommendation will be approved unless all 15 members of the Committee decide otherwise, or in the absence of consensus at the request of a Committee member, the Chair refers the matter to the Security Council and the Security Council decides not to follow the Ombudsperson’s recommendation. To date, no recommendation of the Ombudsperson has been overturned under either of these scenarios.

The mandate of the Ombudsperson is set out in Annex II of SC res. [2368](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2368(2017)) (2017), Annex II of SC res. [2610](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2610(2021)) (2021) and Annex II of SC res. [2734](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/2734(2024)) (2024), as is the process and allocated timeframe for action once a de-listing request is received. The Ombudsperson is appointed by the Secretary-General, in close consultation with the Committee. The current Ombudsperson, Richard Malanjum, has been serving in the role since 14 February 2022. The current mandate of the Ombudsperson expires on 17 June 2027 (SC res. [2734](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/2734(2024)) (2024)). Further information and contact details for the Ombudsperson are available on the [website](https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/ombudsperson).

Office holders for 2025

Chair

Christina Markus Lassen, Denmark

Vice-Chairs

Russian Federation

Sierra Leone

##### SC Res. 1988 Sanctions Committee (Taliban)

##### Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/1988>

The Security Council established the Committee on 17 June 2011 when, by resolutions [1988](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1988(2011)) (2011) and [1989](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1989(2011)) (2011), it split the work of the SC Res. 1267 Sanctions Committee (Al-Qaida and the Taliban) into two committees (see SC Res. 1267/1989/2253 Sanctions Committee (ISIL (Da’esh) and Al-Qaida)).

SC res. [1988](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1988(2011)) (2011; most recently reaffirmed in SC res. [2716](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2716(2023)) (2023)) requires all states to implement an assets freeze, a travel ban and an arms embargo against individuals, groups and entities listed. The general criterion for designation on the Sanctions List is membership or association with the Taliban in constituting a threat to the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan.

The Committee oversees the implementation of these three sanctions measures and, amongst other things, establishes and maintains the Sanctions List of individuals and entities to whom these measures apply (SC res. [1988](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1988(2011)), para. 30).

The Sanctions List is reviewed annually. The Committee considers the appropriateness of the continued listing of deceased, reconciled individuals or those lacking identifiers. Any Member State can request an individual or entity be listed or de-listed. Petitioners seeking de-listing without the sponsorship of a Member State are eligible to submit such requests to the Focal Point mechanism established under SC res. [1730](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1730(2006)) (2006). Exemption requests to the travel ban and assets freeze can also be submitted.

Under SC res. [2255](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2255(2015)) (2015), Member States can submit for the Committee’s consideration the names of listed individuals for whom travel to specific locations is necessary to participate in meetings in support of peace and reconciliation. The Committee can grant exemptions from the travel ban to these individuals, each up to a duration of nine months, and renewable. For details of current exemptions, see the [website](https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/sanctions/1988/exemptions/travel-exemptions-in-effect).

In SC res. [2611](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2611(2021)) (2021), the Security Council renewed the sanctions measures and requested the Committee submit a further, annual comprehensive report on implementation by Member States of the sanctions measures, as outlined in the annex to SC res. [2611](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2611(2021)) (2021). The Committee submitted its report on 25 May 2022 ([S/2022/419](http://undocs.org/S/2022/419)). SC res. [2615](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2615(2021)) (2021) provided for a humanitarian exemption to the sanctions regime, enabling the provision of humanitarian aid to Afghanistan.

Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team

The Monitoring Team was established under SC res. [1526](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1526(2004)) (2004) to operate under the direction of the then SC Res. 1267 Sanctions Committee Al-Qaida and the Taliban, providing analytical support and monitoring implementation of the sanctions measures. In 2011, following the decision to split the Al-Qaida and Taliban regime in two, its mandate subsequently included support to the 1988 Sanctions Committee (see the previous entry on the SC Res. 1267/1989/2253 Sanctions Committee (ISIL (Da’esh) and Al-Qaida)).

Resolution [2253](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2253(2015)) (2015) authorizes the appointment of up to 10 New York-based experts to serve on the Team, supported by a team of UN staff. Its mandate with regard to the 1988 Sanctions Committee is set out fully in the annex of SC res. [2255](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2255(2015)) (2015). The mandate of the Monitoring Team expires on 17 February 2026 (SC res. [2763](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2763(2024)) (2024)). The Monitoring Team cooperates closely with the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and with the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), as well as with a range of other relevant stakeholders.

Office holders for 2025

Chair

Asim Iftikhar Ahmad, Pakistan

Vice-Chairs

Guyana

Russian Federation

##### SC Res. 1518 Sanctions Committee (Iraq)

##### Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/1518>

The Committee was established by SC res. [1518](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1518(2003)) on 24 November 2003 as the successor body to the Security Council Committee established by SC res. [661](http://undocs.org/S/RES/661(1990)) (1990) concerning Iraq and Kuwait. The 1518 Committee’s role is to continue to identify senior officials of the former Iraqi regime and their immediate family members, and including entities owned or controlled by them or by persons acting on their behalf, who are subject to the assets freeze and transfer measures imposed in 2003 by SC res. [1483](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1483(2003)).

By SC res. [1546](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1546(2004)) (2004), the Security Council exempted the Government of Iraq and multi-national force from the embargo on arms and related materiel but noted that the exemption did not include chemical, biological or nuclear weapons, or missiles or materiels related to these.

As at July 2025, a partial arms embargo and an assets freeze were in effect.

Office holders for 2025

Chair

Samuel Žbogar, Slovenia

Vice-Chair

Somalia

##### SC Res. 1533 Sanctions Committee (Democratic Republic of the Congo)

##### Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/1533>

The Committee was established by SC res. [1533](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1533(2004)) on 12 March 2004 to oversee the sanctions originally imposed by SC res. [1493](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1493(2003)) (2003). It has subsequently been modified by further resolutions. The Security Council first imposed an arms embargo on all foreign and Congolese armed groups and militias operating in the territory of North and South Kivu and Ituri, and on groups not party to the Global and All-inclusive Agreement in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as at 28 July 2003. Security Council resolutions that have modified the sanctions include [1698](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1698(2006)) (2006), [1771](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1771(2007)) (2007), [1799](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1799(2008)) (2008), [1952](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1952(2010)) (2010), [2078](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2078(2012)) (2012), [2136](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2136(2014)) (2014), [2198](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2198(2015)) (2015), [2293](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2293(2016)) (2016) and [2360](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2360(2017)) (2017).

The sanctions have been expanded to cover individuals and entities engaging in or providing support for attacks against the UN Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) peacekeepers (SC res. [2078](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2078(2012)) (2012)), as well as UN personnel (SC res. [2198](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2198(2015)) (2015)), members of the Group of Experts that assists the Committee (SC res. [2360](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2360(2017)) (2017)) and medical or humanitarian personnel (SC res. [2582](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2582(2021)) (2021)). The regime was most recently extended until 1 July 2026 by SC res. [2783](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2783(2025)) of 30 June 2025. The resolution also extended the mandate of the Group of Experts until 1 August 2026.

The arms embargo applies to all non-governmental entities and individuals operating in the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Member States are under an obligation to notify the Committee in advance about any shipment of arms and related materiel to the Democratic Republic of the Congo Government or the provision of assistance, advice or training related to military activities, as well as for the supplies of non-lethal military equipment intended solely for humanitarian or protective use.

Office holders for 2025

Chair

Michael Imran Kanu, Sierra Leone

Vice-Chair

Algeria

##### SC Res. 1591 Sanctions Committee (Sudan)

##### Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/1591>

The Security Council first imposed an arms embargo on all non-governmental entities and individuals, including the Janjaweed militias, operating in the states of North, South and West Darfur on 30 July 2004 (SC res. [1556](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1556(2004)) (2004)).

SC res. [1591](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1591(2005)) (2005) broadened the scope of the arms embargo to include all parties to the N’Djamena Ceasefire Agreement and any other belligerents in the aforementioned states. The same resolution imposed a travel ban and/or assets freeze on designated individuals and entities. It also established a committee to oversee the measures and a Panel of Experts, composed of five experts, to assist the Committee.

Subsequent resolutions have tightened, updated and reiterated the measures, most recently, SC res. [2340](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2340(2017)) (2017). SC res. [2750](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2750(2024)) of 11 September 2024 renewed the sanctions measures until 12 September 2025 and SC res. [2772](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2772(2025)) of 17 February 2025 extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts until 12 March 2026.

Office holders for 2025

Chair

Joonkook Hwang, ROK

Vice-Chair

Somalia

##### SC Res. 1636 Sanctions Committee (Lebanon)

##### Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/1636>

The Committee was established by SC res. [1636](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1636(2005)) of 31 October 2005 to register individuals suspected of involvement in the 14 February 2005 terrorist bombing in Beirut, Lebanon – which killed former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri and 21 others – as subject to a travel ban and assets freeze. In the year to 30 June 2025, the Committee did not hold any consultations or meetings.

Office holders for 2025

Chair

Samuel Žbogar, Slovenia

Vice-Chair

Denmark

##### SC Res. 1718 Sanctions Committee (Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK))

##### Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/1718>

The Security Council decided by resolution [1718](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1718(2006)) (2006) that the DPRK should suspend all activities related to its ballistic missile programme, abandon all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programmes, and abandon all other existing weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) and ballistic missile programmes in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner. The SC res. 1718 Sanctions Committee was established by the same resolution, on 14 October 2006, to oversee a regime that includes an arms embargo, a ban on trade and transfer of luxury goods, an assets freeze and a travel ban for designated individuals or entities.

By SC res. [1874](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1874(2009)) (2009), the Security Council expanded the scope of its arms embargo, authorizing Member States to inspect vessels that might carry prohibited cargo as well as to seize and dispose of prohibited items. It also prohibited financial services or transfer of funds that might contribute to the DPRK’s nuclear, ballistic missile or other WMD-related activities. By the same resolution, the Security Council created a Panel of Experts, comprising seven experts and later expanded to eight (SC res. [2094](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2094(2013)) (2013)), to assist the Committee in carrying out its mandate.1

By resolutions [2087](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2087(2013)) (2013) and [2094](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2094(2013)) (2013), the Security Council further strengthened and expanded the scope of the sanctions against the DPRK, especially by designating additional individuals and entities, imposing new financial sanctions and reinforcing states’ authority to inspect suspicious cargo.

Between 2016 and 2017, the Security Council adopted a series of resolutions in an effort to curtail the DPRK’s expanding capability to pursue prohibited programmes and activities and give support to the diplomatic dialogue aimed at maintaining peace and stability in the Korean Peninsula. By those resolutions, the Council significantly strengthened and expanded the scope of the sanctions regime by introducing new sanction measures in areas including commodities, proliferation networks, overseas DPRK workers and maritime measures. As a result, the 1718 sanctions regime currently contains over 26 sanctions measures.

Specifically, by SC res. [2270](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2270(2016)) (2016), the Security Council significantly strengthened and expanded existing sanctions by extending the arms embargo and non-proliferation measures, expanding financial sanctions and instituting a ban on DPRK banks, along with prohibitions on foreign banks operating in the DPRK. The resolution also broadened interdiction measures by enforcing new cargo inspections and maritime procedures. States are also required to expel DPRK diplomats and foreign nationals if they are involved in activities prohibited by the resolutions. Sectoral bans (including coal, minerals and fuel) were introduced for the first time, and additional individuals, entities and vessels were designated and subject to assets freezes and/or travel bans.

SC. res [2321](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2321(2016)) (2016) further expanded the arms embargo to include a new conventional arms dual-use list and clarified provisions around inspection of personal baggage entering or departing the DPRK. Maritime provisions were expanded to cover the leasing, chartering, provision of crew services, provision of insurance or use of DPRK vessels (flagged or otherwise). The supply, sale or transfer to the DPRK of new helicopters and vessels was also restricted. A ban on the sale of copper, nickel, silver and zinc was added to sectoral sanctions, as well as an annual cap on the amount and value of coal exports by the DPRK and restrictions on aircraft fuel. The resolution strengthened the proliferation-network-related measures by requiring Member States to reduce the number of staff at DPRK diplomatic missions and consular posts, limiting the number of bank accounts and restricting property ownership. It imposed entry and transit restrictions for DPRK government officials and members of the armed forces, further strengthened financial measures around banking in the DPRK and clarified restrictions around specialized teaching and training as well as restricting scientific and technical cooperation. It also expanded the luxury goods ban and prohibited the DPRK from supplying, selling or transferring statues, unless an exemption is granted. Additional individuals and entities were designated by SC res. [2321](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2321(2016)) (2016) and SC res. [2356](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2356(2017)) (2017).

Sanctions were further strengthened by SC res. [2371](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2371(2017)) of 5 August 2017. This resolution introduced a full ban on coal, iron and iron ore, and added seafood, lead and lead ore to the banned commodities subject to sectoral sanctions. It authorized the 1718 Committee to designate vessels related to activities prohibited by relevant resolutions, prohibited port calls by designated vessels and chartering of DPRK-flagged vessels, and banned the hiring and paying of additional DPRK labourers used to generate foreign export earnings. It expanded financial sanctions by prohibiting new or expanded joint ventures and cooperative commercial entities with the DPRK. It also designated additional individuals and entities.

By SC resolutions [2375](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2375(2017)) (2017) and [2397](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2397(2017)) (2017), adopted on 11 September and 22 December 2017, respectively, the Council significantly expanded existing sanctions measures, established new measures and requested regular monitoring from Member States, the Panel of Experts and the 1718 Committee. Particularly, it substantially expanded financial sanctions by prohibiting all new and existing joint ventures or cooperative entities with any DPRK entities or individuals; expanded sectoral sanctions by introducing a ban on the DPRK’s export of textile, food and agricultural products, machinery, electrical equipment, earth and stone, including magnesite and magnesia, wood and vessels; introduced a full ban on the supply, sale or transfer of all condensates and natural gas liquids to the DPRK and a limit for the supply, sale or transfer to the DPRK of all refined petroleum products with very specific preconditions and follow-up action required by Member States, the 1718 Committee, the Panel and the Committee Secretary.

Under the resolutions, the Council also introduced a ban on the supply, sale or transfer to the DPRK of all industrial machinery, transportation vehicles, iron, steel and other metals; and strengthened the ban on providing work authorizations for DPRK nationals. Under the same resolutions, the Council also strengthened maritime measures to address the issue of sanctions evasion via the sea, including ship-to-ship transfers. In this regard, the Security Council also directed the 1718 Committee to designate vessels transporting prohibited items from the DPRK, to be subject to a ban on port calls, deflagging and/or assets freeze. More detailed information is available on the website under ‘[Resolutions](https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/sanctions/1718/resolutions)’.

In SC res. [2397](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2397(2017)) (2017), the Council also reaffirmed that none of the sanctions measures imposed was intended to have adverse humanitarian consequences for the civilian population of the DPRK or to affect negatively or restrict those activities, including humanitarian assistance, and determined that the Committee may, on a case-by-case basis, grant exemptions to facilitate the work of humanitarian organizations in the DPRK.

On 6 August 2018, the Committee adopted its seventh implementation assistance notice (IAN No.7), entitled ‘Guidelines for Obtaining Exemptions to Deliver Humanitarian Assistance to the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea’. The IAN provides guidance on the establishment of the Committee’s comprehensive humanitarian exemption mechanism, and offers assistance to Member States and international and non-governmental organizations carrying out humanitarian assistance activities in the DPRK. The IAN was updated by the Committee on 30 November 2020, in order to further simplify several areas of the application process for humanitarian exemptions requests. In addition, the Committee extended its practice of expedited approval procedures to include extension and amendment requests of humanitarian exemptions, as well as urgent requests for onset emergencies such as pandemic outbreaks and natural disasters. On 2 June 2023, the IAN was further updated to incorporate the relevant elements of SC res. [2664](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2664(2022)) (2022), specifying its application in the context of humanitarian assistance in the DPRK. More detailed information is available on the website under ‘[Humanitarian Exemption Requests](https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/sanctions/1718/exemptions-measures/humanitarian-exemption-requests)’.

Office holders for 2025

Chair

Evangelos Sekeris, Greece

Vice-Chairs

Panama

ROK

Note

1 After 15 years of continuous work in support of the 1718 Committee, the mandate of the Panel of Experts was not renewed beyond 30 April 2024 due to a veto on the draft Security Council resolution extending the Panel’s mandate.

##### SC Res. 1970 Sanctions Committee (Libya)

##### Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/1970>

SC res. [1970](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1970(2011)) (2011) responded to violence perpetrated by Muammar Qadhafi on the Libyan people. It imposed immediate measures, including an arms embargo, a travel ban and an assets freeze on key regime figures, including Muammar Qadhafi’s family and certain government officials. The Committee, established on 26 February 2011 by SC res. [1970](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1970(2011)) (2011), was mandated to monitor the implementation of measures imposed in relation to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya; take action on information regarding alleged violations or non-compliance with the measures; and to designate additional individuals and entities as subject to the travel ban and assets freeze. SC res. [1973](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1973(2011)) (2011) imposed additional measures, including a ban on flights of Libyan aircraft, and expanded the Committee’s mandate to oversee them. The resolution also established a Panel of Experts to assist the Committee.

Subsequent Security Council resolutions have updated existing measures, introduced new measures and broadened or further elaborated the designation criteria. SC res. [2009](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2009(2011)) (2011) terminated the ban on flights of Libyan aircraft, and SC res. [2040](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2040(2012)) (2012) amended a provision related to the enforcement of the arms embargo and modified the mandate of a slimmed-down Panel of Experts. SC res. [2146](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2146(2014)) (2014) authorized Member States to inspect on the high seas vessels designated by the Committee as attempting to illicitly export crude oil from Libya and imposed a number of measures on such designated vessels. The resolution also extended the mandate and size of the Panel of Experts. SC res. [2278](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2278(2016)) (2016) requested the then Libyan Government of National Accord (GNA) to appoint and notify the Committee of a focal point responsible for communication with the Committee on arms embargo issues.

SC res. [2292](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2292(2016)) (2016) authorized, for a period of 12 months, inspections on the high seas off the coast of Libya, of vessels that are believed to be carrying arms or related materiel to or from Libya in violation of the arms embargo. SC res. [2362](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2362(2017)) (2017) extended the authorizations of the measures in relation to attempts to illicitly export crude oil from Libya, and expanded their applicability to petroleum, and SC res. [2441](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2441(2018)) (2018) also requested the Panel to report on illicit imports of petroleum to Libya. SC res. [2733](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2733(2024)) (2024) elaborated further the obligations of Member States and the role of the Committee in terms of disposal of items seized during the vessel inspections. SC res. [2769](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2769(2025)) (2025) extended the measures against illicit petroleum exports from Libya until 1 May 2026 and renewed the mandate of the Panel of Experts until 15 May 2026. It also exempted certain activities from the arms embargo, allowed for the investment of frozen assets and further elaborated the designation criteria. SC res. [2780](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2780(2025)) (2025) extended the authorizations set out in SC res. [2292](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2292(2016)) (2016) for a further six months to 29 November 2025. More detailed information is available on the website under ‘[Resolutions](https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/1970/resolutions)’.

Office holders for 2025

Chair

Mohamed Rabi Yusuf, Somalia

Vice-Chair

Greece

##### SC Res. 2048 Sanctions Committee (Guinea-Bissau)

##### Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/2048>

The Committee was established on 18 May 2012 by SC. res. [2048](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2048(2012)), following the military coup in Guinea-Bissau on 12 April 2012. Its role is to oversee travel restrictions imposed on certain members of the military leadership. As at July 2025, there were 10 individuals subject to the travel restrictions.

Office holders for 2025

Chair

Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett, Guyana

Vice-Chair

Somalia

##### SC Res. 2140 Sanctions Committee (Yemen)

##### Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/2140>

The Security Council first imposed a travel ban and an assets freeze against individuals or entities engaging in or supporting acts that threaten the peace, security and stability of Yemen on 26 February 2014 by SC res. [2140](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2140(2014)). The resolution also established a Panel of Experts to assist the Committee in monitoring implementation of the measures, currently composed of five members. The mandate of the Panel of Experts was most recently extended to 15 December 2025, and of the travel ban and assets freeze until 15 November 2025, by SC res. [2758](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2758(2024)) (2024).

SC res. [2216](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2216(2015)) (2015) broadened the scope of the measures to include a targeted arms embargo and increased the number of individuals subject to the three measures; SC res. [2564](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2564(2021)) (2021) further increased the number of individuals, and SC res. [2624](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2624(2022)) (2022) listed an entity as subject to the targeted arms embargo. SC res. [2216](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2216(2015)) (2015) and SC res. [2511](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2511(2020)) (2020) further elaborated the designation criteria to include violations of the arms embargo, obstruction of the delivery, access to and distribution of humanitarian assistance, sexual violence in armed conflict and the recruitment or use of children in armed conflict in violation of international law. The targeted arms embargo is not timebound. SC res. [2511](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2511(2020)) (2020) introduced an exemption to the targeted arms embargo and additional exemptions to the travel ban and assets freeze, in the interest of facilitating humanitarian assistance.

Office holders for 2025

Chair

Joonkook Hwang, ROK

Vice-Chair

Slovenia

##### SC Res. 2206 Sanctions Committee (South Sudan)

##### Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/2206>

The Security Council first imposed a travel ban and an assets freeze against individuals or entities engaging in or supporting acts that threaten the peace, security and stability of South Sudan on 3 March 2015 by SC res. [2206](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2206(2015)). In SC res. [2428](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2428(2018)) of 31 July 2018, the Council renewed the existing measures and imposed an arms embargo. The work of the Committee is supported by a Panel of Experts on South Sudan.

The sanctions regime was most recently extended in May 2025 by SC res. [2781](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2781(2025)). By this resolution, the Council renewed the travel ban and assets freeze laid out in SC res. [2206](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2206(2015)) (2015) and the arms embargo imposed by SC res. [2428](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2428(2018)) (2018) until 31 May 2026, and reaffirmed the provisions of paragraph 5 of SC res. [2428](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2428(2018)) (2018) as well as paragraph 2 of SC res. [2683](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/2683(2023)) (2023), which removed the notification requirement for the supply, sale or transfer of non-lethal military equipment, solely in support of the implementation of the terms of the peace agreement, and related technical assistance or training on non-lethal military equipment. SC res. [2781](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2781(2025)) (2025) also extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts until 1 July 2026. The Council reiterated its readiness to review the arms embargo measures through, among other things, modification, suspension or progressive lifting of these measures, in the light of progress achieved on the benchmarks established in paragraph 2 of SC res. [2577](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2577(2021)) (2021). It also requested the Secretary-General, in close consultation with the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) and the Panel of Experts, to conduct, no later than 15 April 2026, an assessment of progress achieved on those benchmarks.

Office holders for 2025

Chair

Michael Imran Kanu, Sierra Leone

Vice-Chair

Denmark

##### SC Res. 2653 Sanctions Committee (Haiti)

##### Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/2653>

The Security Council established the Committee on 21 October 2022 under SC res. [2653](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2653(2022)) (2022). The resolution imposed a targeted arms embargo, travel ban and assets freeze upon individuals and entities designated for such measures, who are responsible for or complicit in actions that threaten Haiti’s peace, security or stability. Through SC res. [2699](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2699(2023)) (2023), the Security Council expanded the sanctions regime by imposing a territorial arms embargo. The Committee is supported by the Panel of Experts established pursuant to SC res. [2653](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2653(2022)) (2022), composed of four experts.

The regime has been extended twice, most recently until 18 October 2025 by SC res. [2752](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2752(2024)) (2024), which also expanded the scope of the arms embargo to include “arms and related material of all types”, as well as “technical assistance, training, financial or other assistance, related to military activities”, and renewed the mandate of the Panel of Experts until 18 November 2025. More detailed information is available on the website under ‘[Resolutions](https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/2745/resolutions)’.

Office holders for 2025

Chair

Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett, Guyana

Vice-Chair

China

##### SC Res. 2745 Sanctions Committee (Central African Republic)

##### Website: <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/2745>

The Committee was initially established on 5 December 2013 under SC res. [2127](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2127(2013)) (2013) concerning the Central African Republic (CAR). The resolution imposed an arms embargo, initially for one year. SC res. [2134](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2134(2014)) of 28 January 2014 extended these measures, adding a travel ban and an assets freeze.

SC res. [2127](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2127(2013)) (2013) included authorizing the deployment of the African-led International Support Mission in the Central African Republic (MISCA) and requested the UN Secretary-General to undertake contingency preparations for the possible transformation of MISCA into a UN peacekeeping operation. SC res. [2134](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2134(2014)) (2014) authorized the European Union to deploy an operation in the CAR. SC res. [2149](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2149(2014)) (2014) included the establishment of the UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) and provided it with the mandate to assist the Committee in the implementation of its tasks.

On 30 July 2024, the Security Council adopted resolution [2745](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/2745(2024)) (2024), by which it lifted the arms embargo established under SC res. 2127 (2013) and changed the name of the Committee to ‘Security Council Committee pursuant to resolution 2745 (2024)’. The Council decided that all Member States shall take the necessary measures to prevent the direct or indirect supply, sale or transfer of arms and related materiel of all types to armed groups and associated individuals operating in the CAR, until 31 July 2025. The regime was extended until 31 July 2026 by SC res. [2789](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2789(2025)) (2025). The Committee’s role is to oversee the implementation of measures imposed by resolutions [2127](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2127(2013)) and [2134](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2134(2014)), as amended and extended by resolutions 2745 and 2789. It is assisted by a Panel of Experts comprising five members, whose mandate was extended by SC res. 2789 (2025) until 31 August 2026.

More detailed information is available on the website under ‘[Resolutions](https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/2127/resolutions)’.

Office holders for 2025

Chair

Amar Bendjama, Algeria

Vice-Chair

Guyana

Terminated Sanctions Committees

SC Res. 2374 Sanctions Committee (Mali)

The committee was established by SC res. [2374](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2374(2017)) (2017) to oversee sanctions measures against Mali. The sanctions measures expired on 31 August 2023.

Other past sanctions committees

See <https://main.un.org/securitycouncil/en/sanctions/terminated-sanctions>

#### Peacekeeping Operations

##### Website: <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en>

##### X: [@UNPeacekeeping](http://www.x.com/UNPeacekeeping)

##### Seventy-one UN peacekeeping operations have been deployed since 1948. There are 11 current peacekeeping operations. As at 28 February 2025, there were 61,353 uniformed personnel (troops, experts, police and staff officers) along with 1011 UN Volunteers and 7500 international and local civilian personnel (as at December 2024) serving in peacekeeping operations. There have been more than 4400 fatalities in all UN peace operations since 1948, of which more than 2200 have occurred in current operations.

The [budget](https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/how-we-are-funded) for UN peacekeeping operations for the year 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 was about $5.6 billion. Two operations, the UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) and the UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP), are funded from the UN regular budget, while the other nine peacekeeping missions are financed from their own separate accounts on the basis of legally binding assessments on all states.

The mandates of most operations are renewed periodically or are subjected to reviews. Figures for operational strength, which may include military, police and civilian personnel, vary from month to month because of the rotation of contingents and personnel. More information is available on the website: global peacekeeping data under ‘Resources’, then ‘[Data](https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/data)’, and fact sheets for each mission under ‘[Where we operate](https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/where-we-operate)’.

Operations follow here in chronological order of establishment.

##### UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO)

Headquarters: Jerusalem

Website: <http://untso.unmissions.org> or <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/untso>

Head of Mission and Chief of Staff: Major General Patrick Gauchat, Switzerland (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in October 2021)

Following the outbreak of the 1948 Arab–Israeli war, the Security Council called for the cessation of hostilities in Palestine (SC res. [50](http://undocs.org/S/RES/50(1948)) (1948)). To support this effort, the Security Council called for the UN Mediator to supervise the truce with the assistance of military observers and established UNTSO in May 1948. Since then, UNTSO has performed various tasks entrusted to it by the Security Council, including supervision of the General Armistice Agreements of 1949 and observation of the ceasefire in the Suez Canal area and the Golan following the Arab–Israeli war of June 1967.

UNTSO currently performs its core function of liaison with governmental authorities, primarily military and security, as well as members of the diplomatic community in the five UNTSO host countries (Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian AR). UNTSO also contributes to the mandate implementation of the UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) on the Golan and the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) in southern Lebanon through the deployment of military observers to Observer Group Golan and Observer Group Lebanon, respectively.

UNTSO maintains its headquarters in Jerusalem and has liaison offices in Beirut, Cairo and Damascus. As of February 2025, UNTSO comprised 151 experts on mission and 209 civilian staff. Current strength and country contributor information is available on the UN Peacekeeping [website](https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/untso) under ‘Where we operate’ and ‘Current operations’.

##### UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP)

Headquarters: Nov–Apr Islamabad, Pakistan. May–Oct Srinagar, India

Website: <https://unmogip.unmissions.org/> or <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/unmogip>

Head of Mission and Chief Military Observer: Major General Ramón Guardado Sánchez, Mexico (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in November 2024)

SC res. [39](http://undocs.org/S/RES/39(1948)) (1948) established a three-member UN Commission for India and Pakistan (UNCIP) to investigate and mediate the dispute over the status of Kashmir. Following the adoption of SC res. [47](http://undocs.org/S/RES/47(1948)) (1948), the Security Council enlarged UNCIP to five members and included the use of observers to supervise the observance of the ceasefire. In 1949, the Secretary-General appointed a military adviser to assist UNCIP, who, together with the military observers, eventually formed the UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) in January 1949 to supervise the ceasefire between India and Pakistan in the State of Jammu and Kashmir.

Following the outbreak of hostilities in Kashmir in 1965, the Security Council asked the Secretary-General to strengthen UNMOGIP (SC res. [210](http://undocs.org/S/RES/210(1965)) (1965)), and a number of other governments agreed to provide additional observers. As a result, the UN India–Pakistan Observation Mission (UNIPOM) was created as a temporary measure to supervise the ceasefire called for in SC res. [211](http://undocs.org/S/RES/211(1965)) (1965) and to supervise withdrawals. After fulfilling its function, UNIPOM was disbanded and UNMOGIP reverted to its original strength. UNMOGIP has an open mandate and has remained in the area to observe developments pertaining to the strict observance of the ceasefire of 17 December 1971 and report on them to the Secretary-General in accordance with SC res. [307](http://undocs.org/S/RES/307(1971)) (1971).

UNMOGIP has an authorized ceiling of 44 military observers and 75 civilian staff. As at February 2025, UNMOGIP comprised 37 military observers and 69 civilian staff. Current strength and country contributor information is available on the UN Peacekeeping [website](http://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/unmogip%20) under ‘Where we operate’ and ‘Current operations’.

##### UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP)

Headquarters: Nicosia, Cyprus

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UNFICYP/](http://www.facebook.com/UNFICYP/)

X: [@UN\_CYPRUS](http://www.twitter.com/UN_CYPRUS)

Website: [unficyp.unmissions.org/](http://unficyp.unmissions.org/) or <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/unficyp>

Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General: Colin Stewart, Canada (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in November 2021)

Force Commander: Major General Erdenebat Batsuuri, Mongolia (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in January 2024)

Cyprus became independent in 1960 with a constitution that was intended to balance the interests of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities. Cyprus, Greece, Türkiye and the UK entered into a treaty to guarantee the basic provisions of the constitution and the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Cyprus.

A series of constitutional crises resulted, however, in the outbreak of intercommunal violence in December 1963. After all attempts to restore peace failed, the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution [186](http://undocs.org/S/RES/186(1964)) (1964), which recommended the establishment of UNFICYP. The Force was declared operational on 27 March 1964. SC res. [186](http://undocs.org/S/RES/186(1964)) recommended stationing of the Force for three months. UNFICYP’s mandate has since been renewed, most recently by SC res. [2771](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/2771(2025)) (2025), which extended the mission for a further year to 31 January 2026.

The principal functions of UNFICYP are to prevent the recurrence of fighting, support law and order when relevant, and bolster conditions for sustainable peace. Through its activities, UNFICYP contributes to maintaining calm and an environment conducive to a political solution in Cyprus.

In earlier years, the cost of UNFICYP was met by the governments that provided military contingents and by voluntary contributions. GA res. [47/236](http://undocs.org/A/RES/47/236) (1993) decided UNFICYP costs not covered by voluntary contributions should be financed from contributions assessed on the entire membership.

As at June 2025, UNFICYP comprised 800 military personnel (686 men and 114 women), 68 police (39 men and 29 women) and 152 civilian personnel. Current strength and country contributor information is available on the UN Peacekeeping [website](https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/unficyp%20) under ‘Where we operate’ and ‘Current operations’.

##### UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)

Headquarters: Camp Faouar, Golan, Syrian AR

Website: <https://undof.unmissions.org> or <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/undof>

Head of Mission and Force Commander: Major General Anita Asmah, Ghana (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in December 2024)

By SC res. [350](http://undocs.org/S/RES/350(1974)) (1974), following the Agreement on Disengagement between Israeli and Syrian Forces of 1974, the Security Council established UNDOF to supervise the implementation of the Agreement. It was deployed on the Golan in May 1974, with membership drawn from countries that are not permanent members of the Security Council. The UNDOF mandate has been renewed by successive Security Council resolutions, most recently by SC res. [2782](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/2782(2025)) (2025), which extended the mandate until 31 December 2025.

The strength of UNDOF is prescribed by the 1974 Disengagement of Forces Agreement as about 1250. As at February 2025, UNDOF comprised 1114 troops, 59 staff officers and 126 civilian staff. Current strength and country contributor information is available on the UN Peacekeeping [website](https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/undof%20) under ‘Where we operate’ and ‘Current operations’.

##### UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)

Headquarters: Naqoura, South Lebanon

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UNIFIL/](http://www.facebook.com/UNIFIL/)

X: [@UNIFIL\_](http://www.twitter.com/UNIFIL_)

Website: <https://unifil.unmissions.org> or <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/unifil>

Head of Mission and Force Commander: Lieutenant General Aroldo Lázaro Sáenz, Spain (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in February 2022)

In the early 1970s, tension along the Israel–Lebanon border increased, especially after the relocation of Palestinian armed elements from Jordan to Lebanon. Israel invaded Lebanon in March 1978, responding to repeated attacks on its territory by the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). The Security Council subsequently adopted resolutions [425](http://undocs.org/S/RES/425(1978)) and [426](http://undocs.org/S/RES/426(1978)) (1978), establishing UNIFIL. The Mission was mandated to confirm the withdrawal of the Israel Defense Forces (IDF), restore international peace and security and assist the Government of Lebanon in ensuring the return of its effective authority in the area.

On 12 July 2006, Hizbullah carried out an attack on Israel, leading to an escalation of hostilities in Lebanon and Israel. A cessation of hostilities was reached on 14 August 2006, following the adoption of SC res. [1701](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1701(2006)) (2006) on 11 August. This resolution expanded UNIFIL’s mandate to include monitoring the cessation of hostilities; accompanying and supporting the Lebanese Armed Forces as they deploy throughout the south of Lebanon; extending its assistance to help ensure humanitarian access to civilian populations and the voluntary and safe return of displaced persons; assisting the Lebanese Armed Forces in taking steps towards the establishment between the Blue Line and the Litani River of an area free of any armed personnel, assets and weapons other than those of the Government of Lebanon and of UNIFIL; and taking all necessary action to ensure that its area of operations is not utilized for hostile activities of any kind. SC res. 1701 also authorized an increase in UNIFIL strength, to a maximum of 15,000 troops. SC res. [2539](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2539(2020)) (2020) reduced the maximum number of authorized troops from 15,000 to 13,000. UNIFIL’s mandate continues to be renewed on a yearly basis, most recently by SC res. [2749](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2749(2024)) (2024) until 31 August 2025.

Thirteen months of intense hostilities between Hizbullah and other non-state armed groups in Lebanon and Israel caused large-scale destruction, displacement and civilian casualties on both sides of the Blue Line, but particularly in Lebanon, until a cessation of hostilities came into effect on 27 November 2024. Despite the dangers posed to peacekeepers during the hostilities, UNIFIL remained in position. Since the cessation of hostilities came into effect, the Mission has adapted its operations to support the parties to uphold their respective obligations to fully implement SC res. 1701 (2006), in close coordination with the Office of the UN Special Coordinator for Lebanon (UNSCOL).

As of May 2025, UNIFIL comprised 9829 military personnel, including approximately 700 maritime personnel as part of the [UNIFIL Maritime Task Force](https://unifil.unmissions.org/unifil-maritime-task-force), and 788 civilian staff. Current strength and country contributor information is available on the UN Peacekeeping [website](https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/unifil%20) under ‘Where we operate’ and ‘Current operations’.

##### UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO)

##### Headquarters: Laayoune, Western Sahara

Website: <https://minurso.unmissions.org> or <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minurso>

Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General and Head of MINURSO: Alexander Ivanko, Russian Federation (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in August 2021)

Force Commander: Md Fakhrul Ahsan, Bangladesh (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in March 2023)

MINURSO was established by SC res. [690](http://undocs.org/S/RES/690(1991)) (1991) in accordance with settlement proposals that provided for a transitional period for the preparation of a referendum in which the people of Western Sahara would choose between independence and integration with Morocco. The resolution also agreed a plan for a referendum involving MINURSO civilian, security and military units supervising the repatriation of Western Saharans identified as eligible to vote.

By SC res. [973](http://undocs.org/S/RES/973(1995)) (1995), the MINURSO Identification Commission was expanded to accelerate the voter identification and registration process. By SC res. [995](http://undocs.org/S/RES/995(1995)) (1995), and in the context of concern at practices hampering progress towards the implementation of the Settlement Plan, the Security Council decided to send a mission to the region.

By SC res. [2756](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2756(2024)) (2024), the Mission’s mandate was extended until 31 October 2025. This resolution emphasized the need to reach a political solution based on compromise and the importance of aligning MINURSO’s strategic focus and UN resources toward that end.

The mandated strength of MINURSO is 245 military personnel. As at February 2025, MINURSO comprised 466 total personnel, including 196 experts on mission, 19 contingent troops, five staff officers, 230 civilian staff and 14 UN Volunteers. Current strength and country contributor information is available on the UN Peacekeeping [website](https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minurso) under ‘Where we operate’ and ‘Current operations’.

##### UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK)

##### Headquarters: Pristina, Kosovo

##### Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UNMIK/](http://www.facebook.com/UNMIK/)

##### X: [@UNMIKosovo](http://www.twitter.com/UNMIKosovo)

##### Website: <https://unmik.unmissions.org> or <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/unmik>

Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General: Caroline Ziadeh, Lebanon (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in November 2021)

UNMIK was established by SC res. [1244](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1244(1999)) (1999) with the mandate to help ensure conditions for peaceful and normal life in Kosovo. The Mission’s broad tasks included: the establishment, pending a final settlement, of substantial autonomy and self-government in Kosovo; performing basic civilian administrative functions; overseeing the development of provisional institutions for democratic self-government, including holding elections; facilitating a political process to determine Kosovo’s future status; supporting reconstruction; maintaining civil law and order; protecting and promoting human rights; and assuring the safe and unimpeded return of all refugees and displaced persons to their homes.

Following Kosovo’s unilateral declaration of independence in 2008, UNMIK underwent a reconfiguration while continuing to operate in the overall framework of SC res. [1244](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1244(1999)) (1999). The European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX) undertook an enhanced operational role. In the area of rule of law, UNMIK shifted its focus to monitoring and reporting, community facilitation and the promotion of security, stability and respect for the rule of law and human rights, while maintaining a status-neutral framework. UNMIK also continues to carry out certain residual functions related to external representation, regional cooperation and oversight of the handover of socially owned property from the international security presence – the Kosovo Force (KFOR) and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). The Special Representative of the Secretary-General continues to ensure a coordinated approach by the international civil presence with other international actors under SC res. [1244](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1244(1999)) (1999). The Mission has prioritized support for building trust among Kosovo communities, strengthening the adherence to the rule of law and human rights, and meaningful participation of women and youth in political and decision-making processes. It works closely with the UN Kosovo team and its Development Coordinator toward advancing the common objectives of consolidating peace and security, respect for human rights and promoting sustainable development.

As at February 2025, UNMIK comprised 347 international and local personnel. Current strength and country contributor information is available on the UN Peacekeeping [website](https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/unmik) under ‘Where we operate’ and ‘Current operations’.

##### UN Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO)

##### Headquarters: Kinshasa, DR Congo

##### Facebook: [www.facebook.com/monusco.org/](http://www.facebook.com/monusco.org/)

##### X: [@MONUSCO](http://www.twitter.com/MONUSCO)

##### Website: <https://monusco.unmissions.org/en> or <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/monusco>

Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General and Head of MONUSCO: Bintou Keita, Guinea (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in January 2021)

Force Commander: Lieutenant General Ulisses de Mesquita Gomes, Brazil (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in January 2025)

Acting Police Commissioner: Senougnon Alain Bamenou, Benin (since February 2025)

Following the signing of the Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement in July 1999 between the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and five regional states (Angola, Namibia, Rwanda, Uganda and Zimbabwe), the Security Council established the UN Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo ([MONUC](https://peacekeeping.un.org/mission/past/monuc/)) by SC res. [1279](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/1279(1999)) of 30 November 1999 to plan for the observation of the ceasefire and disengagement of forces and maintain liaison with all parties to the Ceasefire Agreement. The Council subsequently expanded the mandate of MONUC to the supervision of the implementation of the Ceasefire Agreement and assigned multiple related additional tasks.

On 1 July 2010, the Security Council renamed MONUC the UN Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) to reflect the new phase reached in the country (SC res. [1925](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/1925(2010))). Although significant progress had been achieved in stabilizing many regions of the country, the eastern part continued to be plagued by recurrent waves of conflict characterized by the continued presence of domestic and foreign armed groups, the illegal exploitation of resources, intercommunal feuds, prevailing impunity, and the weak capacity of national authorities to effectively protect civilians, secure national borders, and ensure law and order.

In March 2013, the Security Council authorized the deployment of a specialized ‘Force Intervention Brigade’ (FIB), mandated to carry out targeted offensive operations to neutralize armed groups (SC res. [2098](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2098(2013)) (2013)).

Presidential and legislative elections in December 2018 resulted in the DR Congo’s first ever peaceful transfer of democratic power in January 2019. Following this significant milestone in the country’s history, SC res. [2502](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2502(2019)) (2019) set out MONUSCO’s strategic priorities as follows: protecting civilians; support for stabilizing and strengthening national state institutions; and support for key governance and security reforms. SC res. [2556](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2556(2020)) (2020) renewed MONUSCO’s mandate and priorities and endorsed a joint strategy for a progressive and phased drawdown ([S/2020/1041](http://undocs.org/S/2020/1041)). In line with the Transition Plan ([S/2021/807](http://undocs.org/S/2021/807)), SC res. [2612](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2612(2021)) (2021) reduced the troop ceiling slightly, from 14,000 to 13,350, and requested MONUSCO to consolidate its presence in Ituri, North Kivu and South Kivu provinces to support the Congolese authorities, in coordination with the UN country team, to achieve the Mission’s end state and pave the way for the completion of its mission and its exit. The Government, MONUSCO and the UN subsequently developed a comprehensive disengagement plan ([S/2023/904](http://docs.un.org/S/2023/904)) involving three distinct and successive phases and the gradual handover of responsibilities to Congolese authorities. On 30 June 2024, in accordance with SC res. [2717](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/2717(2023)) (2023), the Mission concluded its mandated activities in South Kivu, marking completion of the first phase of its disengagement.

In December 2024, SC res. [2765](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/2765(2024)) extended MONUSCO’s mandate for one year, maintaining the Mission’s three priorities as the protection of civilians; support to disarmament, demobilisation, reintegration and stabilisation; and security sector reform. SC res. 2765 maintained the troop ceiling at 11,500 military personnel, 600 military observers and staff officers, 443 police and 1270 personnel of formed police units.

Following the fall of Goma at the end of January 2025, the Mouvement de 23 mars (M23) established a parallel administration in territories under its control. MONUSCO nonetheless continues to implement its mandate, including outside M23-controlled territories where 60 percent of the Force continues to protect civilians. Intensified regional and international efforts to restore dialogue between the parties led to SC res. [2773](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/2773(2025)) (2025), which called for an immediate and unconditional ceasefire and the full withdrawal of the M23 and foreign forces, and proposes a role for MONUSCO in the implementation and monitoring of a ceasefire agreement, once finalized.

As of June 2025, MONUSCO had a total of 2010 national and international civilian staff (74 percent men and 26 percent women), and 249 UN Volunteers, performing a wide variety of substantive and support functions. Current strength and country contributor information is available on the UN Peacekeeping [website](https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/monusco) under ‘Where we operate’ and ‘Current operations’.

##### UN Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA)

##### Headquarters: Abyei Town

##### Facebook: [www.facebook.com/unisfa/](http://www.facebook.com/unisfa/)

##### X: [@UNISFA\_1](http://www.twitter.com/UNISFA_1)

##### Website: <https://unisfa.unmissions.org/> or <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/unisfa>

Acting Head of Mission and Force Commander: Major General Robert Yaw Affram, Ghana (assumed post July 2024)

SC res. [1990](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1990(2011)) (27 June 2011) established UNISFA following renewed violence, escalating tensions and population in the Abyei region, which straddles Sudan and South Sudan.

UNISFA is mandated to monitor and verify the effective demilitarization of the Abyei area and to take necessary actions to protect civilians and humanitarian workers in the area. UNISFA also supports implementation of the security aspects of the 20 June 2011 Abyei Agreement more generally and provides support to the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism (JBVMM).

In SC res. [2469](https://www.undocs.org/S/RES/2469(2019)) (2019), the Council decided to increase the authorized police ceiling to 640 police personnel, including 148 individual police officers and three formed police units, and to reduce the authorized troop ceiling to 3550. In SC res. [2609](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2609(2021)) (2021), the Council decided to reduce the troop ceiling to 3250.

The Mission’s mandate was most recently extended by SC res. [2760](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2760(2024)) (2024) until 15 November 2025, which also renewed the Force’s mandate to provide support to the JBVMM. Further, the Council requested that the Secretary-General conduct a strategic review of UNISFA’s effectiveness, strategic objectives and alignment with the evolving regional security situation by 15 August 2025.

Current strength and country contributor information is available on the UN Peacekeeping [website](https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/unisfa%20) under ‘Where we operate’ and ‘Current operations’.

##### UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)

##### Headquarters: Juba, South Sudan

##### Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UnitedNationsMissionInSouthSudan/](http://www.facebook.com/UnitedNationsMissionInSouthSudan/)

##### X: [@unmissmedia](http://www.twitter.com/unmissmedia)

##### Website: <https://unmiss.unmissions.org> or <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/unmiss>

Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General: Nicholas Haysom, South Africa (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in January 2021)

Force Commander: Lieutenant General Mohan Subramanian, India (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in July 2022)

UNMISS was established on 9 July 2011 by SC res. [1996](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1996(2011)) (2011), the same day that South Sudan became the newest country in the world. It replaced the UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS), which had been established by SC res. [1590](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1590(2005)) (2005).

Under SC res. [1996](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1996(2011)) (2011), the Mission was mandated to undertake a range of state-building and peacebuilding activities. Following the outbreak of violence in Juba on 15 December 2013, and the ensuing political and security crisis in the country, on 27 May 2014, in its resolution [2155](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2155(2014)) (2014), the Security Council ceased the Mission’s functions related to state-building and peacebuilding and limited its tasks to the protection of civilians; monitoring and investigating human rights; contributing to the conditions for the delivery of humanitarian assistance; and supporting the implementation of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement. In that resolution, the Council also formally increased the UNMISS uniformed strength to 12,500 military and 1323 police personnel. It authorized the Mission to ‘use all necessary means’ to perform the tasks outlined in the resolution, including an additional responsibility to protect the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Monitoring and Verification Mechanism.

SC res. [2304](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2304(2016)) (2016) increased the authorized strength of UNMISS by maintaining the troop ceiling of 17,000 military personnel, including 4000 for a Regional Protection Force (RPF). SC res. [2327](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2327(2016)) (2016) increased the police ceiling to 2101 police personnel and authorized the RPF to use all necessary means – including robust action where necessary – to accomplish its mandate. The Mission’s mandate was most recently extended by SC res. [2779](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2779(2025)) (2025) until 30 April 2026.

As at February 2025, UNMISS comprised 18,120 total personnel, including 13,243 military personnel, 1550 police, 438 staff officers, 234 experts on mission, 2257 civilian staff and 398 UN Volunteers. Current strength and country contributor information is available on the UN Peacekeeping [website](https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/unmiss) under ‘Where we operate’ and ‘Current operations’.

##### UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA)

##### Headquarters: Bangui, Central African Republic

##### Facebook: [www.facebook.com/minusca.unmissions](http://www.facebook.com/minusca.unmissions)

##### X: [@UN\_CAR](http://www.twitter.com/UN_CAR)

##### Website: <https://minusca.unmissions.org/> or <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minusca>

Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General and Head of Mission: Valentine Rugwabiza, Rwanda (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in February 2022)

Force Commander: Major General Humphrey Nyone, Zambia (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in May 2023)

MINUSCA is mandated to protect civilians and to support the extension of state authority, the deployment of security forces, and the preservation of territorial integrity, creating the conditions conducive to the full implementation of the 2019 Political Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation via the joint road map for peace in the Central African Republic of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR). Its tasks include assisting the Central African Republic authorities’ efforts at national and local levels; facilitating the unhindered delivery of humanitarian aid; and protecting the UN in the Central African Republic. Other priorities include support for security sector reform; disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation processes; the promotion and protection of human rights; support to the Republican Dialogue and the preparation and delivery of peaceful local and general presidential and legislative elections in 2024 and 2025; and support for international and national justice, the fight against impunity and the rule of law.

The Security Council established MINUSCA by SC res. [2149](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2149(2014)) of 10 April 2014. MINUSCA subsumed the UN Integrated Peacebuilding Office in the Central African Republic ([BINUCA](https://binuca.unmissions.org/)) on the date of its establishment. On 15 September 2014, the African-led International Support Mission in the Central African Republic (MISCA) transferred its authority to MINUSCA, in accordance with SC res. [2149](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2149(2014)) (2014). Acting under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, the Security Council authorized MINUSCA to take all necessary means to carry out its mandate within its capabilities and areas of deployment.

In SC res. [2552](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2552(2020)) (2020), the Council provided MINUSCA with a full electoral support mandate, in view of the presidential and legislative elections scheduled for December 2020 and the local elections that followed.

SC res. [2566](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2566(2021)) (2021) raised the troop ceiling by 2750 military and 940 police personnel. The authorized uniformed strength of MINUSCA now stands at 17,420 uniformed personnel, including 14,400 military and 3020 police personnel as well as 108 corrections officers. MINUSCA’s mandate was most recently renewed until 15 November 2025 by SC res. [2759](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2759(2024)) (2024).

As at February 2025, MINUSCA comprised 18,568 total personnel, including 14,038 military personnel, 3011 police personnel and 1371 civilian personnel, including 248 UN Volunteers. Current strength and country contributor information is available on the UN Peacekeeping [website](https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/mission/minusca) under ‘Where we operate’ and ‘Current operations’.

Past peacekeeping operations

See <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/past-peacekeeping-operations>

#### Special Political Missions

##### Website: <https://dppa.un.org/en/dppa-around-world>

##### X: [@UNDPPA](http://www.twitter.com/UNDPPA)

The UN special political missions (SPMs) are among the most flexible tools for the pursuit of peace and security. The missions vary considerably with regard to their mandates, scope, structure and approaches. They range from special envoys and representatives of the Secretary-General, carrying out good offices mandates on his behalf, and monitoring teams, groups and panels supporting Security Council sanctions regimes, to missions delivering on specialized tasks such as supporting border demarcation efforts, and larger missions with comprehensive mandates to support political transitions and efforts to build sustainable peace. Three regional offices, in Central Africa, Central Asia, and West Africa and the Sahel, serve as forward platforms for preventive diplomacy and dialogue and work closely with their regional counterparts on transnational peace and security issues affecting the regions in which they are based.

Through this diversity in scope, mandate and coverage, SPMs work to sustain peace throughout the conflict cycle and engage in peacemaking, peacebuilding and conflict prevention work. They do so in close coordination with national counterparts, UN development, human rights and humanitarian partners, and regional and international organizations.

In most cases, SPMs are established by a decision of the Security Council and/or the General Assembly. In the pursuit of his good offices, the Secretary-General can also establish an SPM following an exchange of letters with the Security Council. SPMs are usually overseen by the UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA).

As at 1 July 2025, the UN supported 37 SPMs comprising around 3400 civilian staff. The DPPA oversees 33 of these missions. For more information, see [A/79/303](https://docs.un.org/A/79/303) and [A/80/6(Sect.3)/Add.1](https://docs.un.org/A/80/6(Sect.3)/Add.1). The missions listed in this section are the 12 SPMs currently managed by the DPPA. Good offices mandates are listed in the Secretariat chapter of this book. An overview of current and past SPMs is available on the website under ‘[DPPA Around the World](https://dppa.un.org/en/dppa-around-world)’.

##### UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA)

##### Headquarters: Kabul, Afghanistan

##### Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UNAMA.News](http://www.facebook.com/UNAMA.News)

##### X: [@UNAMAnews](http://www.twitter.com/UNAMAnews)

##### Website: [unama.unmissions.org](http://unama.unmissions.org/)

Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General and Head of UNAMA: Roza Otunbayeva, Kyrgyzstan (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in September 2022)

UNAMA was established under SC res. [1401](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1401(2002)) (2002) at the request of the Afghan Government to assist it in laying the foundations for sustainable peace and development in the country. It succeeded the UN Special Mission to Afghanistan (UNSMA), which was established by GA res. [48/208](http://undocs.org/A/RES/48/208) (1993). UNAMA’s original mandate was aimed at supporting the process of rebuilding and national reconciliation outlined in the Bonn Agreement of 5 December 2001 ([S/2001/1154](http://undocs.org/S/2001/1154)). Its current mandate, adopted folllowing the Taliban takeover of the country in August 2021, was most recently extended by SC res. [2777](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2777(2025)) (2025) to 17 March 2026.

The Mission’s priorities include: coordinating and facilitating humanitarian assistance; providing good offices, including to facilitate dialogue between all relevant Afghan actors and stakeholders to promote inclusive, representative, participatory and responsive governance; protecting and promoting human rights; promoting gender equality and women’s and girls’ empowerment; monitoring and reporting on violations against children; and supporting regional cooperation for stability and peace.

##### UN Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA)

##### Headquarters: Libreville, Gabon

##### Telephone: +241 01 44 47 16

##### Email: [piounoca@un.org](mailto:piounoca@un.org)

##### Facebook: [www.facebook.com/unoca.onu/](http://www.facebook.com/unoca.onu/)

##### X: [@UNOCA\_NEWS](https://twitter.com/UNOCA_NEWS)

##### YouTube: [www.youtube.com/@UNOCA\_UN](https://www.youtube.com/@UNOCA_UN)

##### Website: [http://unoca.unmissions.org](http://unoca.unmissions.org/en)

Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General and Head of Office: Abdou Abarry, Niger (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in July 2022)

Established on 1 January 2011, UNOCA was officially inaugurated on 2 March 2011 with an initial mandate of two years, which was most recently renewed on 30 August 2024 until 31 August 2027 ([S/2024/648](http://undocs.org/S/2024/648) and [S/2024/649](http://undocs.org/S/2024/649)). A strategic review was conducted in 2019 ([S/2019/625](https://undocs.org/S/2019/625)), following which the Security Council issued a presidential statement ([S/PRST/2019/10](https://undocs.org/S/PRST/2019/10)). The Office is designed to monitor political developments in Central Africa, carry out good offices and special assignments on behalf of the Secretary-General, advise the Secretary-General and UN entities in the region on sustaining peace issues in Central Africa, and enhance sub-regional capacities for conflict prevention and mediation in countries of the sub-region, in particular those facing electoral or institutional crises or violent conflicts. It supports and enhances UN efforts in Central Africa as well as regional and sub-regional initiatives on peace and security, including to tackle cross-border challenges such as the proliferation of small arms and light weapons; the adverse implications of climate change, energy poverty, ecological changes and natural disasters; farmer–herder dynamics; the presence of armed groups such as the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA); illicit trafficking in natural resources and wildlife; terrorism, particularly by Boko Haram-affiliated and splinter groups; and piracy in the Gulf of Guinea. UNOCA also enhances coherence and coordination in the work of the UN in the sub-region on peace and security, as well as with the UN Office on West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) on cross-cutting and cross-border issues.

The Office works closely with sub-regional organizations such as the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), which comprises Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, DR Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Rwanda and São Tomé and Príncipe as well as the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC), the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC), the Gulf of Guinea Commission (GGC) and the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR). Since May 2011, UNOCA has served as Secretariat of the UN Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa ([UNSAC](https://unoca.unmissions.org/en/united-nations-standing-advisory-committee-secu%C2%ADrity-questions-central-africa)), which has the same membership as ECCAS.

##### UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA)

##### Headquarters: Ashgabat, Turkmenistan

##### Telephone: +993 12 48 16 12/13/14

##### Fax: +993 12 48 16 07

##### Email: [unrcca-dpa@un.org](mailto:unrcca-dpa@un.org)

##### Facebook: [www.facebook.com/unrcca](https://www.facebook.com/unrcca)

##### X: [@UNRCCA](https://twitter.com/unrcca)

##### Website: <http://unrcca.unmissions.org>

Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Central Asia: Kaha Imnadze, Georgia (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in June 2023)

UNRCCA is an initiative of the UN and all five Central Asian countries. Its goal is to assist and support the governments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan in building their conflict-prevention capacities through enhanced dialogue, confidence-building measures and genuine partnership in order to respond to existing threats and emerging challenges in the Central Asian region ([S/2007/279](http://undocs.org/S/2007/279)). The Regional Centre was inaugurated in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, on 10 December 2007.

##### UN Verification Mission in Colombia

##### Headquarters: Bogotá, Colombia

##### Facebook: [www.facebook.com/MisionONUCol/](http://www.facebook.com/MisionONUCol/)

##### X: [@MisionONUCol](http://www.twitter.com/MisionONUCol)

##### Website: <http://colombia.unmissions.org/en>

##### Head of Mission and Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General: Appointment pending

The UN Verification Mission in Colombia (the Verification Mission), established by SC res. [2366](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2366(2017)) (2017), commenced its activities on 26 September 2017, immediately after the completion of the mandate of the UN Mission in Colombia. That mission had been mandated to monitor and verify the definitive bilateral ceasefire, laying down of weapons and cessation of hostilities in Colombia, following the signing of the Final Peace Agreement between the Government of Colombia and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC-EP).

The Verification Mission was tasked with verifying the implementation of certain aspects of the Final Peace Agreement, including the process of political, economic and social reincorporation of the FARC-EP; the implementation of individual and collective security guarantees; and comprehensive programmes on security and protection measures for communities and organizations in the territories. SC res. [2574](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2574(2021)) (2021) expanded the mandate to include verifying compliance with and implementation of the restorative sentences issued by the Special Jurisdiction for Peace, as envisioned under the 2016 Final Peace Agreement. SC res. [2673](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2673(2023)) (2023) further expanded the mandate to include monitoring of the implementation of the comprehensive rural reform and ethnic chapters of the Final Peace Agreement. SC res. [2694](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2694(2023)) of 2 August 2023 mandated the Mission to verify and monitor the implementation of the Bilateral, National and Temporary Ceasefire Agreement between the Government of Colombia and the Ejército de Liberación Nacional (ELN). The Verification Mission’s mandate was most recently extended until 31 October 2025 by SC res. [2754](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2754(2024)) (2024).

Composed of civilian staff and unarmed international observers, the Verification Mission is headquartered in Bogotá and has a regional, sub-regional and local presence in areas most affected by the conflict.

##### UN Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH)

##### Headquarters: Port-au-Prince, Haiti

##### X: [@BINUH\_UN](http://www.twitter.com/BINUH_UN)

##### Website: <https://binuh.unmissions.org> or <https://dppa.un.org/en/mission/binuh>

##### Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General and Head of BINUH: Carlos G Ruiz Massieu, Mexico (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in July 2025)

BINUH was established in June 2019 by SC res. [2476](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2476(2019)) (2019) and commenced its activities on 16 October 2019, immediately after the completion of the mandate of the UN Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH), marking the end of peacekeeping in Haiti. MINUJUSTH had been established by SC res. [2350](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2350(2017)) (2017) as a follow-up mission to the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH, established on 1 June 2004 by SC res. [1542](https://undocs.org/S/RES/1542(2004))). Most recently, in SC res. [2785](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2785(2025)) (2025), the Council extended BINUH’s mandate for an additional year until 15 July 2026. Recalling all previous resolutions on BINUH, this resolution also expressed the Council’s intention to consider the recommendations made by the Secretary-General on 24 February 2025 on the options for the possible role the UN could play to sustain security and stability in Haiti, and reaffirmed its commitment in supporting a comprehensive, Haitian-owned and -led solution that addresses the root causes of the current multidimensional crisis in Haiti.

BINUH is mandated to advise the Government of Haiti in the promotion and strengthening of political stability and good governance, including the rule of law; to preserve and advance a peaceful and stable environment, including through supporting an inclusive inter-Haitian national dialogue; and to protect and promote human rights. BINUH is also mandated to assist the government in its efforts to organize free and fair elections, strengthen police professionalism and community violence reduction and reduce gang violence, and advance justice and prison reform. Its efforts are in support of the Haitian long-term development objectives, and are integrated with those of the 19 entities of the UN country team, which deliver humanitarian assistance and implement development programmes in close coordination with national authorities.

SC res. [2699](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2699(2023)) (2023) authorized the deployment of a non-UN Multinational Security Support (MSS) mission to Haiti. The MSS is mandated to provide operational support to the Haitian National Police (HNP) in its work to counter gangs and improve security conditions in Haiti and to cooperate with BINUH and relevant UN agencies to support the efforts of the HNP to re-establish security in Haiti.

SC res. [2785](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2785(2025)) (2025) reaffirms paragraphs 2–25 of SC res. [2743](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2743(2024)) (2024) on sanctions. SC res. 2743 encourages BINUH, in collaboration with the Sanctions Committee and other relevant entities, to assist the Haitian authorities in raising awareness of the reporting mechanisms for potential violations of sanctions by sharing the detailed provisions of the territorial arms embargo, as outlined in para. 14 of SC res. [2699](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2699(2023)) (2023), with the leadership of all relevant national institutions involved in its enforcement.

##### UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI)

##### Headquarters: Baghdad, Iraq

##### Telephone: +39 083 105 2700

##### Email: [unami-information@un.org](mailto:unami-information@un.org)

##### Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UnitedNationsIraq](http://www.facebook.com/UnitedNationsIraq%20)

##### X: [@UNIraq](http://www.twitter.com/UNIraq)

##### Website: <https://iraq.un.org/en/132447-united-nations-assistance-mission-iraq-unami>

##### Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Iraq and Head of UNAMI: Mohamed Al Hassan, Oman (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in July 2024)

UNAMI was established by SC res. [1500](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1500(2003)) (2003), at the request of the Government of Iraq, to support the Secretary-General in the fulfilment of his mandate under SC res. [1483](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1483(2003)) (2003). UNAMI’s role was expanded with the adoption of Security Council resolutions [1546](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1546(2004)) (2004) and [1770](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1770(2007)) (2007) and renewed annually since then in subsequent resolutions. In June 2013, the Security Council adopted resolution [2107](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2107(2013)) requesting UNAMI to promote, support and facilitate efforts regarding missing Kuwaiti nationals and property, and further requested the Secretary-General to report separately to the Security Council on these matters.

On 31 May 2024, in SC res. [2732](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2732(2024)) (2024), the Security Council extended UNAMI’s mandate for a final 19-month period until 31 December 2025. During this period, the Mission is implementing a streamlined mandate, including electoral assistance, including for the full, equal, meaningful and safe participation of women; facilitation of progress towards the final resolution of outstanding issues between Iraq and Kuwait, including the Missing Persons and Property file and recommendations for follow-on mechanisms on unresolved issues; the promotion, support and facilitation of development and humanitarian tasks; and the promotion of accountability and the protection of human rights.

Pursuant to SC res. 2732 (2024), in December 2024, the Secretary-General presented to the Security Council a transition and liquidation plan ([S/2024/966](https://docs.un.org/S/2024/966)) for the transfer of UNAMI’s tasks and the gradual drawdown of the Mission, and in May 2025, recommendations for a follow-on mechanism to support continued progress in the file of missing Kuwaiti persons and property ([S/2025/320](https://docs.un.org/S/2025/320)).

##### Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon (UNSCOL)

##### Headquarters: Beirut, Lebanon

##### Telephone: +961 5 428 056

##### Fax: +961 5 428 042

##### Email: [unscol-website@un.org](mailto:unscol-website@un.org)

##### X: [@UNSCOL](https://twitter.com/UNSCOL)

##### Website: <http://unscol.unmissions.org>

##### Special Coordinator for Lebanon: Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert, Netherlands (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in May 2024)

The Special Coordinator for Lebanon is the senior UN official responsible for following up and reporting on the implementation of SC res. [1701](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1701(2006)) (2006) on Lebanon–Israel. The Special Coordinator is also the primary interlocutor with Lebanese authorities on all political matters and confers on a regular basis with the different political parties, Lebanese civil society and the diplomatic community.

The Office was established in February 2007. UNSCOL’s work includes coordination of UN activities with the Government of Lebanon, the international donor community and international financial institutions in line with the overall UN objectives in Lebanon, with emphasis on promoting stability and conflict prevention. UNSCOL also provides overall political guidance to the UN country team and collaborates with the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) peacekeeping operation in the implementation of SC res. [1701](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1701(2006)) (2006). UNSCOL leads efforts to support Lebanon in addressing the country’s challenges, including through the coordination of international support for development, humanitarian assistance, reform and reconstruction activities.

Starting in October 2023, 13 months of intense hostilities between Hizbullah and other non-state armed groups in Lebanon and Israel caused large-scale destruction, displacement and civilian casualties on both sides of the Blue Line, and particularly in Lebanon, until a cessation of hostilities came into effect on 27 November 2024. UNSCOL is committed to supporting the parties to sustain the cessation of hostilities and fulfill their outstanding obligations under SC res. [1701](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1701(2006)) (2006), in close coordination with UNIFIL and in line with their respective mandates.

##### UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL)

##### Headquarters: Tripoli, Libya

##### Telephone: +218 92 304 8940 or +218 91 220 7565 (Public Information and Communications Office)

##### Facebook: [www.facebook.com/unsmil](http://www.facebook.com/unsmil)

##### X: [@UNSMILibya](http://www.twitter.com/UNSMILibya)

##### YouTube: [www.youtube.com/user/UNSMILPICS](http://www.youtube.com/user/UNSMILPICS)

##### Website: <http://unsmil.unmissions.org>

##### Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Libya and Head of UNSMIL: Hanna Serwaa Tetteh, Ghana (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in January 2025)

UNSMIL was established by SC res. [2009](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2009(2011)) (2011) to support Libyan national efforts. Its mandate, as set out in SC res. [2542](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2542(2020)) (2020) and paragraph 16 of SC res. [2570](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2570(2021)) (2021), was most recently extended by SC res. [2755](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2755(2024)) (2024), until 31 October 2025. In SC res. [2542](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2542(2020)) (2020) and subsequent resolutions, the Council tasked UNSMIL to exercise mediation and through its good offices to further an inclusive political process and security and economic dialogue, and to support subsequent phases of the Libyan transition process, including the constitutional process and the organization of elections, and help to achieve a ceasefire. UNSMIL also undertakes human rights monitoring and reporting; supports securing uncontrolled arms and related materiel and countering its proliferation; supports key Libyan institutions; assists with the provision of essential services and delivery of humanitarian assistance; and supports the coordination of international assistance.

##### Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO)

##### Headquarters: Jerusalem

##### Telephone: +972 2 568 7289

##### Fax: +972 2 568 7288

##### X: [@UNSCO\_MEPP](http://www.twitter.com/UNSCO_MEPP)

##### Website: <https://unsco.unmissions.org>

##### Officer-in-Charge of UNSCO (since July 2025): Ramiz Alakbarov, Azerbaijan, Deputy Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator for the Occupied Palestinian Territory (appointed 13 June 2025)

The Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process leads the UN system in all political and diplomatic efforts related to the Middle East peace process and serves as the Secretary-General’s Personal Representative to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, as well as the Envoy of the Secretary-General to the Middle East Quartet (Russian Federation, USA, European Union and UN). The Office also coordinates the humanitarian and development work of UN agencies and programmes in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, in support of the Palestinian Authority and the Palestinian people. The first UN Special Coordinator was appointed, and the office of UNSCO established, in June 1994, following the signing of the Oslo I Accord.

##### UN Transitional Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNTMIS)

##### Headquarters: Mogadishu, Somalia

##### Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UNTMIS](https://www.facebook.com/UNTMIS)

##### X: [@untmis](https://x.com/untmis_)

##### Website: <https://untmis.unmissions.org/>

##### Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General and Head of UNTMIS: James Swan, USA (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in March 2025)

UNTMIS was established following the Security Council’s adoption of SC res. [2753](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/2753(2024)) on 30 October 2024, and succeeded the UN Assistance Mission in Somalia ([UNSOM](https://unsom.unmissions.org/)) on 1 November 2024.

UNSOM had been established on 3 June 2013 by SC res. [2102](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2102(2013)) to accompany Somalia’s state-building and peacebuilding process following the establishment of the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) in September 2012. Its mandate was set out in SC resolutions [2158](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/2158(2014)) (2014) and [2592](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/2592(2021)) (2021), and most recently extended by SC res. [2705](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/2705(2023)) (2023). On 5 and 8 May 2024, the FGS sent letters to the Security Council requesting the termination of UNSOM and the transition of the Special Political Mission to the UN country team. Subsequently, a letter dated 30 August 2024, from the UN Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council, submitted the FGS’s proposal for the transition of UNSOM to the UN country team over a two-year period.

In line with the Somali request, UNTMIS is mandated to undertake a two-phased transition of functions to Somali institutions, the UN country team and other stakeholders. During this phase, UNTMIS will continue with the tasks mandated to UNSOM by the Council in resolutions 2158 (2014), 2592 (2021) and 2705 (2023).

UNTMIS’s priorities, as set out in SC res. [2753](http://docs.un.org/S/RES/2753(2024)) (2024), are: support for state-building, including the constitutional review process and efforts to conduct free and fair elections; promotion and protection of human rights; rule of law, justice, corrections and security sector support; coordination of international donor support, working with bilateral and multilateral partners; and coordination of UN efforts in Somalia. Measures set out in paragraph 3 of SC res. 2753 (2024) constitute the first phase of UNTMIS’s transition, until 31 October 2025, and express the Security Council’s intention to terminate the Mission’s mandate at the end of the anticipated transition by 31 October 2026.

UNTMIS is headquartered in Mogadishu with offices deployed across Somalia as requested by the FGS and as security conditions permit. The mission has a presence in Baidoa, Belet Weyne, Garowe, Hargeisa, Kismayo and Mogadishu.

As at 1 July 2025, the authorized staffing complement of UNSOM includes 314 civilian personnel (166 international staff, 129 national staff and 19 UN Volunteers) and 20 government-provided personnel. The General Assembly also authorized budget allocation for a UN Guard Unit of up to 625 and 12 individual police officers (IPO) under the military component attached to the work of the mission ([A/77/7/Add.5](http://undocs.org/A/77/7/Add.5)).

##### UN Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS)

##### Headquarters: Dakar, Senegal

##### Telephone: +221 33 869 8585

##### Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UNOWAS](http://www.facebook.com/UNOWAS)

##### X: [@UN\_UNOWAS](http://www.twitter.com/UN_UNOWAS)

##### Website: <http://unowas.unmissions.org>

##### Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General: Leonardo Santos Simão, Mozambique (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in May 2023)

The then UN Office for West Africa (UNOWA) was the first UN regional conflict-prevention and peacebuilding office established, with an overall mandate to enhance the contributions of the UN towards the achievement of peace and security in West Africa. Following the Secretary-General’s letter to the Security Council dated 14 January 2016 ([S/2016/88](http://undocs.org/S/2016/88)) on the strategic review of the Office of the Special Envoy for the Sahel (OSES), the Council requested the Secretary-General, through a letter dated 28 January 2016 ([S/2016/89](http://undocs.org/S/2016/89)), to merge UNOWA and the OSES into a single entity, the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS). The Council also encouraged UNOWAS to make further progress toward the implementation of the UN Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS) and to continue to work closely with Member States of the region to tackle the threats to peace, security and development in the Sahel, and their root causes. In addition, the Council approved the establishment of a UNOWAS Liaison Cell in Nouakchott, Mauritania, to strengthen UN engagement with the secretariat of the Group of Five for the Sahel (G5-Sahel).

As requested by the Security Council in August 2019 ([S/PRST/2019/7](https://undocs.org/S/PRST/2019/7)), the Secretary-General conducted an independent strategic review of the mandate and activities of UNOWAS ([S/2019/890](https://undocs.org/S/2019/890)). The assessment recommended that the mandate be strengthened and broadened to allow the Office to better respond to existing and emerging threats, to provide support to post-transition countries following the drawdown of UN peace operations, and to scale up cross-pillar coordination and cooperation to ensure greater coherence in UN interaction with national and sub-regional entities.

The mandate of UNOWAS includes preventive diplomacy, good offices, political mediation and facilitation; supporting the implementation of UNISS in coordination with the Special Coordinator for Development in the Sahel; enhancement of regional and sub-regional partnerships to address cross-border and cross-cutting regional threats to peace and security; and promotion of good governance and respect for human rights, rule of law and gender mainstreaming in conflict prevention, management and resolution. The Council has extended the mandate of UNOWAS three times: in December 2016 ([S/2016/1128](http://undocs.org/S/2016/1128)), January 2020 ([S/2020/85](https://undocs.org/S/2020/85)) and most recently in January 2022, until 31 January 2026 ([S/2023/70](http://undocs.org/S/2023/70) and [S/2023/71](http://undocs.org/S/2023/71)).

UNOWAS works closely with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and other sub-regional entities, such as the Mano River Union, the Lake Chad Basin Commission, the Accra Initiative, the Gulf of Guinea Commission, and at the regional level with the African Union and the African Development Bank (AfDB), to address cross-border and cross-cutting threats to peace and security, including climate security, terrorism, violent extremism, transnational organized crime, drug trafficking, other illicit forms of trafficking, piracy and maritime insecurity; and sustaining peace. In 2020, a UNOWAS Liaison Cell was established in Abuja, Nigeria, to further strengthen the partnership with ECOWAS. In February 2024, UNOWAS and the ECOWAS Commission signed a Memorandum of Understanding to institutionalize their partnership.

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for West Africa and the Sahel is also the Chair of the Cameroon–Nigeria Mixed Commission ([CNMC](https://unowas.unmissions.org/cameroon-nigeria-mixed-commission)), which facilitates the implementation of the International Court of Justice judgment of 10 October 2002 on the land and maritime boundary dispute between Cameroon and Nigeria.

##### UN Mission to support the Hudaydah Agreement (UNMHA)

##### Headquarters: Hudaydah, Yemen

##### Website: <https://unmha.unmissions.org>

##### Acting Chair of the Redeployment Coordination Committee and Officer-in-Charge of UNMHA: Mari Yamashita, Japan (appointed Deputy Head of UNMHA in May 2024)

UNMHA was established on 16 January 2019 by SC res. [2452](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2452(2019)) for an initial period of six months to support implementation of the ceasefire agreement reached in Stockholm on 13 December 2018 ([S/2018/1134](https://undocs.org/S/2018/1134)) between the Government of Yemen and the Houthi movement covering the city and port of Hudaydah, as well as the ports of Saleef and Ras Isa. Its mandate has been extended several times, most recently until 28 January 2026 by SC res. [2786](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2786(2025)) (2025).

UNMHA is mandated to lead and support the Redeployment Coordination Committee tasked with overseeing the ceasefire, redeployment of forces and mine action operations; monitor compliance with the ceasefire; work with the parties to ensure that security is assured by local security forces, in accordance with Yemeni law; and facilitate and coordinate UN efforts to assist the parties in fully implementing the Agreement.

UNMHA’s authorized personnel consists of up to 75 monitors as well as additional staff. For more recent information, see the [website](https://dppa.un.org/en/mission/unmha-hudaydah-agreement).

Past special political missions

UN Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM)

[UNSOM](https://unsom.unmissions.org/) ceased operations on 31 October 2024, pursuant to SC res. [2753](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2753(2024)) (2024). The mission was established on 3 June 2013 by SC res. [2102](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2102(2013)).

UN Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS)

[UNITAMS](https://unitams.unmissions.org/) ceased operations on 29 February 2024, pursuant to SC res. [2715](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2715(2023)) (1 December 2023). The mission was established on 3 June 2020 by SC res. [2524](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2524(2020)).

Other past missions

See <https://dppa.un.org/en/past-missions>

#### Commissions

##### Peacebuilding Commission (PBC)

##### Website: [www.un.org/peacebuilding/commission](https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/commission)

Purpose

Leaders at the UN World Summit in September 2005 agreed to establish the PBC as an intergovernmental advisory body to assist conflict-afflicted countries. The Peacebuilding Fund (PBF) and the Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) were also created at that time, and these three entities constitute the core of the Peacebuilding Architecture (PBA).

The PBC’s key objectives are to:

* Bring sustained international attention to peacebuilding and sustaining peace, and to provide political accompaniment and advocacy to countries affected by conflict
* Promote an integrated, strategic and coherent approach to peacebuilding and sustaining peace
* Serve as a bridge among the principal organs and relevant entities of the UN by sharing advice on peacebuilding needs and priorities

Serve as a platform to convene all relevant actors within and outside the UN, including from Member States, national authorities, UN missions and country teams, international, regional and sub-regional organizations, international financial institutions, civil society, women’s groups, youth organizations and, where relevant, the private sector and national human rights institutions, in order to provide recommendations and information to improve coherence and coordination, to develop and share good practices in peacebuilding, including on institution-building, and to ensure predictable and sustained financing for peacebuilding.

The Commission discusses [country situations](https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/documents) (including the Central African Republic, Chad, Colombia, the Gambia, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mauritania, Norway, Papua New Guinea, São Tomé and Príncipe, South Sudan, Timor-Leste and others) and regional peacebuilding challenges and opportunities (such as the Great Lakes region, Gulf of Guinea, Lake Chad Basin and the Sahel, among others). It advocates inclusivity, focusing on [women](https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/gender-strategy) and [youth](https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/PBC_Youth%20Strategic%20Action%20Plan) as well as engaging in thematic and cross-cutting issues. With the support of the PBSO, the PBC convenes Informal Interactive Strategic Dialogues with the PBF to build synergies between the core components of the PBA.

Structure

The PBC’s institutional structures, including its membership and procedures, were established by GA res. [60/180](http://undocs.org/A/RES/60/180) (2005) and SC res. [1645](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1645(2005)) (2005). These resolutions provided for a review of the PBC’s founding arrangements after five years, which took place in 2010 ([A/64/868 – S/2010/393](http://undocs.org/A/64/868)). Subsequently, the General Assembly and Security Council have continued to review the PBA every five years, in 2016 underlining the centrality of peacebuilding and sustaining peace to prevent the outbreak, escalation, continuation and recurrence of conflict (GA res. [65/7](http://undocs.org/A/RES/65/7) (2010) and SC res. [1947](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1947(2010)) (2010)), and in 2020, calling on the Commission to continue strengthening its advisory, bridging and convening roles in support of nationally owned priorities and efforts in the countries and regions under its consideration (GA res. [75/201](https://undocs.org/A/RES/75/201) (2020) and SC res. [2558](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2558(2020)) (2020)). A fourth review is taking place in 2025.

In Action 44 of the [Pact for the Future](https://www.un.org/en/summit-of-the-future/pact-for-the-future), adopted in September 2024, the General Assembly decided to strengthen the PBC (GA res. [79/1](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/79/1)).

Membership

The PBC Organizational Committee is composed of 31 [members](https://www.un.org/peacebuilding/commission/membership) who usually serve for two calendar years: seven selected by the Security Council, including the five permanent members; seven elected by the General Assembly to redress geographical imbalance; seven elected by ECOSOC; five of the top 10 providers of assessed contributions to UN budgets and voluntary contributions to UN funds, programmes and agencies; and five of the top 10 providers of military personnel and civilian police to UN missions.

Organizational Committee members for 2025 (31)

Selected by the Security Council

Algeria

China

France

Panama

Russian Federation

UK

USA

Elected by the General Assembly

Brazil

Cambodia

Egypt

Morocco

Poland

Uganda

Uruguay

Elected by ECOSOC

Australia

Colombia

Kenya

Netherlands

ROK

Slovenia

South Africa

Top providers of assessed and voluntary contributions

Canada

Germany

Japan

Norway

Sweden

Top providers of military personnel and civilian police

Bangladesh

India

Nepal

Pakistan

Rwanda

Office holders for 2025

Chair

Germany

Vice-Chairs

Brazil

Japan

Morocco

Poland

Configuration Chairs

Brazil: for Guinea-Bissau

Morocco: for the Central African Republic

Sweden: for Liberia

#### International Tribunals

United Nations International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (IRMCT)

Arusha Branch

Haki Road, Plot No. 486 Block A

Lakilaki Area, Arumeru District

PO Box 6016, Arusha

United Republic of Tanzania

Telephone: +255 27 256 5791

Email: [mict-registryarusha@un.org](mailto:mict-registryarusha@un.org)

The Hague Branch

Churchillplein 1

2517 JW The Hague

The Netherlands

Telephone: +31 70 512 5232

Email: [mict-registrythehague@un.org](mailto:mict-registrythehague@un.org)

Website: [www.irmct.org/en](http://www.irmct.org/en)

President: Graciela Susana Gatti Santana, Uruguay (appointed by the UN Secretary-General effective July 2022)

Prosecutor: Serge Brammertz, Belgium (appointed by the Security Council in February 2016 (SC res. [2269](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2269(2016))); most recently reappointed in June 2024 (SC res. [2740](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2740(2024))))

Registrar: Abubacarr M Tambadou, Gambia (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in July 2020; most recently reappointed in June 2024)

Purpose

The Mechanism was established in 2010 to carry out the residual tasks of the International Criminal Tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia. It continues both tribunals’ jurisdiction, rights, obligations and essential functions. The Mechanism was established by SC res. [1966](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1966(2010)) (2010), adopted under Chapter VII of the UN Charter. The same resolution adopted the Mechanism’s [Statute](https://www.irmct.org/en/documents/statute-and-transitional-arrangements). The Security Council determined that the Mechanism would continue to operate until it decided otherwise, but that progress would be reviewed in 2016 and every two years after that.

Structure

The Mechanism has two branches:

* A branch for the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR), which began operations on 1 July 2012 in Arusha, UR of Tanzania, gradually assuming the responsibilities of the ICTR until that tribunal closed on 31 December 2015

A branch for the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY), which began operations on 1 July 2013 in The Hague, Netherlands, gradually assuming the responsibilities of the ICTY until that tribunal closed on 31 December 2017.

The Mechanism maintains the legacy websites of the [ICTR](http://unictr.unmict.org) and [ICTY](http://www.icty.org) as part of its mission to preserve and promote the legacy of the UN International Criminal Tribunals.

The Mechanism consists of three organs:

* The [Chambers](https://www.irmct.org/en/about/organization/chambers), comprising a Trial Chamber for each branch and an Appeals Chamber common to both
* The [Office of the Prosecutor](https://www.irmct.org/en/about/organization/office-of-the-prosecutor) – in charge of investigations and prosecutions

The [Registry](https://www.irmct.org/en/about/organization/registry) – to provide judicial, legal and administrative services for the Mechanism, including the Chambers and the Prosecutor.

The Mechanism has a roster of 25 independent [judges](https://www.irmct.org/en/about/judges) elected by the General Assembly from a list submitted by the Security Council. They are initially selected from a list of nominees submitted by UN Member States and non-member states maintaining permanent observer missions at UN Headquarters. Judges are elected for four-year terms and may be reappointed by the Secretary-General. No more than two judges may be nationals of the same state. The first group of 25 judges was elected on 20 December 2011.

Judges (on the roster as at July 2025)

Graciela Susana Gatti Santana, Uruguay (President)

Jean-Claude Antonetti, France

Joseph E Chiondo Masanche, UR of Tanzania

William H Sekule, UR of Tanzania

Lee G Muthoga, Kenya

Carmel A Agius, Malta

Alphons M M Orie, Netherlands

Burton Hall, Bahamas

Florence Rita Arrey, Cameroon

Vagn Prüsse Joensen, Denmark

Liu Daqun, China

Prisca Matimba Nyambe, Zambia

Aminatta Lois Runeni N’gum, Gambia

Seon Ki Park, ROK

José Ricardo de Prada Solaesa, Spain

Ivo Nelson de Caires Batista Rosa, Portugal

Seymour Panton, Jamaica

Yusuf Aksar, Türkiye

Mustapha El Baaj, Morocco

Claudia Hoefer, Germany

Iain Bonomy, UK

Fatimata Sanou Touré, Burkina Faso

Margaret deGuzman, USA

René José Andriatianarivelo, Madagascar1

One vacancy as at 1 July 20252

Notes

1 Appointed on 20 February 2024, to complete the term of Judge Mahandrisoa Edmond Randrianirina, who resigned on 4 October 2023.

2 Judge Lydia Mugambe, Uganda, resigned on 5 May 2025.

#### Other Organizations

##### UN Command in Korea

##### UNC Headquarters, Bldg #12412

##### APO AP 96271–5237

##### US Army Garrison Humphreys

##### Republic of Korea

##### Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UnitedNationsCommand/](http://www.facebook.com/UnitedNationsCommand/)

##### X: [@UN\_Command](http://www.twitter.com/UN_Command)

##### Instagram: [@UN\_Command](http://www.instagram.com/UN_Command)

##### Website: [www.unc.mil](http://www.unc.mil/)

##### Commander: General Xavier T Brunson, US Army (since 20 December 2024)

The UN Command (UNC) is the international coalition, under United States command, that provided forces to assist the Republic of Korea (ROK) during the Korean War and continues to maintain the Armistice Agreement of 27 July 1953 (adopted by GA res. [711](https://undocs.org/A/RES/711(VII)) (VII) (1953)). Established in July 1950 pursuant to SC resolutions [83](https://undocs.org/S/RES/83(1950)) (1950) and [84](https://undocs.org/S/RES/84(1950)) (1950), UNC today continues to demonstrate the international community’s long-standing commitment to securing a lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula.

The UNC’s composition is not restricted or limited, except that the United States designates the Commander. The UN [Member States](https://www.unc.mil/Organization/Contributors/) that have provided support to the UNC have changed over the years. Currently, 18 countries are actively affiliated with the UNC, and Japan hosts seven bases designated for UNC usage.

UNC Member States actively participate in Armistice maintenance activities, primarily through the UN Command Military Armistice Commission (UNCMAC), a discrete and subordinate structure within UNC [Headquarters](https://www.unc.mil/Organization/UNC-Headquarters/). The UNCMAC [Secretariat](https://www.unc.mil/Organization/UNCMAC-S/) conducts routine “advise and assist” visits and Armistice education presentations to ROK units and inspections of areas within the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) including the 121 UNC guard and observation posts in the DMZ, the Han River Estuary (HRE) and on the Northwest Islands to ensure Armistice Agreement compliance. Annually, UNCMAC conducts an average of 50 inspections of DMZ sites to ensure adherence to the Armistice. UNCMAC operates an Armistice education programme to ensure compliance through educating front-line forces on the Armistice Agreement and the Armistice rules of engagement. In addition, liaison officers from UNC Member States join UNCMAC staff on special investigation teams to investigate incidents that occur in the DMZ, the HRE and the sea and air areas of UNC responsibility. The Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission ([NNSC](https://www.nnsc-korea.org)), of which Switzerland and Sweden are current members, is an independent and impartial body that performs and develops Armistice Agreement activities in the interest of all parties involved.

Several UNC Member States also contribute to UNC’s coalition activities through permanent party staffing, exercise participation and working group attendance. Australia, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, France, the Netherlands, New Zealand, the Philippines, Thailand, the United Kingdom and the United States have several officers serving on the UNC Headquarters staff and in the UNC [Honor Guard](https://www.unc.mil/Organization/UNC-Honor-Guard/) on the Korean Peninsula and in [UNC-Rear](https://www.unc.mil/Organization/UNC-Rear/) Headquarters in Japan.

UNC Member States

Australia

Belgium

Canada

Colombia

Denmark

France

Germany

Greece

Italy

Netherlands

New Zealand

Norway

Philippines

South Africa

Thailand

Türkiye

UK

USA

## ECONOMIC and SOCIAL COUNCIL (ECOSOC)

Website: [www.un.org/ecosoc/en](http://www.un.org/ecosoc/en)

### CHARTER PROVISIONS

The UN is charged by its [Charter](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter) with promoting in the economic and social fields:

* Higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development
* Solutions to international economic, social, health and related problems, and international cultural and educational cooperation

Universal respect for, and observance of, rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion.

Responsibility for discharging these functions is vested in the General Assembly and, under its authority, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

The Charter provisions relating to ECOSOC are contained in Chapter [IX](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-9) (Articles 55–60), which sets forth the objectives and functions of the UN in the sphere of international economic and social cooperation, and Chapter [X](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-10) (Articles 61–72), which defines the composition, functions and powers, and voting and procedure of the Council. Other provisions are to be found in Articles 1, 2, 7, 15, 17, 18, 91, 96, 98 and 101.

### MEMBERSHIP

ECOSOC has 54 members. It originally had 18 members, increasing to 27 on 31 August 1965 following amendment to Article 61 of the UN [Charter](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter) in accordance with GA res. [1991B](http://undocs.org/A/RES/1991(XVIII)) (XVIII) (1963); then to 54 on 12 October 1973 following further amendment to Article 61 in accordance with GA res. [2847](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2847(XXVI)) (XXVI) (1971). The pattern for geographical distribution of seats was established in GA res. [2847](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2847(XXVI)): 14 members from African states, 11 from Asia–Pacific states, six from Eastern European states, 10 from Latin American and Caribbean states, and 13 from Western European and Other states. Eighteen members of ECOSOC are elected each year by the General Assembly. Members generally serve three-year terms, ending on 31 December.

Members (54)\*

Countries that have never served on the Council are not listed. The Western European and Other states group (WEOG) has its own rotation scheme. Terms in the list reflect the rotation scheme as at 1 July 2025.

Previous Current

African states (14 seats)

Algeria 1964–66 73–81 83–85 90–92 1998–2000 07–09   
16–18 2025–27

Angola 1992–94 2000–02 06–08 19–21

Benin 1966–67 82–84 92–94 2000–08 13–15 17–22

Botswana 1983–85 91–93 2014–16 20–22 2023–25

Burkina Faso 1968–70 77–79 90–92 2000–02 12–17

Burundi 1972–74 81–83 2002–04

Cabo Verde 1997–99 2007–09 2023–25

Cameroon 1966–67 78–83 89–91 2000–02 08–13 17–19 2023–25

Central African Republic 1978–80 96–98

Chad 1968–70 2005–07 17–19

Comoros 1998–2000 10–12

Congo 1968–70 74–76 83–85 95–97 1999–2001 03–05 08–10 14–16 20–22

Côte d’Ivoire 1974–76 95–97 2009–11 22–24 2025–27

DR Congo 1971–77 80–82 84–95 1999–2001 05–07 14–16

Djibouti 1983–88 97–99 2025–27

Egypt 1952–57 74–76 86–88 94–96 2001–03 10–12 19–21

Equatorial Guinea 2023–25

Eswatini 1982–84 92–94 2017–19 22–24

Ethiopia 1961–63 74–77 80–82 92–94 2001–03 12–14 19–21

Gabon 1965–67 75–77 86–88 93–98 2011–13 20–22

Gambia 1997–99

Ghana 1970–72 79–81 88–90 94–96 2002–04 10–12 15–20

Guinea 1974–75 85–93 2005–07

Guinea-Bissau 1999–2001 06–08 09–11

Kenya 1970–72 74–77 81–83 89–91 2003–05 19–21 2024–26

Lesotho 1978–80 88–90 1998–2000 12–14

Liberia 1974–76 82–84 88–90 2021–23

Libya 1967–69 80–82 88–90 93–95 2002–04 12–14 21–23

Madagascar 1971–73 92–94 2006–08 21–23

Malawi 1980–82 2007–09 11–13 18–20

Mali 1973–75 82–84 2019–21

Mauritania 1977–79 2006–08 15–17 2024–26

Mauritius 1998–2000 04–06 09–11 13–15 22–24

Morocco 1966–68 79–81 85–87 91–93 1999–2001 09–11 18–20

Mozambique 1986–88 97–99 2003–05 08–10

Namibia 2004–06 09–11

Niger 1971–73 89–91 2008–10

Nigeria 1976–78 80–82 85–87 93–95 2001–06 12–14 16–18 21–23 2024–26

Rwanda 1977–79 84–92 1999–2001 10–12 16–18

Senegal 1962–64 74–75 79–81 85–87 94–96 2003–05 11–13 2024–26

Sierra Leone 1966–69 83–88 1998–2000

Somalia 1977–79 84–89 91–93 2007–09 16–18

South Africa 1995–97 2001–03 05–07 13–18 2025–27

Sudan 1958–60 69–71 77–79 81–83 87–89 95–97   
2000–02 07–09 13–15 18–20

Togo 1976–78 91–98 2014–16 18–20

Tunisia 1970–72 76–78 82–84 89–91 96–98 2004–06 13–15 22–24

Uganda 1973–78 84–86 95–97 2001–03 15–17

UR of Tanzania 1966–69 78–80 94–96 2004–06 22–24 2025–27

Zambia 1974–76 79–81 89–91 97–99 2010–12 2024–26

Zimbabwe 1985–87 94–96 2002–04 15–17 21–23

Asia–Pacific states (11 seats)

Afghanistan 1959–61 76–78 2016–18 22–24

Bahrain 1990–92 2000–02

Bangladesh 1976–78 81–83 85–87 92–94 96–98 2004–06   
10–12 14–16 20–22 2025–27

Bhutan 1993–95 2002–04

Cambodia 20191

China 1946–60 1972–2004 05–07 08–10 14–22 2023–25

Cyprus 1979–81

Fiji 1974–75 81–83 2000–02

India 1946–47 53–55 62–64 66–70 74 78–83 85–90   
1992–2000 02–04 05–07 09–11 12–20 22–24

Indonesia 1956–58 69–71 74–75 79–81 84–86 89–91 94–96 1999–2000 04–09 12–14 21–23

Iran 1950–52 66–68 74–79 87–92 2001–03 19–21

Iraq 1964–66 77–82 86–91 2007–09 10–12 16–18

Japan 1960–65 68–70 72–80 1982–2005 06–11 12–23 2024–26

Jordan 1961–63 74–76 80–82 89–91 96–98

Kazakhstan 2007–09 14–16 22–24

Kuwait 1967–69 92–94 2013–15

Kyrgyzstan 2013–15

Lao PDR 2023–25

Lebanon 1946–49 71–73 83–85 96–98 2016–18

Malaysia 1971–73 76–78 83–85 91–93 95–97 2003–05 08–10

Mongolia 1973–75 2010–12

Nepal 1980–82 2001–03 13–15 2024–26

Oman 1987–89 1998–2000 22–24

Pakistan 1954–59 65–67 69–71 74–77 79–84 86–88 90–92   
94–96 1998–2003 05–07 08–13 15–17 19–21 2024–26

Papua New Guinea 1984–86

Philippines 1951–53 66–68 77–79 86–88 92–97 2007–09 10–12 18–20

Qatar 1982–84 2002–04 11–13 2023–25

ROK 1993–95 97–99 2003–06 08–10 14–22 2023–25

Saudi Arabia 1983–85 88–90 1999–2001 03–05 06–11 19–21 2025–27

Solomon Islands 2021–23

Sri Lanka 1970–72 84–89 93–95 97–99 2006–08 2025–27

Syrian AR 1977–79 86–88 91–93 1999–2001

Tajikistan 2017–181

Thailand 1974–76 80–85 89–91 95–97 2005–07 20–22

Turkmenistan 2013–15 19–21

UAE 1978–80 2004–06 17–181

Uzbekistan 2025–27

Viet Nam 1998–2000 16–18

Yemen 20191

Eastern European states (6 seats)\*2

Albania 2005–07 13–15

Armenia 2004–06 19–21 2025–27

Azerbaijan 2003–05 17–19 2025–27

Belarus 1947–49 81–83 86–88 1992–2000 07–09 12–14 18–20

Bosnia and Herzegovina 20173

Bulgaria 1959–61 68–70 75–77 80–85 87–92 94–96 1999–2001 12–134 21–23

Croatia 2000–02 13–15 22–24

Czechia 1996–2001 06–08 16–18 22–24

Estonia 2009–11 15–17

Georgia 2001–03 14–16

Hungary 1971–73 78–80 2002–04 114

Latvia 1997–99 2011–13 20–22

Lithuania 2005–07

Montenegro 2020–22

Poland 1948–53 57–62 72–74 77–79 81–89 1992–2000   
04–06 08–10 2024–26

Republic of Moldova 2008–10 16–18

Romania 1965–67 74–76 78–80 82–87 90–98 2001–03 07–09 18–193

Russian Federation 1947–2007 08–10 14–22

Serbia 2014–16

Slovakia 2010–12 2023–25

Slovenia 2023–25

Ukraine 1946 77–79 89–91 93–95 2002–04 10–12 19–21

Latin American and Caribbean states (10 seats)

Antigua and Barbuda 2014–16 2025–27

Argentina 1952–57 63–65 68–70 74–86 91–93 96–98   
2001–03 10–12 15–17 21–23

Bahamas 1980–82 89–91 93–95 2010–12

Barbados 1979–81 2007–09

Belize 1987–89 2004–06 22–24

Bolivia 1972–74 76–78 87–89 1999–2001 07–09 13–15 21–23

Brazil 1948–50 56–58 60–62 70–87 1989–2003 05–07 08–10 12–17 19–21 2023–25

Chile 1946–47 58–60 64–66 72–74 80–82 91–99 2002–04 10–12 16–18 22–24

Colombia 1946 62–64 74–79 82–90 1992–2000 04–06   
13–15 17–22 2023–25

Costa Rica 1958–60 84–86 94–96 2000–02 05–07 2023–25

Cuba 1946–47 52–54 76–78 88–90 93–95 1997–2008 12–14

Dominican Republic 1955–57 78–80 2012–14 2025–27

Ecuador 1954–56 64–66 79–81 83–85 90–92 2003–05 11–13 18–20

El Salvador 1961–63 97–99 2002–04 07–09 12–14 18–20

Guatemala 1967–69 74–75 2002–04 09–11 14–16 21–23

Guyana 1984–86 96–98 2006–08 16–18

Haiti 1971–73 85–87 2006–08 13–15 2024–26

Honduras 1999–2001 15–17

Jamaica 1969–71 74–79 86–88 90–92 95–97 2003–05 19–21

Mexico 1950–52 57–59 67–69 74–85 90–95 1997–2002 05–07 11–13 18–23 2025–27

Nicaragua 1981–83 89–91 96–98 2003–05 11–13 20–22

Panama 1966–68 86–88 2004–06 14–16 20–22

Paraguay 1994–96 2006–08 19–21 2024–26

Peru 1946–51 65–67 70–72 75–77 81–83 86–88 91–93 2001–03 09–11 16–18 22–24

Saint Kitts and Nevis 2009–11

Saint Lucia 1982–84 1998–2000 08–10

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 2017–19

Suriname 1983–85 92–94 2000–02 2024–26

Trinidad and Tobago 1973–75 78–80 88–93 2015–17

Uruguay 1951–53 61–63 69–71 87–89 2008–10 18–20 2024–26

Venezuela 1947–49 53–55 59–61 66–68 74–90 94–96 1999–2001 09–11 17–19

Western European and Other states (13 seats)\*

Andorra 2001–03 17–19

Australia 1948–50 53–55 62–64 74–76 80–82 86–88 92–97 2002–06 08–12 15–17 20–21 2025

Austria 1963–65 76–78 82–84 91–93 2000–02 06–08 13–14 15 21–22 2025–26

Belgium 1946 49–54 67–69 74–76 80–82 86–88 92–94 1998–2000 04–06 10–11 16–18 22–24

Canada 1946–48 50–52 56–58 65–67 74–77 1981–2001 04–09 10–14 18 19–21 22–24 2025–27

Denmark 1948–50 60–62 75–77 81–83 87–89 93–95 1999–2001 05–07 13–14 18–19 22–24

Finland 1957–59 72–74 78–80 84–86 90–92 96–98 2002–04 08–12 15–16 20–22 2025

France 1946–2005 06–11 12–23 2024–26

Germany 1974–2005 06–07 09–12 14–21 24

Greece 1946 56–58 66 70–72 76–78 82–84 88–90 94–96 2000 03–05 07–09 14–16 22–23

Iceland 1985–87 97–99 2005–07

Ireland 1968–70 79–81 88–90 94–96 2003–05 12–13 16–20

Israel 2022–23

Italy 1961–63 70–72 74–82 86–94 1998–2003 04–06 10–12 14–18 22–24 2025–27\*

Liechtenstein 2008 09–10 23 2024–26\*

Luxembourg 1964–66 83–85 95–97 2007–09 19–21

Malta 1978–80 2001–02 09–11 19–20

Netherlands 1947–48 55–60 73–75 77–79 83–85 89–91 95–97 2001–03 07–09 12–13 19–21 2025–27

New Zealand 1947–49 59–61 71–73 77–79 83–85 89–91 1998–2000 07–09 13–14 22–24

Norway 1946–47 54–56 69–71 75–77 81–83 87–89 93–95 1999–2001 08–11 17–21

Portugal 1976–78 82–84 88–90 94–96 2000–01 07–09 14–16 21–23

San Marino 2013–15

Spain 1959–61 73–75 79–81 85–87 91–93 97–99 2002–06 11–13 17–18 20 2024–26

Sweden 1951–53 66–68 74 78–80 84–86 90–92 96–98 2002–04 08–09 13 14–17 2023–25

Switzerland 2011–12 15–16 20–21 2025–27\*

Türkiye 1947–49 53–55 67–69 74–75 79–81 85–87 91–93 97–99 2003–06 09–10 12–13 17–19 2024–25

UK 1947–2004 05–07 08–13 14–19 21–23 2024–26

USA 1946–2009 10–12 13–24

Notes

\* On 4 June 2025, the General Assembly elected 18 members of ECOSOC, to hold three-year terms beginning 1 January 2026: Burundi, Chad, Mozambique and Sierra Leone (African states); China, India, Lebanon and Turkmenistan (Asia–Pacific states); Croatia, Russian Federation and Ukraine (Eastern European states); Ecuador, Peru and Saint Kitts and Nevis (Latin American and Caribbean states); and Australia, Finland, Norway and Türkiye (Western European and Other states). It also elected Germany to complete the term of Liechtenstein, from 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2026, and USA to complete the term of Switzerland, from 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2027. Italy will also relinquish its seat to Switzerland, from 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2027.

1 Tajikistan and UAE served two-year terms for 2017–18 and were replaced by Cambodia and Yemen, respectively.

2 The former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia served on ECOSOC for the following periods: 1946, 1962–64, 1969–71, 1974–78, 1980–82, 1984–86 and 1988–92. It was not automatically succeeded by any of the new states created following its dissolution. Czechoslovakia served on ECOSOC in 1946–47, 1950–52, 1954–56, 1963–68, 1974–77 and 1989–91.

3 Bosnia and Herzegovina served a one-year term in 2017 and was replaced by Romania.

4 Hungary had a one-year term in 2011 and was replaced by Bulgaria.

### SESSIONS AND OFFICERS

Up to 2013, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) held one substantive four-week session annually in July, alternating between New York and Geneva, and an organizational session of not more than four days in late January/early February. Pursuant to GA res. [68/1](http://undocs.org/A/RES/68/1) of September 2013, ECOSOC shifted its work programme to a July–July cycle and organized its meetings into distinct segments. Following the adoption of GA res. [72/305](http://undocs.org/A/RES/72/305) of 23 July 2018 and [75/290A](https://undocs.org/A/RES/75/290A) of 25 June 2021, ECOSOC should organize its meetings and forums convened under the auspices of the Council into four main groups.

The first group comprises the [Partnership Forum](https://ecosoc.un.org/en/what-we-do/ecosoc-partnerships-forum) and the [Coordination Segment](https://ecosoc.un.org/en/what-we-do/ecosoc-coordination-segment). The second group includes the Development Cooperation Forum (held in odd years), the Forum on Financing for Development follow-up, the Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Development for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Youth Forum and related mandated meetings.

The third group includes the operational activities for development segment, the humanitarian affairs segment and the meeting on the transition from relief to development. The operational activities for development segment is to be held close to the annual sessions of the executive boards of the UN system funds and programmes. Through this segment, the Council provides overall coordination and guidance for operational development funds and programmes on a system-wide basis. A humanitarian affairs segment is held in May/June, through which the Council continues to contribute to strengthening the coordination and effectiveness of UN humanitarian assistance and support and complement international efforts aimed at addressing humanitarian emergencies, including natural disasters, in order to promote an improved, coordinated response by the UN.

The fourth group includes the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, convened under the auspices of the Council, and the high-level segment of the Council. The high-level segment, held in July, continues to discharge the functions provided for in General Assembly resolutions [45/264](http://undocs.org/A/RES/45/264) (1991), [48/162](http://undocs.org/A/RES/48/162) (1993), [50/227](http://undocs.org/A/RES/50/227) (1996), [61/16](http://undocs.org/A/RES/61/16) (2006), [68/1](https://undocs.org/A/RES/68/1) (2013), [72/305](http://undocs.org/A/RES/72/305) (2018) and [75/290A](https://undocs.org/A/RES/75/290A) (2021). In accordance with GA res. [70/299](https://undocs.org/A/RES/70/299) (2016), the high-level segment of the Council is convened jointly with the three ministerial days of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (see entry later in this chapter), convened under the auspices of the Council.

The [management segment](https://ecosoc.un.org/en/what-we-do/management-segment) is held in principle twice per cycle, focusing on the adoption of procedural decisions and the consideration of recommendations of subsidiary bodies, as well as the introduction of reports and consideration of draft proposals submitted under relevant items. Dedicated management meetings are also held to conduct elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary bodies of ECOSOC and related bodies, normally in the first half and last quarter of the year.

The Council holds the regular meetings of its substantive sessions in New York. The humanitarian affairs segment continues to alternate between New York (even years) and Geneva (odd years). ECOSOC decisions are taken by a simple majority of members present and voting. The Bureau is elected by ECOSOC at the beginning of each annual session in late July.

Bureau 2025 session (July 2024–July 2025) and 2026 session (July 2025–July 2026)

President 2025

Robert Rae, Canada

Vice-Presidents 2025

Maritza Chan Valverde, Costa Rica

Anatolio Ndong Mba, Equatorial Guinea

Krzysztof Szczerski, Poland

Lok Bahadur Thapa, Nepal

President 2026

Lok Bahadur Thapa, Nepal

Vice-Presidents 2026

Wellington Darío Bencosme Castaños, Dominican Republic

Amar Bendjamaa, Algeria

Héctor Gómez Hernández, Spain

Paruyr Hovhannisyan, Armenia

### SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF ECOSOC

#### Functional Commissions

##### Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)

##### Vienna International Centre

##### PO Box 50

##### A–1400 Vienna

##### Austria

##### Telephone: +43 1 260 60 4280

##### Email: [unodc-sgb@un.org](mailto:unodc-sgb@un.org)

##### X: [@CND\_tweets](http://www.twitter.com/CND_tweets)

##### Website: [www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/)

##### Secretary: Jo Dedeyne-Amann, Belgium (since 2012)

Purpose

The CND was established in 1946 as the central UN policy-making body for addressing drug-related matters, assisting ECOSOC in supervising the application of the international drug control treaties (ECOSOC res. [9](http://undocs.org/E/RES/9(I)) (I)). The CND and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) are the governing bodies of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

The CND is mandated to decide, on the basis of the medical and scientific assessment by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), to place narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals under international control, to change the level of control or to release substances from control. It monitors the world drug situation, develops strategies on international drug control and recommends measures to Member States and to UNODC to address and counter the world drug problem. It assists Member States in advancing implementation of the international drug control conventions, the 2009 Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem (see GA res. [64/182](http://undocs.org/A/RES/64/182)), the Joint Ministerial Statement of the 2014 high-level review by the CND of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, and the outcome document of the 30th special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem held in 2016 (GA res. [S-30/1](http://undocs.org/A/RES/S-30/1)), in line with the commitment made by Member States in the 2019 [Ministerial Declaration](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/2019/Ministerial_Declaration.pdf), to focus beyond 2019 on the practical implementation of the existing policy documents. In 1991, the General Assembly expanded the mandates of the CND to enable it to function as the governing body of UNODC and to approve the budget for the Fund of the UN International Drug Control Programme, which accounts for most of the resources available to the UN for drug control. In 2024, the Commission conducted the mid-term review on the implementation of all international drug policy commitments, an important milestone set forth in the 2019 Ministerial Declaration, and adopted the [High-level declaration](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/2024_high-level_declaration/2414246E-Declaration-2024-eBook.pdf) by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs on the 2024 mid-term review.

Meetings

Members usually meet in Vienna in March, with a shorter reconvened session in the second half of the year to consider budgetary matters (ECOSOC decision [2009/251](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/FINGOV/ECOSOC_Decision-2009-251_E.pdf)). Since 2011, the CND and CCPCJ have held joint meetings during their annual reconvened sessions (ECOSOC decision [2011/259](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/Drug_Resolutions/2010-2019/2011/ECOSOC_Decision-2011-259.pdf)).

Membership

ECOSOC resolution [1991/49](https://undocs.org/E/RES/1991/49) enlarged the membership of the Commission from 40 to 53 members, with distribution of seats among the regional groups as shown in the following list of members. One seat rotates between Asia–Pacific and Latin American and Caribbean states every four years.

Elections are held at two-year intervals, usually in April. Members serve four-year terms, expiring on 31 December. In accordance with Council resolutions [845](http://undocs.org/E/RES/845(XXXII)) (XXXII) and [1147](http://undocs.org/E/RES/1147(XLI)) (XLI), members are elected (a) from among UN Member States and members of the specialized agencies and the Parties to the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961; (b) with due regard to the adequate representation of countries that are important producers of opium or coca leaves, of countries that are important in the field of the manufacture of narcotic drugs, and of countries in which drug addiction or illicit traffic in narcotic drugs constitutes an important problem; and (c) taking into account the principle of equitable geographical distribution.

The [Bureau](https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/Membership/Membership.html) is composed of a chair, three vice-chairs and a rapporteur. The Commission elects its Bureau for the following session at the end of its reconvened session.

Members (53)\*

Previous Current

African states (11 seats)

Algeria 1978–81 84–87 96–99 2004–07 12–15 18–21 2022–25

Angola 2000–03 14–17 20–23

Benin 2000–03 14–17

Botswana 2008–11

Burkina Faso 2002–05 18–21

Burundi 2024–27

Cameroon 2004–19

Côte d’Ivoire 1984–85 88–91 1994–2001 10–13 18–21 2022–25

DR Congo 1982–85 2004–19

Egypt 1946–77 1988–2003 12–15 20–23

Eswatini 2000–03 10–13

Ethiopia 2008–11

Gabon 1992–95

Gambia 1990–93 2002–05

Ghana 1964–71 1990–2001 10–13 2022–25

Guinea 1994–97

Kenya 1973–79 2016–23 2024–27

Lesotho 1992–95

Liberia 1994–97

Libya 1990–93 2000–03 20–23

Madagascar 1962 76–95 2004–07

Malawi 1980–83

Mali 1986–89

Mauritania 2016–19

Mauritius 1997–2001

Morocco 1962–65 67–77 84–87 92–99 2008–11 20–23 2024–27

Mozambique 2000–03

Namibia 2006–09 12–15

Niger 2006–09

Nigeria 1966–68 72–75 82–89 92–99 2002–09 14–17 20–23 2024–27

Senegal 1982–93 2006–09

Sierra Leone 1997–2001 10–13

South Africa 1996–99 2002–05 16–23 2024–27

Sudan 1996–2011 16–19

Togo 1970–81 2014–21

Tunisia 1978–81 92–99 2022–25

Uganda 2004–11 16–19

UR of Tanzania 2012–15 2024–27

Zambia 1986–89 2004–07 12–15

Zimbabwe 2012–15 2024–27

Asia–Pacific states (11/12 seats, one rotating)

Afghanistan 2012–15 18–21

Bahrain 2020–23

Bangladesh 2022–25

China 1946–69 1986–2005 08–23 2024–27

India 1946–85 1988–2007 10–21 2024–27

Indonesia 1973–81 86–93 96–99 2002–05 14–17 2024–27

Iran 1946–72 74–81 84–87 1992–2019 2022–25

Iraq 2018–21

Japan 1962–2009 12–23 2024–27

Kazakhstan 2000–03 08–11 14–17 20–23

Kyrgyzstan 2000–03 18–21

Lao PDR 1997–2001 04–07 10–13

Lebanon 1970–73 88–91 1994–2001 04–07

Malaysia 1982–93 96–99 2004–07

Myanmar 2004–07 10–13

Nepal 2020–23

Pakistan 1969–99 2002–05 08–23

Philippines 1992–95 2000–03

Qatar 2016–19 2024–27

ROK 1963–68 82–85 1992–2003 06–09 12–19 2022–25

Saudi Arabia 2006–13 2022–25

Singapore 2024–27

Sri Lanka 1984–87 94–97

Syrian AR 1992–99

Tajikistan 2006–09 14–17

Thailand 1973–2023 2024–27

Turkmenistan 2012–15 20–23

UAE 2004–11

Yemen 2008–11

Eastern European states (6 seats)1

Armenia 2024–27

Belarus 2002–05 10–13 16–19

Bosnia and Herzegovina 2004–07

Bulgaria 1982–93 96–99

Croatia 2004–07 14–21

Czechia 1993–2003 08–11 14–21

Hungary 1957–93 2004–07 12–23 2024–27

Lithuania 2008–11 2022–25

North Macedonia 2000–03

Poland 1946–56 62–63 88–99 2006–09 12–15 20–23 2024–27

Republic of Moldova 2008–11

Romania 1973–77 1994–2001 10–13

Russian Federation 1946–2021 2022–25

Slovakia 2000–03 16–19

Slovenia 2022–25

Ukraine 1994–2009 12–15 20–23

Latin American and Caribbean states (10/11 seats, one rotating)

Argentina 1965–67 72–89 2000–11 16–19 2024–27

Bahamas 1982–85 90–97

Bolivia 1988–2003 06–17 2022–25

Brazil 1962–64 67–81 84–91 1996–2007 10–21 2022–25

Chile 1973–77 92–95 1997–2001 04–07 10–13 18–21 2024–27

Colombia 1976–87 1990–2021 2022–25

Cuba 1996–2011 14–21

Dominican Republic 1968–71 2024–27

Ecuador 1986–93 1996–2003 16–23

El Salvador 2008–11 16–23

Guatemala 2004–07 12–19 2024–27

Jamaica 1967–77 92–99 2002–09 20–23

Mexico 1946–2009 12–23 2024–27

Nicaragua 1992–95 2002–05

Panama 1978–85

Paraguay 1994–97

Peru 1946–75 84–95 2000–23 2024–27

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 2012–15

Suriname 2012–15

Trinidad and Tobago 2008–11 2022–25

Uruguay 1992–95 1997–2001 08–23 2024–27

Venezuela 1986–89 1992–2003 08–11

Western European and Other states (14 seats)

Australia 1973–2021 2022–25

Austria 1957–59 84–85 2000–23 2024–27

Belgium 1978–97 2006–21 2022–25

Canada 1946–79 1984–2003 06–21 2022–25

Denmark 1988–91 2000–03 12–15

Finland 1984–87 94–97 2008–11 2024–27

France 1946–2007 10–21 2022–25

Germany 1963–2023

Greece 1954–56 84–87 1996–2003

Israel 2004–11 12–19

Italy 1976–2023 2024–27

Malta 2024–27

Netherlands 1946–53 60–62 84–99 2002–05 08–23 2024–27

Norway 1980–83 92–95 2004–07 16–19

Portugal 1996–2003 2024–27

Spain 1980–83 1986–2005 08–23 2024–27

Sweden 1969–79 90–93 96–99 2004–07 20–23

Switzerland 1961–75 88–95 1997–2001 04–11 18–21 2022–25

Türkiye 1946–89 92–95 1997–2009 12–23

UK 1946–2017 20–23 2024–27

USA 1946–2023 2024–27

Notes

\* On 4 April 2025, ECOSOC elected 20 members to serve a four-year term from 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2029: Burkina Faso, Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana and Mauritania (African states); Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and UAE (Asia–Pacific states); Lithuania, Slovenia and Ukraine (Eastern European states); Bolivia, Colombia, Honduras and Trinidad and Tobago (Latin American and Caribbean states); and Australia, Belgium, France, Germany and Switzerland (Western European and Other states).

1 The former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia served on the CND from 1946 to 1992. It was not automatically succeeded by any of the states created following its dissolution. Czechoslovakia served on the CND in 1992.

Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East

Website: [www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/Subsidiary\_Bodies/Subcommission/Subcommission\_Index.html](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/Subsidiary_Bodies/Subcommission/Subcommission_Index.html)

The Subcommission was established in 1973 to serve as a consultative body that would provide the Commission with a regional perspective on dealing with illicit drug activity in the Near and Middle East. The Subcommission’s functions are to facilitate cooperation and coordination in regional activities directed against illicit drug traffic and to identify priority issues in the area and formulate recommendations to the Commission for addressing these issues. The Subcommission usually meets annually for four days. It reports directly to the Commission.

The Subcommission was established as a subsidiary body of the Commission by ECOSOC res. [1776](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/Resolutions/resolution_1973-05-18_6.html) (LIV) (1973) and CND res. [6](http://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/Drug_Resolutions/1970-1979/1973/CND_Resolution-06_XXV.pdf) (XXV) (1973). Its meetings and members are listed on the [website](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/Subsidiary_Bodies/Subcommission/Subcommission_Index.html).

Regional meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA)

Website: [www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/Subsidiary\_Bodies/Subsidiary-Bodies\_Index.html](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/Subsidiary_Bodies/Subsidiary-Bodies_Index.html)

The Commission has four additional regional subsidiary bodies known as the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA):

* [Asia and the Pacific](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/Subsidiary_Bodies/HONLAP/HONLAP_Index.html) (HONLAP), established by ECOSOC res. [1845](http://undocs.org/E/RES/1845(LVI)) (LVI) (1974)
* [Africa](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/Subsidiary_Bodies/HONLAF/HONLAF_Index.html) (HONLAF), established by ECOSOC res. [1985/11](http://undocs.org/E/RES/1985/11)
* [Latin America and the Caribbean](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/Subsidiary_Bodies/HONLAC/HONLAC_Index.html) (HONLAC), established by ECOSOC res. [1987/34](http://undocs.org/E/RES/1987/34)
* [Europe](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/Subsidiary_Bodies/HONEUR/HONEUR_Index.html) (HONEUR), established by ECOSOC res. [1990/30](http://undocs.org/E/RES/1990/30).

ECOSOC established the HONLEA as subsidiary bodies of the Commission to further cooperation in drug law enforcement activities at the regional level. Meetings usually take place annually to identify salient policy and enforcement issues in their regions, establish working groups to analyse the issues, and then bring their reports and recommendations to the attention of the Commission.

Commission on Population and Development (CPD)

2 United Nations Plaza, Room DC2–1950

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 963 3209

Email: [population@un.org](mailto:population@un.org)

Website: [www.un.org/development/desa/pd/content/CPD](https://www.un.org/development/desa/pd/content/CPD)

Director, Department of Economic and Social Affairs Population Division: John R Wilmoth, USA

Purpose

CPD is the sole intergovernmental body tasked with integrated consideration of population and development issues. In its terms of reference, endorsed in ECOSOC res. [1995/55](https://undocs.org/E/1995/95), the Commission is mandated to arrange for studies on population and development issues, trends and policies and to advise on population assistance, upon request, to developing countries. The Commission is also charged with monitoring, reviewing and assessing the implementation of the Programme of Action of the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) at national, regional and international levels and to advise ECOSOC on these issues. ECOSOC res. [2016/25](https://undocs.org/E/RES/2016/25) also requested the Commission to contribute to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Evolution

The Commission was originally named the Population Commission, which was established by ECOSOC res. [3](https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/RESOLUTION/GEN/NR0/048/81/IMG/NR004881.pdf?OpenElement) (III) (1946) and tasked with studying and advising ECOSOC on population changes, including migration, and their effect on economic and social conditions. It was renamed following the International Conference on Population and Development (GA res. [49/128](http://undocs.org/A/RES/49/128) (1994)).

GA res. [49/128](http://undocs.org/A/RES/49/128) also charged the Commission with monitoring and assessing implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action at the national, regional and international levels. In line with its new mandate, new terms of reference for the Commission were endorsed by ECOSOC res. [1995/55](https://undocs.org/E/1995/95). The CPD’s current methods of work were the object of ECOSOC decision [2022/332](https://ecosoc.un.org/sites/default/files/documents/2023/decision-2022332.pdf) and ECOSOC res. [2016/25](http://undocs.org/E/RES/2016/25).

The Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs acts as the CPD Secretariat. The Secretary, provided by the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (DGACM), advises the Commission on procedural matters. The UN Population Fund (UNFPA) participates in meetings of the CPD Bureau as an observer.

Meetings

The Commission meets annually in New York. Most recently, its [58th session](https://www.un.org/development/desa/pd/events/CPD58) took place from 7 to 11 April 2025.

Membership

Originally 12, membership has increased several times and now stands at 47 (GA res. [50/124](http://undocs.org/A/RES/50/124) (1995)). [Members](https://www.un.org/development/desa/pd/content/composition-commission) are elected by ECOSOC for four-year terms based on equitable geographical distribution (as noted in the list below). Government representatives who serve on the Commission are expected to have the relevant background in population and development. ECOSOC decided ([2005/213](https://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2005/decision%202005-213.pdf)) members’ terms of office should run for four regular sessions of the Commission, beginning after the conclusion of a regular session and ending at the conclusion of the next regular session. The Commission elects a bureau at the start of each regular session. The Bureau usually consists of a chair and four vice-chairs.

Members (47)\*

Previous Current

African states (12 seats)\*

Algeria 1996–98 2000–03 11–15

Angola 2010–14

Benin 2007–11 14–18

Botswana 1990–93 2002–06 21–25

Burkina Faso 1969–72 18–22

Burundi 1986–89 1999–2002 15–19 2024–28

Cameroon 1966–69 85–88 1993–2009 17–21

Central African Republic 1968–71

Chad 2013–17 2022–26

Congo 1996–98

Comoros 2005–09 21–25

Côte d’Ivoire 1997–2000 09–13 18–22

DR Congo 1977–84 2003–07 09–13 19–23

Egypt 1968–75 78–81 84–87 89–92 96–99 2001–04 12–16

Equatorial Guinea 2007–11

Ethiopia 1997–2000 21–25

Gabon 1970–73 2011–15

Gambia 2002–10 2023–27

Ghana 1962–79 2001–04 10–14

Guinea 1999–2002

Kenya 1969–72 1996–2003 04–12 2022–26

Lesotho 1996–97

Liberia 2014–18

Libya 2004–08 20–24

Madagascar 1992–95 2004–08 13–21

Malawi 1967–68 78–81 86–89 1998–2001 10–14 2025–29

Mali 2017–21

Mauritania 1974–77 2003–07 18–22 2022–26

Mauritius 1985–88

Morocco 1972–75 80–83 2005–09 16–20 2022–26

Niger 1967 73–76 1998–2001

Nigeria 1967–68 80–91 1996–2006 14–17 2023–27

Rwanda 1967–69 73–84 88–95 2009–13

Senegal 2010–14

Sierra Leone 1976–83 2007–10 15–19

Somalia 2020–24

South Africa 1998–2001 07–10 14–18

Sudan 1982–85 92–99 2016–20

Togo 1984–91 2019–23

Tunisia 1964–67 70–77 94–97 2008–12

Uganda 1976–79 89–92 96 2000–03 08–20

UR of Tanzania 1993–96 2012–16

Zambia 1982–85 90–93 96–97 2002–10 14–18 20–24

Asia–Pacific states (11 seats)\*

Bangladesh 1989–2022

China 1947–67 1982–2006 07–22 2022–26

India 1965–72 74–81 84–87 1994–2006 07–14 18–25

Indonesia 1952–54 68–69 76–83 96–99 2001–13 2022–26

Iran 1953–55 70–73 86–93 1996–2023 2023–27

Iraq 1988–91 2015–17

Japan 1958–85 1988–2016 17–25 2025–29

Kazakhstan 2008–12

Lebanon 2002–06 07–10 20–24 2024–28

Malaysia 1984–87 1997–2009 10–18 19–23

Mongolia 2014–18

Nepal 1996 2018–22

Oman 2007–10 14–17

Pakistan 1967–71 92–96 2008 09–13 14–18 2022–26

Philippines 1967–69 72–79 1996–2001 03–07 10–14 15–19 21–25 2025–29

Qatar 2016–20

ROK 1996–2001

Saudi Arabia 2022–26

Sri Lanka 1961–64 80–83 2007–11

Syria 1950–52 54–56 62–65 96–98

Tajikistan 2023–27

Thailand 1973–88 1997–2000 02–06

Turkmenistan 2011–15 16–24 2024–28

Vanuatu 2018–22

Yemen 1999–2002

Eastern European states (5 seats)1

Albania 2025–26

Armenia 2004–08

Belarus 2000–03 09–13 15–23 2024–28

Bulgaria 1984–87 96–99 2005–09 18–22

Croatia 1999–2002 08–12

Georgia 2011–15

Hungary 1977–84 1993–2000 03–07 10–14

Lithuania 2001–04

North Macedonia1 1996–98

Poland 1988–95 2002–06 07–11

Republic of Moldova 2012–20 2021–25

Romania 1973–76 2013–21

Russian Federation 1947–2006 07–22 2022–26

Serbia 2014–18 2023–27

Ukraine 1947–83 85–92 1996–2001 07–10 20–24

Latin American and Caribbean states (9 seats)

Argentina 1954–60 2014–22 2022–26

Barbados 1970–73 78–81

Bolivia 1982–85 88–91 2003–07 15–19

Brazil 1947–60 69–80 85–92 1996–2003 05–21

Chile 1967–68 1999–2002 16–20

Colombia 1985–96 2008–12 18–22 2025–29

Costa Rica 1954–57 73–76 84–87 1999–2000 21–25

Cuba 1986–89 96 2009–13 17–25

Dominican Republic 1977–80 2014–18 20–24

Ecuador 1967–69 74–77 80–83 2011–15

El Salvador 1958–65 1996–2001 03–07 11–15 19–23

Grenada 2007–11

Guatemala 2010–14

Guyana 2002–09

Haiti 1970–73 1999–2002 05–08 09–13 18–22 2025–29

Honduras 1981–84 92–95 2007–11 2023–26

Jamaica 1967–71 1994–2006 07–14 15–23 2024–28

Mexico 1961–64 76–79 1982–2006 07–10 13–25 2025–29

Nicaragua 1993–96 2002–06

Panama 1965–68 74–81 90–93 1997–2000 2023–27

Paraguay 1999–2000

Peru 1966–69 72–75 81–84 96–98 2001–09 14–18 2022–26

Saint Lucia 2010–14

Uruguay 1961–64 2007–10 13–17 2023–27

Venezuela 1969–72 96–97

Western European and Other states (10 seats)

Australia 1947–49 52–53 65–68 2021–25 2025–29

Austria 1965–68 2001–04

Belgium 1951–64 1989–2025 2025–29

Canada 1947–49 54–60 1993–2000 05–09 17–24 2025–29

Denmark 1969–76 2013–25

Finland 1976–83 96 2008–12 16–20 2024–28

France 1947–2008 17–21

Germany 1985–2013 14–22 2025–29

Greece 1962–64 81–84

Ireland 2002–06

Israel 1956–59 2009–13 15–23 2023–27

Italy 1960–63 96–97 1999–2002

Luxembourg 2003–07 10–14 17–21 2024–28

Malta 1996–98

Netherlands 1947–50 65–68 73–88 1992–2012 13–17 18–22 2023–27

New Zealand 1969–72

Norway 1950–61 77–84 2002–05 12–16

Portugal 2011–15 2022–26

Spain 1969–72 77–80 2007–11 12–16

Sweden 1950–55 64–75 84–91 1998–2001 05–10

Switzerland 2005–17

Türkiye 1973–76 85–92 1997–2004 20–24

UK 1947–2001 07–18 21–25

USA 1947–2006 07–22 2022–26

Bureau (58th session, 2025)2

Chair

Catharina Lasseur, Netherlands

Vice-Chairs

Norma Abi Karam, Lebanon

Josélyne Kwishaka, Burundi

Galina Nipomici, Republic of Moldova

Stefany Romero Veiga, Uruguay

Notes

\* On 4 April 2025, ECOSOC elected 13 members for four-year terms beginning at the first meeting of the Commission’s 60th session in 2026 and expiring at the close of its 63rd session in 2030: Cameroon, Ghana, Senegal and UR of Tanzania (African states); China, Malaysia and Mongolia (Asia–Pacific states); Russian Federation (Eastern European states); Bolivia and Cuba (Latin American and Caribbean states); and Ireland, Norway and UK (Western European and Other states). On 10 June 2025, ECOSOC elected India (Asia–Pacific states) for the same term. It postponed the election of two members for the same term. As at 1 July 2025, there were five vacancies: four from the African states group, two for the term expiring at the close of the 61st session in 2028 and two for the term expiring at the close of the 62nd session in 2029; and one from the Asia–Pacific states group, for the term expiring at the close of the 62nd session in 2029. Terms shown in the list that appear for more than the usual four years are due to the ECOSOC decision [2005/213](http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2005/decision%202005-213.pdf) and rule 15 of the rules of the functional commissions of the Council, which request the Commission to hold the first meeting of the next session immediately after the closure of the previous session for the sole purpose of electing a new chair and other members of the Bureau. Terms shorter than four years reflect elections to fill vacancies.

1 The former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia served on the Commission in 1947–53 and 65–68. It was not automatically succeeded by any of the new states created following its dissolution.

2 On 11 April 2025, the Commission elected Zéphyrin Maniratanga, Burundi, as Chair of its 60th session, and Arb Kapisyzi, Albania, Stéphanie Toschi, Luxembourg, and Sasha-Kay Kayann Watson, Jamaica, as Vice-Chairs. It deferred the election of the remaining Vice-Chair, from the Asia–Pacific states group, to a later date.

Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)

Palais de Nations

8–14, Avenue de la Paix

1211 Geneva 10

Switzerland

Fax: +41 22 917 0052

Email: [cstd@un.org](mailto:cstd%40un.org?subject=)

Website: <https://unctad.org/topic/commission-on-science-and-technology-for-development>

UNCTAD Secretary-General: Rebeca Grynspan, Costa Rica (appointed in July 2017 for a four-year term from September 2021 to August 2025)

Purpose

The Commission provides the General Assembly and ECOSOC with high-level advice on relevant issues through analysis and policy recommendations or options in order to enable those organs to guide the future work of the UN, develop common policies and agree on appropriate actions. It first met in 1993.

The Commission acts as a forum for:

* Examining science and technology questions and their implications for development
* Advancing understanding on science and technology policies, particularly in respect of developing countries

Formulating recommendations and guidelines on science and technology matters within the UN system.

Evolution

The Commission was established by ECOSOC decision [1992/218](https://undocs.org/E/1992/92) in accordance with GA res. [46/235](http://undocs.org/A/RES/46/235) (1992) on the restructuring and revitalization of the UN in the economic, social and related fields. It replaced the Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development and its subsidiary body, the Advisory Committee on Science and Technology for Development.

ECOSOC res. [1992/62](https://undocs.org/E/RES/1992/62) reaffirmed the Commission’s mandate as set forth in ECOSOC and General Assembly resolutions, including GA resolutions [34/218](http://undocs.org/A/RES/34/218) (1979), [41/183](http://undocs.org/A/RES/41/183) (1986), [42/192](http://undocs.org/A/RES/42/192) (1987), [44/14](http://undocs.org/A/RES/44/14) (1989) and [46/235](http://undocs.org/A/RES/46/235) (1992). ECOSOC res. [1998/46](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/cdp/cdp_res_dec/e_1998_46.pdf) decided the Commission should work more closely with the Commission on Sustainable Development and the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). UNCTAD serves as the Secretariat for the Commission. ECOSOC res. [2006/46](https://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2006/resolution%202006-46.pdf) gave the Commission the additional mandate for the system-wide follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS).

Meetings

The Commission usually [meets](https://unctad.org/meetings-search?f%5B0%5D=product%3A308) in Geneva for a week in March/April. ECOSOC res. [2002/37](http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2002/resolution%202002-37.pdf) requested the Commission meet annually, starting from the sixth session held in May 2003.

Membership

ECOSOC res. [2006/46](https://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2006/resolution%202006-46.pdf) increased the Commission’s membership from 33 to 43. [Members](https://unctad.org/topic/commission-on-science-and-technology-for-development/membership) are elected by ECOSOC based on equitable geographical distribution (as noted in the following list). Terms are four years, ending 31 December of the year shown. The Commission elects a bureau for the next session at each regular session. The [Bureau](https://unctad.org/topic/commission-on-science-and-technology-for-development/bureau) consists of a chair and four vice-chairs.

Members (43)

Previous Current

African states (11 seats)

Algeria 2023–26

Angola 2015–18

Botswana 2019–22 2023–26

Burkina Faso 2017–20 2025–28

Burundi 2021–24

Cameroon 2013–24 2025–28

Central African Republic 2013–16

Côte d’Ivoire 2015–18

Djibouti 2023–26

DR Congo 2009–12 17–20 2025–28

Egypt 2019–22 2023–26

Equatorial Guinea 2009–12

Ethiopia 2019–22

Gambia 2021–24 2025–28

Ghana 2009–12

Guinea 2021–24

Kenya 2015–22

Lesotho 2011–14

Liberia 2013–16 19–22

Madagascar 2019–22

Mali 2009–12

Mauritania 2015–18

Mauritius 2011–18

Nigeria 2013–20

Rwanda 2011–14 2023–26

South Africa 2009–12 17–24

Togo 2011–14

Tunisia 2011–14

Uganda 2015–18

UR of Tanzania 2011–14 2023–26

Zambia 2013–16 2025–28

Asia–Pacific states (9 seats)

China 2011–22 2023–26

India 2011–18 2023–26

Indonesia 2025–28

Iran 2011–22 2025–28

Japan 2013–24 2025–28

Jordan 2009–12

Kazakhstan 2017–20

Nepal 2019–22

Oman 2009–12 13–22 2023–26

Pakistan 2009–12 15–18

Philippines 2011–14 21–24 2025–28

Saudi Arabia 2011–14 17–24

Sri Lanka 2009–12 13–16

Tajikistan 2023–26

Thailand 2015–22

Turkmenistan 2014–16 17–24

Uzbekistan 2023–26

Eastern European states (5 seats)

Belarus 2021–24

Bulgaria 2011–18

Estonia 2025–28

Hungary 2011–22 2023–26

Latvia 2011–22 2023–26

Poland 2015–18 2025–28

Romania 2019–22 2023–26

Russian Federation 2009–24

Serbia 2019–20

Slovakia 2009–12

Latin American and Caribbean states (8 seats)

Belize 2023–26

Bolivia 2015–18

Brazil 2009–24 2025–28

Chile 2009–20

Colombia 2023–26

Costa Rica 2009–16

Cuba 2011–22 2023–26

Dominican Republic 2011–22

Ecuador 2019–22 2023–26

El Salvador 2011–14 17–20

Guatemala 2021–24 2025–28

Jamaica 2009–12

Mexico 2013–20

Panama 2019–22

Paraguay 2021–24 2025–28

Peru 2011–18 21–24 2025–28

Western European and Other states (10 seats)

Austria 2009–24 2025–28

Belgium 2019–22

Canada 2015–22 2023–26

Finland 2009–12 13–16 18–24 2025–28

France 2011–14 2023–26

Germany 2013–20 2025–28

Israel 2009–12 21–24

Malta 2011–14

Portugal 2009–24 2025–28

Sweden 2011–18

Switzerland 2009–24 2025–28

Türkiye 2011–22 2023–26

UK 2015–22 2023–26

USA 2011–22 2023–26

Bureau (elected in 2024 for the 28th session, 2025)\*

Chair

Muhammadou M O Kah, Gambia

Vice-Chairs

Ana Cristina Amoroso das Neves, Portugal

Leah J Buendia, Philippines

Ana Cecilia Gervasi, Peru

Peter Major, Hungary

Note

\* On 11 April 2025, the Commission elected Guilherme de Aguiar Patriota, Brazil, Muhammadou M O Kah, Gambia, Isabelle Lois, Switzerland, and Peter Major, Hungary, as Vice-Chairs of its 29th session. It postponed the election of a Chair from the Asia–Pacific states group until the start of that session.

High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

Website: <https://hlpf.un.org>

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/SustDev/](https://www.facebook.com/SustDev/)

X: [@SustDev](http://www.twitter.com/SustDev)

Purpose

The Forum was created at the UN Conference on Sustainable Development ([Rio+20](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/rio20)) in June 2012 to build on the strengths, experiences, resources and inclusive participation modalities of the Commission on Sustainable Development ([CSD](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/csd.html)), which it replaced. Since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in September 2015, the Forum has been mandated to have a central role in overseeing a network of follow-up and review processes at the global level, working coherently with the General Assembly, ECOSOC and other relevant organs and forums, in accordance with existing mandates.

The Forum provides political leadership and oversight over the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the global level. This includes facilitating sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned, providing guidance and recommendations for follow-up, ensuring the integration of economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, and addressing new and emerging issues. It promotes system-wide coherence and coordination of sustainable development policies.

The UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs acts as the substantive secretariat to the Forum, through its Office of Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development. The General Assembly and ECOSOC Affairs Division of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (DGACM) provides the Secretary of the Forum. The format and organizational aspects of the Forum are contained in GA res. [67/290](http://undocs.org/A/RES/67/290) (2013). The follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level and the role of the Forum are further elaborated in GA resolutions [70/299](http://undocs.org/A/RES/70/299) (2016), [74/298](http://undocs.org/A/RES/74/298) (2020), [75/290B](https://undocs.org/A/RES/75/290B) (2021) and most recently [78/285](https://undocs.org/A/RES/78/285) (2024), which outlines themes and focuses for 2025–27.

Evolution

The CSD was established by the General Assembly in December 1992 to ensure effective follow-up of the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), also known as the Earth Summit (ECOSOC res. [1993/207](http://www.un-documents.net/1993-207.htm) in accordance with GA res. [47/191](http://undocs.org/A/RES/47/191) (1992)). UN Member States agreed at Rio+20 to establish the Forum to replace the CSD.

Meetings

The Forum meets for two days every four years at the level of Heads of State and Government under the auspices of the General Assembly, where the outcome is a negotiated political declaration, and every year for eight days under the auspices of ECOSOC, including a three-day ministerial segment during the high-level segment of ECOSOC, where the outcome is a negotiated ministerial declaration.

The Forum held its inaugural meeting in September 2013 under the auspices of the General Assembly. It has met annually in July, from 2014 onwards, under the auspices of ECOSOC. It met under the auspices of the General Assembly in September 2019 and 2023. From 2016, the [voluntary national reviews](https://hlpf.un.org/vnrs) replaced national voluntary presentations held in the context of the annual ministerial-level substantive reviews of ECOSOC. The [2025 Forum](https://hlpf.un.org/2025), held from 14 to 23 July, had the theme ‘Advancing sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for leaving no one behind’ and examined in-depth Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3, 5, 8, 14 and 17.

Members

The Forum is open to all UN Member States and states members of specialized agencies. Provisions include active participation of non-state actors, major groups, members of civil society and other stakeholders in sustainable development. When convened under the auspices of the General Assembly every four years, the Forum is chaired by the President of the General Assembly. When convened annually under the auspices of ECOSOC, the Forum is chaired by the ECOSOC President.

Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)

UN-Women, 220 East 42nd Street

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Email: [aina.iiyambo@unwomen.org](mailto:aina.iiyambo@unwomen.org)

X: [@UN\_CSW](http://www.twitter.com/UN_CSW)

Website: [www.unwomen.org/csw](http://www.unwomen.org/csw)

UN-Women Executive Director: Sima Sami Bahous, Jordan (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in September 2021)

Purpose

The Commission was established by ECOSOC res. [11](https://undocs.org/E/RES/11(II)) (II) (1946) to prepare reports for ECOSOC on matters concerning the promotion of women’s rights in the political, economic, social and educational fields, and to make recommendations on problems requiring immediate attention in the field of women’s rights. Its mandate has since been expanded several times. The Commission’s principal output is the Agreed Conclusions on the priority theme for the year. In addition to the Agreed Conclusions, the Commission adopts resolutions on women’s rights issues.

Evolution

ECOSOC resolutions [1987/22](https://undocs.org/E/RES/1987/22) and [1996/6](https://ecosoc.un.org/sites/default/files/documents/2023/resolution-1996-6.pdf) expanded and updated the Commission’s mandate in response to the outcomes of the Third and Fourth World Conferences on Women, held in 1985 and 1995, respectively. GA res. [50/203](http://undocs.org/A/RES/50/203) (1995) decided the Commission would have a central role in monitoring the implementation of the Platform for Action of the Fourth World Conference on Women (Beijing, 1995). This role was reaffirmed by GA res. [55/71](http://undocs.org/A/RES/55/71) (2000), with the inclusion of monitoring implementation of the outcome of the 23rd Special Session of the General Assembly.

ECOSOC res. [2022/4](https://docs.un.org/E/RES/2022/4), which contains the Commission’s current working methods, further reaffirms that the Commission will also contribute to the gender-responsive follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Structure

The Secretariat for the substantive work of the Commission is the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), which was created in 2010 (GA res. [64/289](http://undocs.org/A/RES/64/289)). UN-Women is responsible for substantive servicing of the Commission, including preparation of analysis and reports for the session, supporting the work of the CSW Bureau, helping to create a conducive environment for exchange of experiences and negotiations, facilitating the participation of civil society representatives in the sessions and coordinating side events held at the UN during the Commission’s sessions. The Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (DGACM) serves as the technical secretariat of the Commission.

The Commission meets in plenary meetings, which include a ministerial segment. It has one working group, the Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women. The Group was established by ECOSOC res. [1983/27](https://undocs.org/E/RES/1983/27) and consists of up to five members selected from the Commission’s members with regard to geographical distribution, tasked with bringing to the Commission’s attention communications that appear to reveal a consistent pattern of reliably attested injustice and discriminatory practices against women.

Meetings

The Commission meets annually for up to 10 working days at UN Headquarters in New York, usually in March.

Membership

The Commission has 45 [members](https://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/member-states). It originally had 15 members, and has been enlarged several times, most recently by ECOSOC res. [1989/45](http://undocs.org/E/RES/1989/45). Members are elected for four-year terms based on equitable geographical distribution (as noted in the following list). Until 2002, terms began on 1 January and ended on 31 December. ECOSOC decision [2002/234](https://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2002/decision%202002-234.pdf) provided that members’ terms would begin immediately after the end of the Commission’s regular session held after 1 January following election and finish at the end of the regular session held after 1 January following the election of the states that succeed them, unless they are re-elected.

The Commission’s [Bureau](https://www.unwomen.org/en/csw/member-states) is elected at the first meeting of a regular session, held immediately following the closure of the previous session. Bureau members serve for two years. The Bureau consists of a chair and four vice-chairs, one of whom is designated as the Rapporteur.

Members (45)\*

Previous Current

African states (13 seats)

Algeria 1993–96 2003–07 18–22 2022–26

Angola 1995–98

Benin1 2000–04

Botswana 1968–70 2002–06

Burkina Faso 1988–91 2002–06 13–17

Burundi1 1999–2003

Cabo Verde 2022–26

Cameroon 2006–10

Central African Republic 1971–74 2010–14

Comoros 2010–14 18–22

Congo 1995–98 2003–07 14–22

Côte d’Ivoire 1987–94 1998–2001 2023–27

DR Congo 1971–78 81–84 87–94 2011–15 2023–27

Djibouti 2006–10

Egypt1 1962–76 81–84 90–93 1999–2003 14–18 2022–26

Equatorial Guinea 2015–23

Eritrea 2008–12 16–20

Eswatini 1996–99 2010–14

Ethiopia 1976–79 1997–2000 2025–29

Gabon 2002–06 07–11

Gambia 2010–14

Ghana 1962–70 79–82 90–93 1997–2000 04–08 14–22

Guinea1 1964–69 73–76 94–97 2001–05 09–13

Guinea-Bissau 1993–96

Kenya 1967 72–75 83–86 94–97 2014–22

Lesotho 1980–83 88–91 1998–2001 06–10 13–17

Liberia 1966–75 83–86 2011–19

Libya 1977–80 94–97 2010–14

Madagascar 1968–69 73–80 92–95

Malawi1 2000–04 12–13 15–19

Mali 1996–99 2005–09 2024–28

Mauritania 1967–68 70–72 2009–13 2022–26

Mauritius 1985–88 2004–08

Morocco 1969–71 89–92 1997–2000 05–09 21–25

Mozambique 2023–27

Namibia 1994–97 2007–11 17–21

Niger 1977–80 2007–11 12–16 17–21

Nigeria 1971–74 80–83 90–93 2003–07 16–20 21–25 2025–29

Rwanda 1991–94 1998–2001 09–13 2024–28

Senegal 1975–78 79–82 1999–2003 08–12 20–24

Sierra Leone 1963–65 83–86

Somalia 2020–24

South Africa 2002–06 19–23 2025–29

Sudan 1981–96 1998–2006 13–16

Togo 1976–79 84–87 95–98 2006–10 19–23

Tunisia1 1967–72 85–88 94–97 2001–05 17–21 2022–26

Uganda 1967 79–82 90–93 1998–2001 13–17

UR of Tanzania1 1989–92 2001–09 14–18

Zambia 1984–90 92–95 2006–10 21–25

Zimbabwe 1990–93 2011–15

Asia–Pacific states (11 seats)\*

Afghanistan 2021–25

Bahrain 2017–21

Bangladesh 1987–94 2010–18 19–23 2024–28

Cambodia 2007–11

China 1947–63 65–67 73–76 1980–2004 04–16 17–21 2022–26

Cyprus 1968–70 90–97

DPRK 1999–2003

India 1947–51 73–88 1990–2001 03–07 08–12 14–18 21–25 2025–29

Indonesia 1955–57 62–65 71–78 83–86 90–93 95–98 2002–10 12–16

Iran2 1952–54 62 64–72 76–79 1990–2001 02–222

Iraq 1967–72 79–82 2009–13 18–22

Japan1 1958–63 65–70 72–75 1977–2017 18–22 2022–26

Kazakhstan 2004–08 14–18

Kuwait 2016–20

Kyrgyzstan1 2000–04

Lebanon 1950–55 96–99 2022–26

Malaysia 1967–71 79–82 1990–2001 02–14 19–23

Mongolia1 1999–2003 10–14 15–19 20–24

Myanmar 1952–54

Nepal 1964–66

Pakistan1 1952–60 76–95 2001–05 07–11 13–17 2022–26

Philippines 1961–75 83–98 2010–14 20–24 2025–29

Qatar 2005–09 16–20

ROK 1994–2001 02–22 2023–27

Saudi Arabia 2018–22 2023–27

Sri Lanka 1998–2001 2024–28

Syrian AR 1947–49

Tajikistan 2014–18

Thailand 1971–78 1989–2000 03–07 11–15

Turkmenistan 2018–22

UAE 2002–10

Eastern European states (4 seats)3

Albania 2015–19

Armenia 2003–11 19–23

Azerbaijan1 2001–05 07–11

Belarus 1952–57 67–78 85–88 93–96 2009–17 19–23

Bosnia and Herzegovina 2015–19

Bulgaria 1977–80 91–98

Croatia1 2000–09

Czechia 2023–27

Estonia 2011–15 17–21

Georgia 2011–15

Hungary 1964–76 2004–08

Latvia 2021–25

Lithuania1 1999–2003 2025–29

Poland 1951–68 89–92 1997–2000

Romania 1969–75 2024–28

Russian Federation 1947–2007 08–24

Slovakia 1993–99

Ukraine 1981–84 91 2023–27

Latin American and Caribbean states (9 seats)

Argentina1 1955–61 72–75 2001–05 10–14 21–25

Bahamas 1990–97

Belize 2005–09 2025–29

Bolivia 1998–2001 03–07 2024–28

Brazil1 1952–54 85–92 1996–2004 06–10 12–24 2024–28

Chile 1952–54 66–75 1992–2004 17–21 2025–29

Colombia 1960–65 70–76 89–96 2009–13 15–19 20–24 2024–28

Costa Rica 1947–50 69–75 88–91 94–97 2022–26

Cuba 1952–62 76–79 80–91 93–96 1998–2001 02–06 08–12 12–16 19–23 2023–27

Dominican Republic 1951–59 64–66 68–78 1996–2012 12–16 21–25

Ecuador 1984–87 90–97 2006–10 13–17 18–22

El Salvador 2004–08 10–18

Guatemala 1967–69 80–83 88–91 2002–06 16–20

Guyana 2014–18

Haiti 1949–51 53–55 2008–12 18–22

Honduras 1966–68 80–83

Jamaica 1990–93 2011–15

Mexico1 1947–52 57–68 76–79 1983–2003 06–10 20–24

Nicaragua 1969–71 73–76 84–87 2002–06 09–13 18–22

Panama 1979–82 2022–26

Paraguay 1997–2000 07–11 13–17

Peru1 1963–65 67–69 77–80 92–95 1997–2009 17–21

Saint Lucia 1998–2001

Suriname 2004–08

Trinidad and Tobago 2016–20 2022–26

Uruguay 1970–72 2010–18

Venezuela 1953–58 67 76–79 81–88 92–95

Western European and Other states (8 seats)

Australia 1955–57 61–63 67–69 83–90 93–96 2019–23

Austria 1965–67 70–72 89–96 2021–25

Belgium 1956–58 70–80 1995–2003 03–19 2024–28

Canada 1958–60 70–76 81–92 2003–07 17–21

Denmark1 1947–50 76–79 84–87 2000–04 20–23

Finland 1960–68 71–74 79–82 92–95 2012–16

France 1947–83 1985–2000

Germany1 1976–90 1997–2017 19–23

Greece 1949–51 59–61 73–76 85–88 95–98

Iceland 2004–08

Ireland 2017–21

Israel 1956–61 2009–25

Italy1 1981–84 87–94 1999–2003 09–13 2025–29

Liechtenstein 2015–19 2023–27

Netherlands1 1951–53 59–64 66–69 91–94 2001–09 11–15 23–24 2024–28

New Zealand 1952–53 77–80

Norway 1969–75 80–83 96–99 2016–20

Portugal 1995–98 2023–27

Spain 1962–64 68–70 81–84 92–95 2007–19 2023–27

Sweden 1954–59 75–78 88–91 2008–12

Switzerland 2013–17 20–24

Türkiye1 1947–50 67–69 88–91 1999–2011 21–25

UK1 1947–86 1997–2009 16–20 2025–29

USA 1947–94 1996–2016 19–23 2025–29

Bureau (70th session, 2026)

Chair

Maritza Chan Valverde, Costa Rica

Vice-Chairs

Samah Dbouk, Lebanon

Andreea Mocanu, Romania

Noah Oehri, Liechtenstein

Flavia Umulisa, Rwanda

Notes

\* On 4 April 2025, ECOSOC elected 10 members for a four-year term from the first meeting of the 71st session in 2026 to the close of the 74th session in 2030: Cabo Verde, Gabon, Morocco, UR of Tanzania and Zimbabwe (African states); China, Japan, Maldives, Mongolia and Qatar (Asia–Pacific states). On 10 June 2025, ECOSOC elected Uruguay (Latin American and Caribbean states) for the same term. It postponed the election of one member from the Latin American and Caribbean states for the same term. As at 1 July 2025, there was one vacancy in the Asia–Pacific states group.

1 ECOSOC decision [2002/234](http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2002/decision%202002-234.pdf) extended the terms of office for members of the Commission whose terms were to expire on: 31 December 2002 until the conclusion of the 47th session; 31 December 2003 until the conclusion of the 48th session; and 31 December 2004 until the conclusion of the 49th session.

2 Iran was elected for the 2022–26 term, but was removed from the Commission’s membership on 14 December 2022 by ECOSOC res. [2023/2](http://undocs.org/E/RES/2023/2).

3 The former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia served on the Commission from 1954 to 1956. It was not automatically succeeded by any of the new states created following its dissolution.

Statistical Commission

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New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 963 7771

Email: [statistics@un.org](mailto:statistics@un.org)

Website: <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom>

Chair: Georges-Simon Ulrich, Switzerland

Purpose

The Commission was established by ECOSOC res. [8](https://docs.un.org/E/RES/8(I)) (I) (1946). It considers special issues of concern in international statistical development, methodological issues, coordination and integration of international statistical programmes, support of technical cooperation activities in statistics, and organizational matters.

It helps ECOSOC:

* Promote the development of national statistics and improve their comparability
* Coordinate the statistical work of specialized agencies and the development of the central statistical services of the Secretariat
* Advise the organs of the UN on general questions relating to the collection, analysis and dissemination of statistical information

Promote the improvement of statistics and statistical methods generally.

The Commission submits a report on each of its sessions to ECOSOC. Its terms of reference are set out in ECOSOC resolutions [8](https://docs.un.org/E/RES/8(I)) (I), [8](https://docs.un.org/E/RES/8(II)) (II) (1946) and [1566](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/documents/ecosoc-resolution-1566(L).pdf) (L) (1971), and updated in ECOSOC res. [2022/3](https://undocs.org/E/RES/2022/3).

Meetings

ECOSOC decision [1999/223](https://ecosoc.un.org/sites/default/files/documents/2023/decisions-1999-223.pdf) decided the Commission should meet annually in New York, beginning in 2000. Sessions are usually held in February/March. The sessions are substantively serviced by the UN Statistics Division (UNSD) and attended by Commission member countries and observer countries, the regional commissions, other UN organizations, specialized agencies and related organizations, non-UN international organizations active in international statistical work and non-governmental organizations.

Membership

Originally 12, membership has been increased several times, most recently by ECOSOC res. [1147](http://undocs.org/E/RES/1147(XLI)) (XLI) (1966) and now stands at 24. [Members](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/56th-session/documents/Membership-2025.pdf) are elected by ECOSOC for four-year terms based on equitable geographical distribution (as noted in the list of members). Terms expire on 31 December of the final year shown in the list.

A [bureau](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/statcom/documents/Table-SC-Bureau.pdf) is elected by the Commission for one year with the expectation that members will be re-elected to a second one-year term if available. Nominations are made by members of the Commission, and elections are held at the beginning of a session. The Bureau comprises a chair, three vice-chairs and a rapporteur.

Members (24)\*

Previous Current

African states (5 seats)

Angola 2014–17

Algeria 2002–05

Botswana 1994–2001 10–13

Burundi 2022–25

Cabo Verde 2004–07

Cameroon 2010–17

Côte d’Ivoire 1998–2001

DR Congo 2006–09

Egypt 1964–71 78–81 86–89 2018–21

Equatorial Guinea 2018–21

Ethiopia 1978–81

Gabon 1974–77

Ghana 1967–95 2002–05

Kenya 1972–87 90–97 2004–07 16–19

Libya 1970–73 82–85 2014–17

Madagascar 2020–23

Mali 1967–68

Mauritania 2006–09

Morocco 1966–73 88–95 2000–03 10–13

Niger 2012–15

Nigeria 1982–85

Sierra Leone 1974–77 2020–23 2024–27

South Africa 2002–09 18–21

Sudan 1962–63 96–99 2008–11

Togo 1982–93 96–99 2008–11 16–19

Tunisia 1967–69 74–81 1998–2001 2022–25

Uganda 1970–73 2000–03

UR of Tanzania 2012–15 2024–27

Zambia 1986–97 2022–25

Asia–Pacific states (4 seats)

China 1947–67 1984–2003 05–20

India 1947–83 85–88 1993–2004 2024–27

Indonesia 1968–71

Iran 1953–55 89–92 2004–07

Iraq 1976–83

Japan 1962–69 1973–24 2025–28

Kuwait 2020–23

Lebanon 2008–11

Malaysia 1972–75 77–84

Mongolia 2012–15

Oman 2008–11 12–15

Pakistan 1967–68 1984–2003

Philippines 1951 69–72

Qatar 2016–19

ROK 2004–07 16–23 2024–27

Samoa 2021–24

Sri Lanka 1973–76

Thailand 1969–72

UAE 2025–28

Eastern European states (4 seats)1

Armenia 2009–12

Belarus 2008–11 17–20

Bulgaria 1984–91 96–99 2013–16

Croatia 2004–07

Czechia 1993–95 1997–2004 12–15 20–23

Georgia 2020–23

Hungary 1965–68 73–76 80–83 89–92 2000–03 05–08 12–15 21–24

Latvia 2016–19

Lithuania 2008–11

Poland 1969–72 92–95 2025–28

Romania 1957–64 77–80 1996–2003 16–19

Russian Federation 1947–2021 2022–25

Slovenia 2024–27

Ukraine 1947–79 81–88 93–96 2004–07 2024–27

Latin American and Caribbean states (4 seats)

Argentina 1950–52 72–79 1982–2001 2024–27

Barbados 2013–16

Brazil 1960–67 69–96 2014–17 20–23

Colombia 1996–99 2005–08 10–13 17–24

Costa Rica 2002–05

Cuba 1957–64 67–71 84–87 2004–07 12–19 2022–25

Dominican Republic 1956–69 2013–16 2025–28

Ecuador 1967–69 80–83

Honduras 2008–11

Jamaica 1978–81 92–95 1997–2004 06–09

Mexico 1947–49 1981–2012 17–24 2025–28

Panama 1965–72 77–80 88–91

Peru 2000–03 18–21

Suriname 2009–12

Uruguay 1962–68 73–76

Venezuela 1970–77

Western European and Other states (7 seats)

Australia 1952–57 60–71 81–84 93–96 1998–2001 10–13 2022–25

Austria 1980–83

Belgium 1966–73

Canada 1951–59 62–69 74–81 89–92 2006–09 18–21

Denmark 1951–60 69–72 2002–05 18–21

Finland 1981–88 2006–09 2022–25

France 1947–80 82–97 2001–04 06–09

Germany 1986–2001 05–24

Greece 2001–04

Iceland 1974–76 1995–2001

Ireland 1970–73 76–79 82–85

Italy 2010–17 2025–28

Netherlands 1947–61 90–93 1997–2000 05–16 18–21 2022–25

New Zealand 1956–63 74–77 85–88 2002–05 14–17

Norway 1947–50 61–68 89–92 2010–13

Portugal 1997–2000

Spain 1972–75 78–89 94–97 2002–05

Sweden 1973–80 93–96 2014–17

Switzerland 2017–24 2025–28

Türkiye 1947–50

UK 1947–2004 05–24 2025–28

USA 1947–81 1984–2003 04–23 2024–27

Bureau (elected March 2025)

Chair

Georges-Simon Ulrich, Switzerland

Vice-Chairs

Hyoung Il Lee, ROK

Graciela Márquez, Mexico

Apolonija Oblak Flander, Slovenia

Rapporteur

Andrew Bob Johnny, Sierra Leone

Notes

\* On 4 April 2025, ECOSOC elected 18 members to serve a four-year term beginning 1 January 2026: Benin, Burundi, Eritrea, Morocco, Mozambique and Namibia (African states); China and Uzbekistan (Asia–Pacific states); Romania and Russian Federation (Eastern European states); Brazil, Cuba and Peru (Latin American and Caribbean states); and Austria, Finland, Netherlands, New Zealand and Norway (Western European and Other states).

1 The former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia served on the Commission from 1954 to 1956. It was not automatically succeeded by any of the new states created following its dissolution.

Commission for Social Development (CSocD)

Division for Inclusive Social Development

Department of Economic and Social Affairs

United Nations, Room S–2572

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UNDESASocial](http://www.facebook.com/UNDESASocial)

Website: <https://social.desa.un.org/csocd>

Director, UN Division for Inclusive Social Development: Charles Katoanga

Purpose

Since the World Summit for Social Development in Copenhagen in 1995, CSocD has been the main UN body in charge of the follow-up and implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action, and serves as the forum for an intensified global dialogue on social development issues. It also contributes to the follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, within its existing mandate.

Originally known as the Social Commission but renamed in 1966, CSocD was established by ECOSOC res. [10](http://undocs.org/E/RES/10(II)) (II) (1946). Its purpose was to advise ECOSOC on social policies of a general character and, in particular, on all matters in the social field not covered by the specialized intergovernmental agencies. The Commission’s mandate was further developed by ECOSOC resolutions [830](https://undocs.org/E/RES/830(XXXII)) (XXXII) (1961), [1139](https://docs.un.org/E/RES/1139(XLI)) (XLI) (1966) and [1996/7](https://ecosoc.un.org/sites/default/files/documents/2023/resolution-1996-7.pdf). Since 2006, the Commission has taken up key social development themes as part of its follow-up to the outcome of the Copenhagen Summit. Since 2016, the Commission has addressed key social development challenges to assist Member States in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Meetings

CSocD meets annually in New York, usually in early February.

Membership

Originally 18, membership has been increased several times, most recently in 1996, and now stands at 46. Members are elected by ECOSOC based on equitable geographical distribution (as noted in the following list) for four-year terms. Until 2002, terms began on 1 January and ended on 31 December. Under ECOSOC decision [2002/210](https://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2002/decision%202002-210.pdf), terms now begin immediately after the Commission’s regular session and end at the conclusion of a regular session, usually in February.

The Bureau comprises a chair and four vice-chairs. Bureau members are elected by the Commission at the first meeting of a regular session, held immediately after the end of a regular session for the sole purpose of electing a new bureau (ECOSOC decision [2002/210](https://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2002/decision%202002-210.pdf)).

Members 64th session (46)\*

Previous Current

African states (12 seats)\*

Algeria 1999–20031 15–19

Angola 2005–09

Benin 1995–98 2000–041 07–11 15–19

Botswana 1968–70

Burkina Faso 1966–68 2011–15

Burundi 1989–92 2015–19 2023–27

Cameroon 1968–74 1989–2000 07–15

Central African Republic 1983–86 2003–07

Chad 1979–82 2019–23

Comoros 2001–051

Congo 1969–71 2017–20

Côte d’Ivoire 1972–75 92–95 2004–08 17–21

Djibouti 2021–25

DR Congo 1975–78 2005–09 13–17 20–24

Egypt 1956–78 95–98 2007–15 2023–27

Eswatini 1999–20031

Ethiopia 1995–98 2004–08 09–13 20–24

Gabon 1963–65 69–71 75–78 96–99 2001–051 09–13

Gambia 1997–99

Ghana 1983–94 2000–04 08–12 16–20 2023–27

Guinea 1977–80 91–94 1999–2003 21–25

Kenya 1980–87 2025–29

Lesotho 1976–82 2009–13

Liberia 1983–90 2012–16

Libya 1987–90 2003–07 20–24

Madagascar 1977–84 91–94 2013–21 2024–28

Malawi 1997–2000 13–21

Mali 1964–67 75–78 85–88 2004–08

Mauritania 1964–76 97–99 2012–16

Mauritius 2009–13

Morocco 1967–69 80–87 1999–20031 19–23

Namibia 2007–11 15–19

Nigeria 1972–75 91–94 2000–041 08–16 20–24

Rwanda 2016–20

Senegal 1979–82 2003–07 08–12 17–20 2025–29

Sierra Leone 1970–72 76–79 2019–23

Somalia 1971–74

South Africa 1947–51 1997–20091 19–23 2025–29

Sudan 1973–76 81–84 1988–2004 08–16 17–21

Togo 1979–90 95–98 2024–28

Tunisia 1962–74 2004–08

Uganda 1964–67 88–91 1997–2000 13–17 21–25

UR of Tanzania 1967–68 2001–091

Zambia 2003–07 21–25

Zimbabwe 1985–88 93–96 2011–15 2024–28

Asia–Pacific states (10 seats)

Afghanistan 2021–25

Bangladesh 1987–90 2001–091 12–15 16–20 2023–27

China 1947–64 66–68 1989–20051 05–25 2025–29

Cyprus 1967–94

DPRK 1999–2003 05–09

India 1949–57 69–75 79–86 1997–2000 03–11 18–21 2023–27

Indonesia 1972–83 86–88 92–95 2000–081

Iran 1967–70 1991–2007 09–13 15–19 20–24 2024–28

Iraq 1962–65 73–80 88–91 2015–23

Japan 1971–78 1996–2024 2024–28

Jordan 1947–50 53–55

Kazakhstan 2001–051

Kuwait 2013–17 18–21

Kyrgyzstan 2025–29

Lebanon 1969–71

Malaysia 1962–65 84–87 97–98

Mongolia 1976–87 95–98 2012–16

Myanmar 2005–09

Nepal 1997–99 2007–11 12–15

Pakistan 1967–69 88–95 1997–2000 03–07 08–12 13–17

Philippines 1952–57 67–72 77–84 1989–2000 09–13

Qatar 2009–13 15–23 2024–28

ROK 1996–2024

Saudi Arabia 2023–27

Sri Lanka 1962

Tajikistan 2021–25

Thailand 1970–76 81–88 1999–20031 2025–29

Turkmenistan 2014–25 2025–29

UAE 2007–11

Viet Nam 2001–051 12–15

Eastern European states (5 seats)\*2

Albania 1961–64 2009–13

Armenia 2008–12

Belarus 1951–60 62–71 83–86 1992–2004 12–16 17–20 2024–28

Bulgaria 1964–67 2001–051 17–21

Croatia 1999–2003

Czechia 2001–091

Hungary 1976–79

North Macedonia 2020–24

Poland 1947–50 77–92 1997–2000 13–17 21–25

Republic of Moldova 2004–08 16–19

Romania 1968–70 75–82 84–91 1997–2000 03–07 13–21

Russian Federation 1947–24 2024–28

Slovakia 2007–11

Ukraine 1972–75 80–83 91–98 2005–09 12–15 19–23 2023–27

Latin American and Caribbean states (9 seats)\*

Argentina 1964–66 68–70 1983–2007 08–12 13–17 19–23

Belize 2024–28

Bolivia 1950–52 79–82 93–96 2005–09 15–19

Brazil 1950–55 60–63 2009–25

Chile 1967–2000 04–08 13–17

Colombia 1947–49 53–59 73–76 2015–23 2023–27

Costa Rica 1971–78 80–83 2021–25

Cuba 1964–67 69–71 1997–2000 07–15 20–24 2025–29

Dominican Republic 1956–59 72–79 1987–2007 12–16 21–24

Ecuador 1957–64 77–80 83–86 89–92 1997–2004 12–16 21–25

El Salvador 1980–87 2001–051 08–20

Grenada 1976–79

Guatemala 1970–72 88–91 97–98 2000–041 08–12 19–23 2024–28

Haiti 1984–95 1999–20081 09–13 17–21 2023–27

Honduras 1964–67

Jamaica 1971–74 1997–20051 07–11

Mexico 1968–70 75–78 92–95 2001–051 07–19

Nicaragua 1979–82

Panama 1981–88 2017–21

Paraguay 2005–09 16–24 2024–28

Peru 1947–49 67–68 1996–2008 11–15 16–20 2023–27

Suriname 2003–07 2025–29

Uruguay 1954–56 60–69 72–75

Venezuela 1967–71 96–99 2005–13

Western European and Other states (10 seats)\*

Andorra 2007–15

Australia 1950–52 54–56 58–61

Austria 1962–65 73–76 83–98 2001–051 12–23 2023–27

Belgium 1951–56 72–75

Canada 1961–64 67–72 84–87 1997–2000

Denmark 1964–66 77–80 85–88 93–96 2001–051 09–13

Finland 1960–63 75–78 83–86 89–92 1997–2000 05–09 13–17 21–25

France 1947–2012 14–21

Germany 1987–2016

Greece 1947–48 52–57 67–69

Iceland 2017–20

Israel 1951–56 61–64 66–68 2016–23 2024–27

Italy 1958–61 70–88 2001–091 09–13

Luxembourg 2017–21 22–25

Malta 1989–2000 03–07

Monaco 2005–09

Netherlands 1957–60 66–71 76–83 85–88 1993–2000 05–13

New Zealand 1947–52 57–60 73–76

Norway 1953–55 67–69 79–82 87–90 95–98

Portugal 2016–23 2023–27

Spain 1957–60 68–74 89–92 1997–2015

Sweden 1956–59 70–72 81–84 91–94 1999–20031 09–13

Switzerland 2001–051 09–13 14–25 2025–29

Türkiye 1949–51 77–84 1999–2011 20–24

UK 1947–82

USA 1947–2024

Bureau (63rd session, 2024–25)3

Chair

Krzysztof Maria Szczerski, Poland

Vice-Chairs

AlMaha Mubarak Al-Thani, Qatar

Oliver Gruenbacher, Austria

Joselyne Kwishaka, Burundi

Vice-Chair–Rapporteur

Paola Andrea Morris Garrido, Guatemala

Notes

\* As at 1 July 2025, there were 12 vacancies for the Commission’s 64th session: three from the African states, one for the term expiring at the close of the 65th session in 2027, one for the term expiring at the close of the 66th session in 2028, and one for the term expiring at the close of the 67th session in 2029; two from the Eastern European states, both for the term expiring at the close of the 67th session in 2029; one from the Latin American and Caribbean states, for the term expiring at the close of the 67th session in 2029; and six from the Western European and Other states, three for the term expiring at the close of the 66th session in 2028 and three for the term expiring at the close of the 66th session in 2029.

1 ECOSOC decision [2002/210](https://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2002/decision%202002-210.pdf) extended the terms of office for members of the Commission whose terms were to expire on: 31 December 2002 until the conclusion of the 41st session; 31 December 2003 until the conclusion of the 42nd session; 31 December 2004 until the conclusion of the 43rd session.

2 Czechoslovakia served on the Commission in 1947–48, 1953–59 and 1964–76. The former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia served on the Commission in 1947–52, 1960–63 and 1971–74. It was not automatically succeeded by any of the new states created following its dissolution.

3 On 14 February 2025, the Commission elected Khrystyna Hayovyshyn, Ukraine, as Chair of its 64th session, and Céline Pierre Fabre, Haiti, and Stefano Guerra, Portugal, as Vice-Chairs.

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ)

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X: [@CCPCJ](http://www.twitter.com/CCPCJ)

Website: [www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CCPCJ/](http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CCPCJ/)

Secretary: Jo Dedeyne-Amann, Belgium (since 2012)

Purpose

The CCPCJ was established by ECOSOC in 1992. Its main functions are to:

* Provide policy guidance to the UN and its Member States on crime prevention and criminal justice
* Act as a governing body of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and approve the budget of the UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund
* Facilitate and help coordinate the activities of and maintain close links with the inter-regional and regional institutes of the UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network (PNI)
* Mobilize the support of Member States
* Offer Member States a forum for exchanging expertise, experience and information in order to develop national and international strategies, and to identify priorities for combating crime

Act as the preparatory body for the quinquennial [UN Congresses](https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/crimecongress/about.html) on crime prevention and criminal justice.

ECOSOC res. [1992/1](http://undocs.org/E/RES/1992/1), which established the CCPCJ, also dissolved its predecessor, the Committee on Crime Prevention and Control (also see GA res. [46/152](http://undocs.org/A/RES/46/152) (1991)).

The CCPCJ’s mandates (ECOSOC res. [1992/22](http://undocs.org/E/RES/1992/22)) are carried out by the UNODC crime programme.

Meetings

The CCPCJ meets annually in Vienna, in May. Since 2010, it has also held annual one-day reconvened sessions in the second half of the year to consider budgetary matters (ECOSOC decision [2009/251](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/FINGOV/ECOSOC_Decision-2009-251_E.pdf)). Since 2011, the CCPCJ and Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) have held joint meetings during their annual reconvened sessions (ECOSOC decision [2011/259](https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/Drug_Resolutions/2010-2019/2011/ECOSOC_Decision-2011-259.pdf)).

Membership

The Commission is composed of 40 Member States elected by ECOSOC, based on equitable geographical distribution (as shown in the list of members). Members are elected for three-year terms that begin on 1 January and end on 31 December of the years shown. The Commission elects a bureau at the end of its reconvened session for the next session. The [Bureau](https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CCPCJ/membership.html) consists of a chair, three vice-chairs and a rapporteur.

Members (40)

Previous Current

African states (12 seats)

Algeria 2003–05 09–14 19–21

Angola 2010–12 21–23

Benin 2010–12 16–18

Botswana 2004–06

Burkina Faso 2019–21 2024–26

Burundi 2004–06

Cameroon 2007–18 21–23 2024–26

Central African Republic 2003–05

Comoros 2004–11

Côte d’Ivoire 2016–18 21–23

DR Congo 2002–03 06–17

Egypt 2004–06 18–20 2024–26

Eritrea 2015–23

Eswatini 2019–21

Ethiopia 2003–05

Gambia 2003–05 2025–27

Ghana 2009–11 13–15 22–24

Kenya 2009–23

Lesotho 2009–11

Liberia 2015–17

Libya 2006–11 22–24

Madagascar 2024–26

Mauritania 2003–05 18–20

Mauritius 2012–23

Morocco 2015–23 2024–26

Namibia 2006–08 13–15 21–23

Niger 2006–08

Nigeria 2004–15 19–24 2025–27

Senegal 2006–08

Sierra Leone 2007–09 12–17

South Africa 2007–09 12–14 16–20 2024–26

Sudan 2009–11

Togo 2018–20 22–24 2025–27

Tunisia 2012–14 2025–27

Uganda 2003–08 12–14 2024–26

UR of Tanzania 2006–08

Zambia 2003–05

Zimbabwe 2015–17 2024–26

Asia–Pacific states (9 seats)

Afghanistan 2018–20

Bahrain 2022–24

China 2003–23 2024–26

India 2004–12 16–24

Indonesia 2004–09 13–15 18–20 2024–26

Iran 2004–21 2024–26

Iraq 2019–21

Japan 2003–23 2024–26

Kazakhstan 2025–27

Kuwait 2019–21

Pakistan 2003–08 10–18 22–24 2025–27

Philippines 2010–12

Qatar 2015–17 22–24

ROK 2003–18 21–23 2025–27

Saudi Arabia 2004–18 21–23

Thailand 2004–17 19–24 2025–27

UAE 2007–09 12–14 2025–27

Eastern European states (4 seats)

Albania 2025–27

Armenia 2006–08 21–23 2024–26

Belarus 2010–24

Bulgaria 2018–20 22–24

Croatia 2003–05 12–14

Czechia 2004–06 13–15 2024–26

Latvia 2025–27

North Macedonia 2020–21

Republic of Moldova 2007–09

Romania 2009–11

Russian Federation 2003–23

Serbia 2016–18

Slovakia 2015–17

Ukraine 2004–12

Latin American and Caribbean states (8 seats)

Argentina 2007–15 2025–27

Bahamas 2013–15

Bolivia 2006–08 18–20

Brazil 2004–24 2025–27

Chile 2006–08 10–12 16–18 22–24

Colombia 2007–09 12–23 2025–27

Costa Rica 2006–08

Cuba 2004–06 09–14 16–24 2025–27

Dominican Republic 2022–24

Ecuador 2015–17 19–21

El Salvador 2004–06 09–11 15–17 21–23 2025–27

Guatemala 2007–09 16–21 2024–26

Jamaica 2004–09

Mexico 2004–06 10–21 2024–26

Nicaragua 2003–05

Paraguay 2004–06 22–24

Peru 2003–05 13–15 21–23

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 2010–12

Uruguay 2009–14 18–20 2024–26

Western European and Other states (7 seats)

Austria 2003–14 16–24

Belgium 2009–11

Canada 2004–17 22–24 2025–27

Finland 2004–06 2024–26

France 2016–24 2025–27

Germany 2006–23 2025–27

Italy 2003–08 12–23 2024–26

Norway 2013–15

Sweden 2016–18

Switzerland 2013–15

Türkiye 2003–05 07–12 19–21

UK 2004–15 18–23 2024–26

USA 2004–24 2025–27

United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF)

Secretariat of the United Nations Forum on Forests

Department of Economic and Social Affairs

United Nations Secretariat, 26th Floor

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

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Fax: +1 917 367 3186

Email: [unff@un.org](mailto:unff@un.org)

Website: [www.un.org/esa/forests](http://www.un.org/esa/forests)

Director, UNFF Secretariat: Juliette Biao Koudenoukpo (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in January 2022)

Purpose

The UNFF, as the intergovernmental body of the [International Arrangement on Forests](http://www.un.org/esa/forests/documents/international-arrangement-on-forests/index.html) (IAF), was established by ECOSOC in 2000 to provide a coherent, transparent and participatory global framework for policy development, implementation and coordination on sustainable forest management. It has reached notable milestones including the adoption of the first [UN Forest Instrument](http://www.un.org/esa/forests/documents/un-forest-instrument/index.html) in 2007, the creation of the [Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network](http://www.un.org/esa/forests/forum/capacity-development/forest-financing/index.html) (GFFFN) in 2015 and most recently, the adoption in 2017 of the first [UN Strategic Plan for Forests (2017–30](http://www.un.org/esa/forests/documents/un-strategic-plan-for-forests-2030/index.html)).

At its 11th session in May 2015, the Forum decided to strengthen the IAF and extended it to 2030. In December 2015, on the recommendation of the Forum at its 11th session, the General Assembly decided to extend the timeline of the UN Forest Instrument’s global objectives on forests to 2030, in line with the timeline of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (GA res. [70/199](http://undocs.org/A/RES/70/199)). At its 19th session in May 2024, the Forum conducted its mid-term review of the IAF’s effectiveness and adopted a resolution and a [high-level declaration](https://www.un.org/esa/forests/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/UNFF19-High-Level-declaration-10May2024-330pm-adv-unedited.pdf), and also agreed on its programme of work for 2025–28.

At its special session in January 2017, the Forum adopted the UN Strategic Plan for Forests, which was subsequently adopted by the UN General Assembly in April 2017 (GA res. [71/286](http://undocs.org/A/RES/71/286)). The key mission of the Strategic Plan is to promote sustainable forest management and the contribution of forests to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including by strengthening cooperation and political commitment at all levels. The Plan features a set of six Global Forest Goals and 26 associated targets to be reached by 2030, which are voluntary and universal.

The Global Forest Goals and targets cover a wide range of issues, including: increasing forest area and combating climate change; reducing poverty and increasing forest protected areas; mobilizing financing and inspiring innovation; and promoting governance and enhancing cooperation across sectors and stakeholders. One of the groundbreaking aspects of the Strategic Plan is a target to expand the world’s forests by 3 percent, an area of 120 million hectares, by 2030. The Forum’s 16th session in April 2021 launched a new flagship publication, the [Global Forest Goals Report 2021](https://www.un.org/en/desa/global-forest-goals-report-2021) (GFGR). The next GFGR is due to be released in 2026. The first phase of the Clearing House of the GFFFN, with three databases on forest financing opportunities, best practices and lessons learned, was also launched at UNFF16.

To support the UNFF’s work and enhance collaboration, ECOSOC invited the executive heads of relevant UN system organizations, amongst others, to establish a Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF), which was established as a voluntary arrangement in 2001. The CPF consists of 16 international organizations, institutions and secretariats with substantial programmes on forests. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) serves as the Chair and the UNFF Secretariat serves both as a member and the secretariat of the Partnership.

Major legislative mandates are provided in ECOSOC resolutions [2000/35](https://www.un.org/esa/forests/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/2000_35_E.pdf), [2006/49](https://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2006/resolution%202006-49.pdf), [2015/33](http://undocs.org/E/RES/2015/33), [2017/4](http://undocs.org/E/RES/2017/4) , [2020/14](https://undocs.org/E/RES/2020/14), [2021/6](https://undocs.org/E/RES/2021/6), [2022/17](http://undocs.org/E/RES/2022/17) and [2024/15](https://docs.un.org/E/RES/2024/15), and GA resolutions [61/193](http://undocs.org/A/RES/61/193) (2006), [62/98](http://undocs.org/A/RES/62/98) (2008), [67/200](http://undocs.org/A/RES/67/200) (2012), [70/199](http://undocs.org/A/RES/70/199) (2015), [71/285](http://undocs.org/A/RES/71/285) (2017) and [71/286](http://undocs.org/A/RES/71/286) (2017).

Meetings

From 2001 to 2007, the UNFF met annually for two weeks; then from 2007 to 2015, the UNFF met biennially for two weeks. At its 11th session in 2015, the Forum decided to change the frequency and duration of future UNFF sessions to meet annually for one week, starting in 2017. Since then, odd-year sessions focus on discussions on implementation, technical advice and exchange of experiences, while even-year sessions focus on policy dialogue, development and decision-making. Most recently, UNFF20 took place from 5 to 9 May 2025.

Membership

Membership is open to all UN Member States and states members of the specialized agencies with full and equal participation including voting rights (the UNFF is the only functional commission under ECOSOC with universal membership). CPF member organizations and relevant regional and sub-regional processes and organizations, as well as major groups and other stakeholders, as identified in [Agenda 21](http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/Agenda21.pdf), are involved in UNFF sessions.

The UNFF [Bureau](https://www.un.org/esa/forests/forum/bureau/index.html) consists of a chair and four vice-chairs in accordance with the principle of equitable geographical distribution. One vice-chair is designated to act concurrently as the Rapporteur.

Bureau 20th and 21st sessions, 2024–25 (elected 10 May 2024)

Chair

Ismail Belen, Türkiye

Vice-Chairs

Abderrahim Houmy, Morocco

Javad Momeni, Iran

Andrés Napurí Pita, Peru

Maria Sokolenko, Russian Federation

#### Regional Commissions

##### UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

##### Menelik II Avenue

##### PO Box 3001

##### Addis Ababa

##### Ethiopia

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##### Fax: +251 11 551 4416

##### Email: [eca-info@un.org](mailto:eca-info%40un.org?subject=)

##### Facebook: [www.facebook.com/EconomicCommissionforAfrica](http://www.facebook.com/EconomicCommissionforAfrica)

##### X: [@ECA\_OFFICIAL](http://www.twitter.com/ECA_OFFICIAL)

##### YouTube: [www.youtube.com/user/unecaVideo](https://www.youtube.com/user/unecaVideo)

##### Website: [www.uneca.org](http://www.uneca.org)

##### Executive Secretary: Claver Gatete, Rwanda (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in October 2023)

Purpose

ECA is the regional arm of the UN in Africa. It was established by ECOSOC in 1958 as one of the UN’s five regional commissions (ECOSOC res. [671A](http://undocs.org/E/RES/671(XXV)) (XXV) (1958)). ECA’s mandate is to support the economic and social development of its Member States, foster regional integration and promote international cooperation for Africa’s development.

ECA’s work programme is guided by five strategic directions: building ECA’s analytical capabilities; formulating macroeconomic and structural policy; designing innovative financing models; supporting regional and sub-regional transboundary initiatives; and advocating continental ideas at the global level. It works with countries to promote inclusive and sustainable development in support of accelerating the economic diversification and structural transformation of Africa, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063. It also provides technical advisory services to African Union (AU) governments, intergovernmental organizations and institutions. In addition, it formulates and promotes development assistance programmes and acts as the executing agency for relevant operational projects.

ECA’s work is organized around nine substantive programme clusters: macroeconomics and governance; private sector development and finance; data and statistics; technology, climate change and natural resource management; poverty, inequality and social policy; sub-regional activities for development; gender equality and the empowerment of women; regional integration and trade; and the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP).

Structure

ECA is headquartered in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. It coordinates with the AU through its Partnerships Office and the Joint Secretariat Support Office of the ECA, AU Commission (AUC) and African Development Bank (AfDB). It has five sub-regional offices, one each in central, east, north, southern and west Africa. ECA is headed by an Executive Secretary, who is assisted by two Deputy Executive Secretaries.

Meetings

ECA sessions (Conference of Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development) are held annually. Most recently, the [57th session](https://www.uneca.org/eca-events/cfm2025) was held from 12 to 18 March 2025 in Addis Ababa. ECA also jointly organizes the annual Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development ([ARFSD](https://www.uneca.org/eca-events/arfsd2025)) with the Forum’s host government, in collaboration with the AUC, AfDB and other UN system entities. More information is available on the website under ‘[Events](https://www.uneca.org/eca-events/)’.

Membership

The geographical scope of ECA’s work is the continent and islands of Africa. Membership is open to members of the UN in this region and to any state in the area that may become a member of the UN in the future. Under its terms of reference, ECA may invite UN Member States to participate in its work in a consultative capacity. Switzerland participates in a consultative capacity by virtue of ECOSOC res. [925](http://undocs.org/E/RES/925(XXXIV)) (XXXIV) (1962).

Members (54)

Algeria

Angola

Benin

Botswana

Burkina Faso

Burundi

Cabo Verde

Cameroon

Central African Republic

Chad

Comoros

Congo

Côte d’Ivoire

DR Congo

Djibouti

Egypt

Equatorial Guinea

Eritrea

Eswatini

Ethiopia

Gabon

Gambia

Ghana

Guinea

Guinea-Bissau

Kenya

Lesotho

Liberia

Libya

Madagascar

Malawi

Mali

Mauritania

Mauritius

Morocco

Mozambique

Namibia

Niger

Nigeria

Rwanda

São Tomé and Príncipe

Senegal

Seychelles

Sierra Leone

Somalia

South Africa

South Sudan

Sudan

Togo

Tunisia

Uganda

UR of Tanzania

Zambia

Zimbabwe

UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

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Fax: +66 2 288 1000

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UNESCAP](http://www.facebook.com/UNESCAP)

X: [@UNESCAP](http://www.twitter.com/UNESCAP)

LinkedIn: [United Nations ESCAP](https://www.linkedin.com/company/united-nations-escap)

Website: [www.unescap.org](http://www.unescap.org)

Executive Secretary: Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Indonesia (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in September 2018; took office in November 2018)

Purpose

ESCAP is the regional development arm of the UN in Asia and the Pacific. The largest UN regional commission in terms of area covered and population served, ESCAP promotes inclusive and sustainable economic, social and environmental development, with a particular focus on reducing disparities within and among countries in the region.

ESCAP also assists its membership in: the attainment of internationally agreed development goals, such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a particular emphasis on countries in special situations (the region’s least developed countries (LDCs), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS)); the implementation of regional intergovernmental frameworks and agreements; and the formulation of common regional positions on global issues.

Under the programme structure endorsed by GA res. [70/247](http://undocs.org/A/RES/70/247) (2016), and modified with ESCAP res. [78/1](https://docs.un.org/ESCAP/RES/78/1) (2022), ESCAP’s work is implemented through nine sub-programmes: macroeconomic policy, poverty reduction and financing for development; trade, investment and innovation; transport; environment and development; information and communication technology and disaster risk reduction; social development; statistics; energy; and sub-regional activities.

ESCAP was originally established by ECOSOC res. [37](http://undocs.org/E/RES/37(IV)) (IV) (1947) as the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE). ECOSOC res. [1895](http://undocs.org/E/RES/1895(LVII)) (LVII) (1974) approved the change of name to ESCAP.

Structure

The main legislative organ of ESCAP is the [Commission](https://www.unescap.org/commission/about-the-commission), which provides a forum for governments of the Asia–Pacific region to review and discuss economic, social and environmental development issues, strengthen sub-regional and regional cooperation and formulate common regional positions on global issues. The Commission also has nine sectoral committees that cover: macroeconomic policy, poverty reduction and financing for development; trade and investment; transport; environment and development; information and communication technology, science, technology and innovation; disaster risk reduction; social development; statistics; and energy.

The Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission ([ACPR](https://www.unescap.org/about/acpr)) was established in 1974. Formal meetings are held once every two months to advise and exchange views with the Executive Secretary on the Secretariat’s work, and to maintain close cooperation and consultation between Member States and the Secretariat.

The Commission also has the following [regional institution](https://www.unescap.org/about/regional-institutions)s under its auspices:

* Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology ([APCTT](http://www.apctt.org/)), New Delhi, India
* Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communications Technology for Development ([APCICT](http://www.unapcict.org/)), Incheon, ROK
* Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific ([SIAP](http://www.unsiap.or.jp/)), Chiba, Japan
* Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization ([CSAM](http://www.un-csam.org/)), Beijing, China

Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management ([APDIM](https://apdim.unescap.org/)), Tehran, Iran.

ESCAP’s work on [sub-regional activities for development](https://www.unescap.org/subregional-office) covers: the [Pacific](https://www.unescap.org/subregional-office/pacific), with an office in Suva, Fiji; [East and North-East Asia](https://www.unescap.org/subregional-office/east-north-east-asia), with an office in Incheon, ROK; [North and Central Asia](https://www.unescap.org/subregional-office/north-central-asia), with an office in Almaty, Kazakhstan; [South and South-West Asia](https://www.unescap.org/subregional-office/south-south-west-asia), with an office in New Delhi, India; and [South-East Asia](https://www.unescap.org/subregional-office/south-east-asia), coordinated by ESCAP’s headquarters, in Bangkok, Thailand.

Meetings

The Commission meets annually, usually in April in Bangkok, Thailand. Information on intergovernmental meetings and other activities of ESCAP can be found on its [website](https://www.unescap.org/events).

Membership

ESCAP is composed of 53 [Member States](https://www.unescap.org/about/member-states), of which 30 are LDCs, LLDCs or SIDS, and nine associate members, of which seven are SIDS. Most members are states physically located within the broad geographical scope of the Commission, plus France, Netherlands, UK and USA.

Members (53)

Afghanistan

Armenia

Australia

Azerbaijan

Bangladesh

Bhutan

Brunei Darussalam

Cambodia

China

DPRK

Fiji

France

Georgia

India

Indonesia

Iran

Japan

Kazakhstan

Kiribati

Kyrgyzstan

Lao PDR

Malaysia

Maldives

Marshall Islands

Micronesia

Mongolia

Myanmar

Nauru

Nepal

Netherlands

New Zealand

Pakistan

Palau

Papua New Guinea

Philippines

ROK

Russian Federation

Samoa

Singapore

Solomon Islands

Sri Lanka

Tajikistan

Thailand

Timor-Leste

Tonga

Türkiye

Turkmenistan

Tuvalu

UK

USA

Uzbekistan

Vanuatu

Viet Nam

Associate Members (9)

American Samoa

Cook Islands

French Polynesia

Guam

Hong Kong, China

Macau, China

New Caledonia

Niue

Northern Mariana Islands

UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)

Palais des Nations

1211 Geneva 10

Switzerland

Telephone: +41 22 917 1234

Email: [unece\_info@un.org](mailto:unece_info@un.org)

Website: [www.unece.org](http://www.unece.org)

Executive Secretary: Tatiana Molcean, Republic of Moldova (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in July 2023)

Purpose

UNECE’s major aim is to promote pan-European economic integration. Created in 1947 by ECOSOC res. [36](http://undocs.org/E/RES/36(IV)) (IV) (1947), it brings together 56 countries from Europe, Central Asia and North America to work together on economic and sectoral issues.

The Commission provides analysis, policy advice and assistance to governments. In cooperation with other stakeholders, notably the business community, it gives focus to UN global economic mandates. It also sets out norms, standards and conventions to facilitate international cooperation within and outside the region.

Structure

UNECE is responsible for making strategic decisions on its work programme and provides a forum for policy dialogue on economic developments in the region. Principal subsidiary bodies are committees on: economic cooperation and integration, environmental policy, European statisticians, housing and land management, inland transport, sustainable energy, forests and forest industry, and trade. More structural and governance information is on the website under [‘About UNECE’](http://www.unece.org/oes/nutshell/governing_bodies.html) .

Meetings

The Commission holds a public session every two years. Most recently, the [71st session](https://unece.org/info/Sessions-of-the-Commission/events/393881) took place in April 2025. Sectoral committee meetings are held throughout the year.

Membership

UNECE is composed of the European members of the UN, the USA, Canada, Israel and the Central Asian and Caucasian former USSR republics. The Holy See, which is not a member of the UN, participates in UNECE activities in a consultative capacity. Provision is also made for participation by representatives of other UN Member States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

Members (56)

Albania

Andorra

Armenia

Austria

Azerbaijan

Belarus

Belgium

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Bulgaria

Canada

Croatia

Cyprus

Czechia

Denmark

Estonia

Finland

France

Georgia

Germany

Greece

Hungary

Iceland

Ireland

Israel

Italy

Kazakhstan

Kyrgyzstan

Latvia

Liechtenstein

Lithuania

Luxembourg

Malta

Monaco

Montenegro

Netherlands

North Macedonia

Norway

Poland

Portugal

Republic of Moldova

Romania

Russian Federation

San Marino

Serbia

Slovakia

Slovenia

Spain

Sweden

Switzerland

Tajikistan

Türkiye

Turkmenistan

Ukraine

UK

USA

Uzbekistan

Bureau 2025–27

Chair

Italy

Vice-Chairs

Kazakhstan

Montenegro

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

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Vitacura 7630412

Chile

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X: [@eclac\_un](http://www.twitter.com/eclac_un)

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/user/ECLACUN](http://www.youtube.com/user/ECLACUN)

Flickr: [www.flickr.com/photos/eclac](http://www.flickr.com/photos/eclac)

Website: [www.cepal.org/en](http://www.cepal.org/en)

Executive Secretary: José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, Costa Rica (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in September 2022)

Purpose

ECLAC was originally founded in 1948 by ECOSOC res. [106](http://undocs.org/E/RES/106(VI)) (VI) to coordinate policies for the promotion of sustainable economic development and to foster regional and international trade in Latin America. Later, its work was extended to the Caribbean countries and territories and its programme of action expanded to promote sustainable social development. ECLAC commemorated its [75th anniversary](https://www.cepal.org/75-anniversary/) in 2023.

In 1996, Member States updated ECLAC’s mandate through res. [553](https://repositorio.cepal.org/bitstream/handle/11362/15582/RES-553-E_en.pdf?sequence=1) (XXVI). Under this provision, the Commission helps Member States analyse the development process by formulating, evaluating and following up on public policies, as well as by providing assistance in areas of specialized information. The Spanish acronym for ECLAC is CEPAL.

Structure

ECLAC has the following nine [subsidiary bodies](https://www.cepal.org/en/about/subsidiary-bodies):

* Committee of the Whole of ECLAC
* Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)
* Conference on Science, Innovation and Information and Communications Technologies
* Regional Conference on Population and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean
* Regional Conference on Social Development in Latin America and the Caribbean
* Regional Conference on South–South Cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean
* Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean
* Regional Council for Planning

Statistical Conference of the Americas.

Resolution [700](https://www.cepal.org/en/documentos/700xxxvi-resolucion-mexico-la-que-se-crea-foro-paises-america-latina-caribe-desarrollo) (XXXVI), Mexico Resolution, adopted at the Commission’s 36th session in 2016, established the [Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development](https://foroalc2030.cepal.org/2025/en) as a regional mechanism to follow up and review the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and targets, its means of implementation, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA).

The [ECLAC Secretariat divisions](https://www.cepal.org/en/about/divisions-and-units) are: economic development; social development; statistics; population (Latin American Demographic Centre (CELADE)); international trade and integration; economic and social planning (Latin American and Caribbean Institute for Economic and Social Planning (ILPES)); production, productivity and management; sustainable development and human settlements; natural resources and infrastructure; gender affairs; programme planning and operations; publications and web services.

In addition to headquarters in Santiago, Chile, the Commission has sub-regional headquarters in [Mexico City](https://www.cepal.org/en/headquarters-and-offices/subregional-headquarters-mexico) for Mexico and Central America, and in [Port of Spain](https://www.cepal.org/en/about/headquarters-and-offices/eclac-caribbean), Trinidad and Tobago, for the Caribbean. It also maintains country offices in Buenos Aires, Argentina; Brasilia, Brazil; Montevideo, Uruguay; and Bogota, Colombia; and a liaison office in Washington, DC.

Meetings

The Commission’s session meetings are held every two years. Its [40th session](https://periododesesiones.cepal.org/40/en) took place in Lima, Peru, in October 2024. The Committee of the Whole meets between sessions.

Membership

ECLAC [membership](https://www.cepal.org/en/about/member-states-and-associate-members) is made up of the 33 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean and 13 developed nations from North America, Europe and Asia that have strong economic, social and cultural linkages with the region. Additionally, 14 non-independent territories in the Caribbean are associate members.

Members (46)

Antigua and Barbuda

Argentina

Bahamas

Barbados

Belize

Bolivia

Brazil

Canada

Chile

Colombia

Costa Rica

Cuba

Dominica

Dominican Republic

Ecuador

El Salvador

France

Germany

Grenada

Guatemala

Guyana

Haiti

Honduras

Italy

Jamaica

Japan

Mexico

Netherlands

Nicaragua

Norway

Panama

Paraguay

Peru

Portugal

ROK

Saint Kitts and Nevis

Saint Lucia

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Spain

Suriname

Trinidad and Tobago

Türkiye

UK

USA

Uruguay

Venezuela

Associate members (14)

Anguilla

Aruba

Bermuda

British Virgin Islands

Cayman Islands

Curaçao

French Guiana

Guadeloupe

Martinique

Montserrat

Puerto Rico

Sint Maarten

Turks and Caicos Islands

United States Virgin Islands

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

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Lebanon

Telephone: +961 1 981 301

Email: [escwa-ciu@un.org](mailto:escwa-ciu%40un.org?subject=)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/unescwa](http://www.facebook.com/unescwa)

X: [@UNESCWA](http://www.twitter.com/UNESCWA)

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/@UNESCWA](https://www.youtube.com/@UNESCWA)

Website: [www.unescwa.org](https://www.unescwa.org)

Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary: Rola Dashti, Kuwait (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in January 2019)

Purpose

ESCWA supports its member states in their efforts towards sustainable development. By analysing regional and national economic, social and environmental trends in the light of global UN agendas, ESCWA provides its member states with policy recommendations that build on a thorough analysis of facts and commonalities. It also underscores the benefits of integration and creates regional public goods, including knowledge, data, tools and capacity.

ESCWA was originally established by ECOSOC res. [1818](http://undocs.org/E/RES/1818(LV)) (LV) (1973) as the Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA). It was renamed the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia in 1985 to reflect its expanded mandate to cover the social development field.

Structure

The ESCWA biennial session is the highest intergovernmental source of resolutions and recommendations on development issues to member states. It also advises ECOSOC of the consolidated views of member states on issues significant to economic and social development at the global level; facilitates policy discussion among high-level government officials on the regional development agenda and emerging issues; and sets mandates within the global development framework based on the expressed needs of the member states.

The 10 intergovernmental bodies of ESCWA are the Executive Committee and nine specialized subsidiary [committees](https://www.unescwa.org/about/committees): statistical, social development, energy, water resources, transport and logistics, women, technology for development, trade policies and financing for development.

Meetings

The [ministerial session](https://www.unescwa.org/about/ms) of ESCWA is the governing body and is normally held once every two years.

Membership

ESCWA comprises 21 Arab [countries](https://www.unescwa.org/about/member-states).

Members (21)

Algeria

Bahrain

Djibouti

Egypt

Iraq

Jordan

Kuwait

Lebanon

Libya

Mauritania

Morocco

Oman

Qatar

Saudi Arabia

Somalia

State of Palestine

Sudan

Syrian AR

Tunisia

UAE

Yemen

#### Standing Committees

##### Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC)

##### Secretariat Building

##### S–3241

##### New York, NY 10017

##### United States of America

##### Telephone: +1 212 963 5306

##### Email: [cpc@un.org](mailto:cpc@un.org)

##### Website: [www.un.org/en/ga/cpc](http://www.un.org/en/ga/cpc)

Purpose

The Committee was initially established by ECOSOC res. [920](http://undocs.org/E/RES/920(XXXIV)) (XXXIV) (1962) and given its present name by ECOSOC res. [1171](https://undocs.org/E/RES/1171(XLI)) (XLI) (1966). Legislation defining its terms of reference is consolidated in ECOSOC res. [2008](https://undocs.org/E/RES/2008(LX)) (LX) (1976), which provides that the Committee shall function as the main subsidiary organ of ECOSOC and the General Assembly for planning, programming and coordination.

The CPC is charged with:

* Reviewing UN programmes as defined in the strategic framework1
* Recommending priority programmes
* Guiding the Secretariat on translating legislation into programmes and making recommendations, taking into account that duplication should be avoided
* Developing evaluation procedures

Assisting ECOSOC in its coordination functions.

The CPC is required to consider the activities of UN agencies on a sectoral basis and recommend guidelines for them, taking into account the need for coherence and coordination. It must also carry out periodic reviews of the implementation of important legislative decisions. It is directed to cooperate with the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) and consult with the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU).

Meetings

The CPC usually meets for five weeks in New York in May and June.

Membership

Originally 11, membership has been increased several times, most recently by GA decision [42/450](http://www.un.org/en/ga/cpc/dec42450.shtml) (1987), and now stands at 34. In accordance with GA res. [42/318](http://undocs.org/en/a/42/49) (1987) and ECOSOC res. [1987/94](http://undocs.org/E/RES/1987/94), members are elected by the General Assembly on the nomination of ECOSOC and on the basis of equitable geographical distribution (as shown in the list of members). Members serve three-year terms, expiring on 31 December.2 The [Bureau](https://www.un.org/en/ga/cpc/65/bureau65.shtml) (on the website under ‘Current Session’) is elected annually and consists of a chair, three vice-chairs and a rapporteur.

Members (34)\*

Previous Current

African states (9 seats)

Algeria 1990–92 2005–07 11–13

Angola 2019–21

Benin 1986–91 95–97 1999–2001 03–08 11–16

Botswana 2001–03 13–15 18–20 22–24 2025–27

Burkina Faso 1987–89 2015–20

Burundi 1978–80 91–93

Cameroon 1981–92 1994–2002 12–23 2024–26

Central African Republic 2003–11

Chad 2018–20

Comoros 1994–96 1999–2001 04–12 20–22

Congo 1991–99

Côte d’Ivoire 1988–90 2024–26

DR Congo 1996–98

Egypt 1984–86 1993–2001 17–19

Equatorial Guinea 2015–17

Eritrea 2011–13 17–19 21–23

Eswatini 2021–23

Ethiopia 1983–85 2002–04 14–16 19–21

Gabon 2000–05

Ghana 1978–80 92–97 2005–07

Guinea 2009–14

Guinea-Bissau 2012–14

Kenya 1972–80 88–90 93–95 2005–10 22–24 2025–27

Liberia 1984–86 20–22 2023–25

Libya 2008–10

Mali 2021–23

Mauritania 2000–02 20–22

Morocco 1981–83 90–92 2014–16 2023–25

Namibia 2010–12 15–17

Niger 2008–10

Nigeria 1983–85 91–93 97–99 2002–04 09–11

Rwanda 1988–90 2024–26

Senegal 1981–83 94–96 2006–08 17–19

South Africa 2003–11 2024–26

Sudan 1977–82

Togo 1974–76 93–98

Tunisia 1987–89 2002–04 2023–25

Uganda 1972–79 88–93 1998–2000

UR of Tanzania 1972–77 80–82 2001–03 13–18

Zambia 1986–94 1998–2000

Zimbabwe 1997–2002 04–09 12–14 16–18

Asia–Pacific states (7 seats)

Bahrain 1988–90

Bangladesh 1985–90 2000–02 08–10 17–19

China 1987–2022 2023–25

India 1975–86 88–96 2003–11 18–23 2024–26

Indonesia 1972–80 84–89 1991–2008

Iran 1994–2023 2024–26

Iraq 1985–87 91–93 2015–17

Japan2 1975–2007 12–16 18–23 2024–26

Kazakhstan2 2009–14

Malaysia 2012–14

Pakistan 1973–84 1988–2023 2024–26

Philippines 1981–83 2021–22 2023–25

ROK 1993–2022 2023–25

Saudi Arabia 2015–17

Sri Lanka 1990–92

Thailand 1997–99

Eastern European states (4 seats)3

Armenia 2003–11 15–17 21–23 2024–26

Belarus 1973–78 85–87 94–96 2006–23

Bulgaria 1976–78 91–93 2006–08 12–14 18–20 2024–26

Hungary 1973–75

Poland 1988–93 1997–2002 21–23 2024–26

Republic of Moldova 2000–05 12–14 18–20

Romania 1979–84 88–90 94–99

Russian Federation 1974–2024 2025–27

Ukraine 1991–2005 09–11 15–17

Latin American and Caribbean states (7 seats)

Antigua and Barbuda 2011–13

Argentina 1974–88 90–92 1994–2014 16–21 2023–25

Bahamas 1988–2006

Brazil 1975–89 1991–2023 2024–26

Chile 1976–78 83–85 91–93 2018–20 22–24

Colombia 1977–79 88–93

Costa Rica 1980–82 2021–23 2024–26

Cuba 1988–90 94–96 2008–23

Dominican Republic 2021–23

El Salvador 2013–15

Guyana 1973–75

Haiti 1974–76 2007–12 14–19 2025–27

Jamaica 2005–10

Mexico 1988–90 1995–2006 2024–26

Nicaragua 1993–95 97–99 2003–05

Paraguay 2019–21 22–24 2025–27

Peru 1986–88 2000–02 13–18

Trinidad and Tobago 1979–99

Uruguay 1992–94 1996–2004 06–17 20–22 2024–26

Venezuela 1989–91 2007–12 15–17

Western European and Other states (7 seats)

Austria 1988–90 97–99

Belgium 1973–81 2022–24 2025–27

Canada 1988–90 94–96 2003–05

Denmark 1973–78

France 1974–2024 2025–27

Germany 1982–2005 18–23 2024–26

Israel 2006–08 10–12 2024–26

Italy 1991–93 1997–2002 06–23 2024–26

Malta 1970–72 2021–23

Monaco 2003–05

Netherlands 1982–87 91–96

Norway 1979–81 91–96

Portugal 1999–2002 06–08 15–20

San Marino 2000–02

Spain 2009–11

Sweden 1988–90

Switzerland 2003–08

UK 1973–2005 13–23 2024–26

USA 1974–2006 13–23 2024–26

Notes

\* On 4 April 2025, ECOSOC nominated six members for election by the General Assembly to three-year terms beginning on 1 January 2026: Egypt, Nigeria and Senegal (African states); China and ROK (Asia–Pacific states); and Cuba (Latin American and Caribbean states).

1 In GA res. [72/266 A](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/72/266A) (2017), the Assembly approved the proposed change from a biennial to an annual budget period on a trial basis and decided that the proposed programme budget would be submitted through the CPC and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions for the consideration of the General Assembly, and examined by the Committees in accordance with their respective mandates. In GA res. [77/267](http://undocs.org/A/RES/77/267) (2022), the Assembly decided to lift the trial period effective from 2023 and requested the Secretary-General to continue with the submission of the programme budget according to an annual cycle. For more detailed information, see the [website](https://www.un.org/en/ga/cpc/overview.shtml).

2 The 2012–13 and 2012–14 terms began in April 2012.

3 The former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia served on the Committee from 1979 to 1990. It was not automatically succeeded by any of the new states created following its dissolution.

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

UN Secretariat, Room S–26

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Email: please use the contact form on the [website](https://ecosoc.un.org/en/ngo/contact)

Website: <https://ecosoc.un.org/en/ngo/committee-on-ngos>

Purpose

The Committee was established by ECOSOC res. [3](http://undocs.org/E/RES/3(II)) (II) (1946) to examine and report on the consultative relationship that ECOSOC should accord to international non-governmental organizations (NGOs). ECOSOC res. [1996/31](https://www.un.org/esa/coordination/ngo/Resolution_1996_31/) approved new criteria by which consultative arrangements between ECOSOC and NGOs may be established.

Meetings

The Committee traditionally [meets](https://ecosoc.un.org/en/ngo/committee-sessions) for a total of 15 working days (30 meetings) a year: eight days (15 meetings) for its regular session at the end of January and seven days (13 meetings) for its resumed session at the end of May, plus one extra meeting at the end of each session to adopt its [report](https://ecosoc.un.org/en/ngo/committee-reports).

Membership

Originally five, membership has been increased several times, most recently by ECOSOC res. [1981/50](https://undocs.org/E/RES/1981/50), and now stands at 19. Membership is open to all states, with regard to equitable geographical representation (as noted in the list of members). Under ECOSOC decision [70](https://undocs.org/E/5683) (ORG–75) (1975), members are elected for four-year terms, beginning on 1 January and expiring on 31 December. The Committee elects a bureau every year.\*

Members (since 2007) (19)

Previous Current

African states (5 seats)

Algeria 2023–26

Angola 2007–10

Burundi 2007–22

Cameroon 2023–26

Egypt 2007–10

Eritrea 2023–26

Eswatini 2019–22

Guinea 2007–10 15–18

Liberia 2023–26

Libya 2019–22

Mauritania 2015–18

Morocco 2011–14

Mozambique 2011–14

Nigeria 2019–22

Senegal 2011–14

South Africa 2015–18

Sudan 2007–22

Zimbabwe 2023–26

Asia–Pacific states (4 seats)

Bahrain 2019–22 2023–26

China 2007–22 2023–26

India 2007–22 2023–26

Iran 2015–18

Kyrgyzstan 2011–14

Pakistan 2007–22 2023–26

Qatar 2007–10

Eastern European states (2 seats)

Armenia 2023–26

Azerbaijan 2015–18

Bulgaria 2011–14

Estonia 2019–22

Georgia 2023–26

Romania 2007–10

Russian Federation 2007–22

Latin American and Caribbean states (4 seats)

Brazil 2019–22

Chile 2023–26

Colombia 2007–10

Costa Rica 2023–26

Cuba 2007–22 2023–26

Dominica 2007–10

Mexico 2019–22

Nicaragua 2011–22 2023–26

Peru 2007–14

Uruguay 2015–18

Venezuela 2011–18

Western European and Other states (4 seats)

Belgium 2011–14

Greece 2015–22

Israel 2007–22 2023–26

Türkiye 2007–22 2023–26

UK 2007–10 2023–26

USA 2007–22 2023–26

Note

\* On 20 January 2025, the Committee elected Andrew Sigley, UK, as Vice-Chair; on 19 May 2025, it elected Sayed Ansar Hussain Shah, Pakistan, and Gustavo Ramírez Baca, Costa Rica, as Vice-Chairs.

#### Expert Bodies

##### Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters

##### Financing for Sustainable Development Office

##### 2 United Nations Plaza, Room DC2–2170

##### New York, NY 10017

##### United States of America

##### Telephone: +1 212 963 8415

##### Email: [ffdoffice@un.org](mailto:ffdoffice%40un.org?subject=)

##### Website: <https://financing.desa.un.org/what-we-do/ECOSOC/tax-committee/tax-committee-home>

##### Secretary: Michael Lennard

Purpose

The Committee of Experts is mandated to:

* Keep under review and update as necessary the UN Model Double Taxation Convention between Developed and Developing Countries, and the Manual for the Negotiation of Bilateral Tax Treaties between Developed and Developing Countries
* Provide a framework for dialogue with a view to enhancing and promoting international tax cooperation amongst national tax authorities
* Consider how new and emerging issues could affect international cooperation in tax matters and develop assessments, commentaries and appropriate recommendations
* Make recommendations on capacity-building and the provision of technical assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition

Give special attention to developing countries and countries with economies in transition in dealing with all the above issues.

Subcommittees are formed at the discretion of the Committee members. The Subcommittees for the July 2025–June 2029 membership terms are likely to be formed beginning in October 2025. For the July 2021–June 2025 term, the Committee established subcommittees on: the UN Model Tax Convention between Developed and Developing Countries; Transfer Pricing; Update of the UN Manual for the Negotiation of Bilateral Tax Treaties Between Developed and Developing Countries; Environmental Taxation Issues; the Relationship of Tax, Trade and Investment Agreements; Taxation of the Digitalized and Globalized Economy; Increasing Tax Transparency; Wealth and Solidarity Taxes; Health Taxes; Indirect Taxation; and Taxation of the Extractive Industries. The Committee has also established similar small groups on: Dispute Avoidance and Resolution; Taxation and Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19); Digitalization and Improvement of Tax Administration; and Procedural Issues for the Committee. More information, including mandates, can be found on the website under ‘[Subcommittees](https://financing.desa.un.org/subcommittees)’.

Evolution

The Ad Hoc Group of Experts on Tax Treaties between Developed and Developing Countries was established in 1968 (ECOSOC res. [1273](http://undocs.org/E/RES/1273(XLIII)) (XLIII) (1967)). Its purpose was to promote the conclusion of treaties between developed and developing countries that were acceptable to all parties and that would fully safeguard their respective revenue interests. In 1980, the Group finalized the UN Model Double Taxation Convention between Developed and Developing Countries, and it was given the title Ad Hoc Group of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters. In 2004, it was renamed the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters (ECOSOC res. [2004/69](https://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2004/resolution%202004-69.pdf)).

Recent Tax Committee guidance publications (available on the website under ‘[Publications](https://financing.desa.un.org/what-we-do/ECOSOC/tax-committee/publications)’) include:

* 2023 UN Manual for the Negotiation of Bilateral Tax Treaties
* 2024 UN Handbook on Wealth and Solidarity Taxes
* 2024 Guidance on Transfer Pricing during the COVID-19 Economic Downturn
* 2024 Transfer Pricing Compliance Toolkit
* 2024 Guidance on Transfer Pricing: of Carbon Offsets and Carbon Credits; of Agriculture Products; in the Pharmaceutical Industry
* 2024 The Interaction of Carbon Taxation with other environmental measures: emissions trading and climate policy; Carbon Taxes and Carbon Offset Programs; Border Carbon Adjustments: Impact and Relevance for Developing Countries

2024 The Role of Carbon Taxes and other Measure to Support Energy Transition.

Meetings

Until 2015, the Committee met annually for five days in Geneva, usually in October. The Third International Conference on Financing for Development, in its Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA), paragraph 29, as endorsed by the General Assembly (res. [69/313](http://undocs.org/A/RES/69/313) of 27 July 2015) decided that the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters will meet twice a year instead of once, as was previously the case.

The Committee held its first meeting in New York in December 2016. Since 2017, meetings have taken place in New York in spring and in Geneva in autumn. The Committee’s most recent meeting was the [30th session](https://financing.desa.un.org/events/30th-session-committee-experts-international-cooperation-tax-matters), held in New York from 24 to 27 March 2025, in conjunction with an [ECOSOC Special Meeting](https://financing.desa.un.org/events/ecosoc-special-meeting-international-cooperation-tax-matters-2) on 28 March. Its [31st session](https://financing.desa.un.org/events/31st-session-committee-experts-international-cooperation-tax-matters) is scheduled to be held in Geneva from 21 to 24 October 2025.

Membership

Originally 20, the number of members increased in 1980 to 25 (ECOSOC res. [2004/69](https://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2004/resolution%202004-69.pdf)). Members are nominated by governments and selected by the UN Secretary-General in consultation with Member States, taking into account equitable geographic distribution and representation from different tax systems (AAAA, paragraph 29). Members act in their expert capacities in tax policy and tax administration, not as country representatives, and serve four-year terms.

Members (25) July 2025 to June 2029

Angela Ang, Singapore

Jeneba Jackline Bangura, Sierra Leone

Hajara Batamuliza, Rwanda

Enrique Bolado Muñoz, Mexico

Neary Bun, Cambodia

Angie Clocheret, Belgium

Jorge Alberto Ferreras Gutiérrez, Spain

Mathew Olusanya Gbonjubola, Nigeria

Bhaskar Goswami, India

Antoine Guici, France

Wanjiru Kiarie, Kenya

Giedre Lideikyte Huber, Lithuania

Shaniece Lindsay, Jamaica

Wanda Montero Cuello, Dominican Republic

Kapembwa Elizabeth Namuyemba-Sikombe, Zambia

Eamonn O’Dea, Ireland

Claudia Lucia Pimentel Martins da Silva, Brazil

Alvaro Romano, Uruguay

Gian Andrea Sandri, Switzerland

Alexander Smirnov, Russian Federation

Trude Steinnes Sønvisen, Norway

Darlingston Y Talery, Liberia

Hector Thompson, Australia

Mohamed Ali Waheed, Maldives

Yan Xiong, China

Committee for Development Policy (CDP)

Secretariat of the United Nations Committee for Development Policy

Department of Economic and Social Affairs

United Nations Secretariat

405 East 42nd Street, Room S–2978

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Email: [cdp@un.org](mailto:cdp%40un.org?subject=)

Website: <https://cdp.un.org>

Purpose

The Committee provides input and independent advice to ECOSOC on emerging cross-sectoral development issues and on international cooperation for development, focusing on medium- and long-term aspects. It is responsible for setting the criteria for the designation of least developed countries (LDCs), reviewing the list of LDCs every three years, and monitoring the development progress of countries graduating and graduated from the LDC category.

The [list of LDCs](https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/least-developed-country-category/ldcs-at-a-glance.html) was first established in 1971 and now consists of 44 states. Countries that have graduated from the LDC category are: Botswana (1994), Cabo Verde (2007), Maldives (2011), Samoa (2014), Equatorial Guinea (2017), Vanuatu (2020), Bhutan (2023) and São Tomé and Príncipe (2024). Bangladesh, Lao PDR and Nepal are scheduled to graduate in 2026, Solomon Islands in 2027, and Cambodia and Senegal in 2029.

List of LDCs

Afghanistan

Angola

Bangladesh

Benin

Burkina Faso

Burundi

Cambodia

Central African Republic

Chad

Comoros

DR Congo

Djibouti

Eritrea

Ethiopia

Gambia

Guinea

Guinea-Bissau

Haiti

Kiribati

Lao PDR

Lesotho

Liberia

Madagascar

Malawi

Mali

Mauritania

Mozambique

Myanmar

Nepal

Niger

Rwanda

Senegal

Sierra Leone

Solomon Islands

Somalia

South Sudan

Sudan

Timor-Leste

Togo

Tuvalu

Uganda

UR of Tanzania

Yemen

Zambia

Evolution

ECOSOC res. [1035](https://undocs.org/E/RES/1035(XXXVII)) (XXXVII) (1964) requested the Secretary-General consider the establishment of a group of experts in development planning theory and practice to work as a consultative body within the UN. ECOSOC res. [1079](https://undocs.org/E/RES/1079(XXXIX)) (XXXIX) (1965) set out the functions of this proposed group, which was appointed at the Council’s 40th session and designated the Committee for Development Planning. ECOSOC res. [1625](https://undocs.org/E/RES/1625(LI)) (LI) (1971) enlarged the Committee from 18 to 24 members, with effect from 1 January 1972. Following an ECOSOC review of its subsidiary bodies, initiated by GA res. [50/227](http://undocs.org/A/RES/50/227) (1996), the Committee was renamed in 1998 the Committee for Development Policy (ECOSOC res. [1998/46](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/cdp/cdp_res_dec/e_1998_46.pdf)). The resolution also determined that ECOSOC should decide the work programme for the Committee, and that the Committee should continue three-yearly reviews of the status of LDCs and meet to discuss this issue once every three years.

ECOSOC res. [2004/66](https://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2004/resolution%202004-66.pdf) and GA res. [59/209](http://undocs.org/A/RES/59/209) re-emphasized the importance of a smooth transition for countries graduating from LDC status. In December 2012, the General Assembly adopted a resolution ([67/221](http://undocs.org/A/RES/67/221)) on smooth transition for countries graduating from the list of LDCs. The resolution clarifies several aspects of the process including the required actions by graduating countries and their development and trading partners, and the nature of support extended by the UN during this process. It also provides guidelines on the phasing out of some LDC-specific international support measures.

The Committee considers a country for graduation once it has met the criteria at two consecutive triennial reviews. ECOSOC, in turn, endorses the Committee’s recommendation. Graduation becomes effective after a transition period set by the General Assembly when it takes note of ECOSOC’s endorsement. During the three-year period, the graduating country, still an LDC, is invited to prepare and start implementing a transition strategy in cooperation with its development and trading partners, which are invited to consider extending LDC benefits or to reduce them in a phased manner after the country graduates from the category, to ensure a smooth transition. The Committee is mandated to monitor the development progress of graduating and recently graduated countries.

Meetings

The Committee meets annually, usually in March, for five working days.

Membership

[Members](https://policy.desa.un.org/cdp-membership) serve in their individual capacities as experts and not as representatives of their own government. They are nominated by the UN Secretary-General and appointed by ECOSOC for a three-year [term](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/cdp/cdp_res_dec/e_1998_47.pdf). Membership is geared to reflect a wide range of development experience as well as geographical and gender balance.

Members (24) 1 Jan 2025 to 31 Dec 2027

Sabina Alkire, USA

Carlos Alvarado, Costa Rica

Debapriya Bhattacharya, Bangladesh

Ha-Joon Chang, ROK

George Essegbey, Ghana

Ahmed Galal, Egypt

Arunabha Ghosh, India

Trudi Hartzenberg, South Africa

Jibrin Ibrahim, Nigeria

Anne-Laure Kiechel, France

Carlos Lopes, Guinea-Bissau

Nyovani Janet Madise, Malawi

Patricia Miranda, Bolivia

Keith Nurse, Trinidad and Tobago

José Antonio Ocampo Gaviria, Colombia

Izumi Ohno, Japan

Åsa Persson, Sweden

Cristelle Pratt, Fiji

Annalisa Prizzon, Italy

Taffere Tesfachew, Ethiopia

Kori Udovicki, Serbia

Rolph van der Hoeven, Netherlands

Natalya Volchkova, Russian Federation

Xufeng Zhu, China

Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

c/– UNECE

Sustainable Transport Division

Palais des Nations

1211 Geneva 10

Switzerland

Email: [unece\_info@un.org](mailto:unece_info@un.org)

Website: <https://unece.org/transport/dangerous-goods/ecosoc-bodies-dealing-chemicals-safety>

Purpose

The main functions of the Committee are to:

* Approve work programmes for its sub-committees based on available resources
* Coordinate strategic and policy directions in areas of shared interests and overlap
* Give formal endorsement to the recommendations of the sub-committees and provide the mechanism for channelling these to ECOSOC

Facilitate and coordinate the smooth running of the sub-committees.

The Committee was previously known as the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, which was reconfigured and given its current name by ECOSOC res. [1999/65](https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/main/dgdb/dgsubc4/ECOSOC/1999-65/1999-65e.pdf). The Committee has two specialized subsidiary bodies:

* Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (TDG Sub-Committee)

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS Sub-Committee).

The UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) provides secretariat services to the Committee and its two sub-committees.

Meetings

The Committee meets once every two years, in even years, in Geneva.

Membership

The Committee comprises experts from 40 states. Other countries occasionally participate as observers, in accordance with rule 72 of the ECOSOC [rules of procedure](http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/about/pdf/rules.pdf). The Committee Chair is designated at the beginning of each session from the TDG and GHS Chairs. Current practice is that designations are made on a rotational basis.

Members (40)

Argentina

Australia

Austria

Belgium

Brazil

Canada

China

Czechia

Denmark

Finland

France

Germany

Greece

India

Iran

Ireland

Italy

Japan

Kenya

Mexico

Morocco

Netherlands

New Zealand

Nigeria

Norway

Poland

Portugal

Qatar

ROK

Russian Federation

Senegal

Serbia

South Africa

Spain

Sweden

Switzerland

Ukraine

UK

USA

Zambia

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (TDG Sub-Committee)

Purpose

The Sub-Committee, established under ECOSOC res. [1989/104](https://undocs.org/E/RES/1989/104), develops recommendations on the transport of dangerous goods. These are updated every two years to take account of technical progress, the advent of new substances and materials, the requirements of modern transport systems and, above all, the requirement to ensure the safety of people, property and the environment. The recommendations are addressed to governments and international organizations concerned with regulating the transport of dangerous goods, including hazardous wastes and environmentally hazardous substances. The aim is to achieve uniformity across different modes of transport (road, rail, inland waterways, sea and air) and ensure the safety of transport without impeding the movement of goods.

The recommendations form the basis of much national legislation and of international instruments such as the:

* International Maritime Organization (IMO) International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code
* International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air
* Agreement Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR)
* European Agreement Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways (ADN)

Regulations concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Rail (RID).

The Sub-Committee has developed a comprehensive set of recommendations covering: listing, classification, marking and labelling; and also the use of packaging and tanks, their construction, testing and approval; training; consignment procedures including documentation; operational provisions; and security. They are grouped in the [Model Regulations](https://unece.org/about-recommendations) annexed to the UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, also known as the ‘Orange Book’, and are updated every two years.

Evolution

The Sub-Committee initially replaced the Group of Experts on Explosives and Group of Rapporteurs, which were subsidiary bodies of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods. In 1999 (ECOSOC res. [1999/65](https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/main/dgdb/dgsubc4/ECOSOC/1999-65/1999-65e.pdf)), the Sub-Committee replaced the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods, which had been established under ECOSOC res. [468G](http://undocs.org/E/RES/468(XV)) (XV) (1953) to recommend and define groupings or classification of dangerous goods based on the risk involved. In ECOSOC res. [1999/65](https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/main/dgdb/dgsubc4/ECOSOC/1999-65/1999-65e.pdf), the Committee of Experts was also renamed the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals.

Meetings

The Sub-Committee meets twice a year, in June/July and November/December, in Geneva.

Membership

The Sub-Committee comprises experts from 30 states. Other countries participate occasionally as observers in accordance with rule 72 of the ECOSOC [rules of procedure](http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/about/pdf/rules.pdf).

Members (30)

Argentina

Australia

Austria

Belgium (Vice-Chair 2025–26)

Brazil

Canada

China

Czechia

Finland

France

Germany

India

Iran

Italy

Japan

Kenya

Mexico

Morocco

Netherlands

Norway

Poland

Portugal

ROK

Russian Federation

South Africa

Spain

Sweden

Switzerland

UK

USA (Chair 2025–26)

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS Sub-Committee)

Purpose

The Sub-Committee was established under ECOSOC res. [1999/65](https://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/trans/main/dgdb/dgsubc4/ECOSOC/1999-65/1999-65e.pdf) to give effect to the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals ([GHS](https://unece.org/about-ghs)), also known as the ‘Purple Book’, developed by several organizations in the follow-up to the UN Conference on Environment and Development (Rio de Janeiro, June 1992) and [Agenda 21](http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/Agenda21.pdf), Chapter 19, Programme Area B. The Sub-Committee develops and updates the GHS recommendations, which aim to ensure that information on hazardous chemicals is available to enhance the protection of human life and the environment during handling, transport and use of these chemicals. The GHS recommendations also provide the basis for the harmonization of rules and regulations on chemicals at national and international level. They are applied worldwide and updated every two years.

The Sub-Committee’s terms of reference are to:

* Act as custodian of the GHS, managing and giving direction to the harmonization process
* Keep the GHS up to date as necessary, considering the need for changes to ensure its continued relevance and practical utility
* Determine the need for, and timing of, the updating of technical criteria while working with existing bodies as appropriate
* Promote understanding and use of the GHS and encourage feedback
* Make the GHS available for worldwide use and application
* Make guidance available on the application of the GHS, and on the interpretation and use of technical criteria to support consistency of application

Prepare work programmes and submit recommendations to the Committee.

Meetings

The Sub-Committee meets twice a year, in July and December, in Geneva.

Membership

The Sub-Committee comprises experts from 36 states. Other countries participate occasionally as observers, in accordance with rule 27 of the ECOSOC [rules of procedure](http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/about/pdf/rules.pdf).

Members (36)

Argentina

Australia

Austria (Chair 2025–26)

Belgium

Brazil

Canada

China

Czechia

Denmark

Finland

France

Germany

Greece

Iran

Ireland

Italy

Japan

Kenya

Netherlands

New Zealand

Nigeria

Norway

Poland

Portugal

Qatar

ROK

Russian Federation

Senegal

Serbia

South Africa

Spain

Sweden

Ukraine

UK

USA (Vice-Chair 2025–26)

Zambia

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/cescr/pages/cescrindex.aspx](http://www.ohchr.org/en/hrbodies/cescr/pages/cescrindex.aspx)

The International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights obliges States Parties to report to ECOSOC on its implementation. ECOSOC has delegated consideration of such reports to the CESCR, which was established as an expert subsidiary body of ECOSOC by its res. [1985/17](http://undocs.org/E/RES/1985/17). An intergovernmental working group, established under decision [1978/10](http://undocs.org/E/1978/78), had previously carried out these functions. A full CESCR entry is included in the ‘Other Bodies’ section, under ‘Human rights treaty bodies’, page 292.

Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA)

Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government

Department of Economic and Social Affairs

2 United Nations Plaza, Room DC2–1726

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 963 2764

Email: [dpidg@un.org](mailto:dpidg@un.org)

Website: <https://publicadministration.desa.un.org/intergovernmental-support/cepa>

Purpose

CEPA is responsible for supporting ECOSOC’s work by providing expert policy advice and programmatic guidance on issues related to governance and public administration structures and processes for development. It assists the Council by reviewing trends, issues and priorities in public administration, notably in relation to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and in support of the implementation and progress reviews of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). CEPA was established by ECOSOC res. [2001/45](https://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2001/resolution%202001-45.pdf), succeeding the Group of Experts on Public Administration, which was established in 1967 by ECOSOC res. [1199](http://undocs.org/E/RES/1199(XLII)) (XLII).

Meetings

The Committee meets annually in New York for one week, usually in April.

Membership

The Committee comprises 24 [members](https://publicadministration.desa.un.org/intergovernmental-support/cepa/cepa-members) who serve in their personal capacity. They are nominated by the UN Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, and approved by ECOSOC. The membership is drawn from the inter-related fields of public economics, public administration and public finance, and reflects geographical and gender balance. Members serve four-year terms.

Members 1 August 2025 – 31 July 2029 (24)

Rolf Alter, Germany

Eduardo Araral, Philippines

Patricia Arriagada Villouta, Chile

Adeyemi Dipeolu, Nigeria

György Hajnal, Hungary

Anuradha Joshi, India

Aigul Kosherbayeva, Kazakhstan

Edward Maloka, South Africa

Helen Margetts, UK

Pamela Mbabazi, Uganda

Sarah Mecartney, Vanuatu

Pamela Monroe Ellis, Jamaica

Cristina Kiomi Mori, Brazil

Alina Mungiu-Pippidi, Romania

Måns Nilsson, Sweden

Mauricio Rodas, Ecuador

Fadi Salem, Syrian AR

Henry Sardaryan, Russian Federation

Ozcan Saritas, Türkiye

Sherifa Fouad Sherif, Egypt

Paul Smoke, USA

Aminata Touré, Senegal

Lorenzo Valeri, Italy

Lan Xue, China

United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII)

Indigenous Peoples and Development Branch – Secretariat of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

United Nations Secretariat, 25th Floor

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Email: [indigenous\_un@un.org](mailto:indigenous_un@un.org)

Website: <https://social.desa.un.org/issues/indigenous-peoples/unpfii>

Purpose

The Permanent Forum is mandated to:

* Provide expert advice and recommendations on Indigenous issues relating to economic and social development, culture, the environment, education, health and human rights to ECOSOC, as well as to UN programmes, funds and agencies
* Raise awareness and promote the integration and coordination of activities related to Indigenous issues within the UN system
* Prepare and disseminate information on Indigenous issues

Promote respect for and full application of the provisions of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The Forum was established in 2000 as an advisory body to ECOSOC (res. [2000/22](http://undocs.org/E/RES/2000/22)) and is one of three UN bodies mandated to deal specifically with Indigenous Peoples’ issues. The others are the Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and the Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (September 2007) provides the normative framework for implementing the Forum’s mandate.

Meetings

The Forum meets annually for 10 days, usually in New York in April/May. Most recently, the [24th session](https://social.desa.un.org/issues/indigenous-peoples/unpfii/24th-session) was held from 21 April to 2 May 2025. States, UN bodies and organs, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with ECOSOC, and Indigenous Peoples may participate in the Forum sessions as observers.

The Forum sessions are attended by approximately 1600 participants and provide an opportunity for Indigenous Peoples from around the world to enter into direct dialogue with Forum members, Member States, the UN system and civil society. The outcome of the session is a report containing analysis, recommendations and draft decisions for attention and adoption by ECOSOC.

Membership

The Forum consists of 16 independent [experts](https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/unpfii-sessions-2/newmembers.html), functioning in their personal capacities, who serve three-year terms (beginning 1 January) and may be re-elected or reappointed for one additional term. Eight members are nominated by governments and eight by Indigenous organizations in their regions. The government-nominated members are elected by ECOSOC and include representatives from each of the five UN regional groups. Each region has one seat, and the other three seats rotate in accordance with ECOSOC decision [2016/205](https://ecosoc.un.org/sites/default/files/documents/2023/dec.2016.205.pdf).

The Indigenous organization-nominated members are appointed by the ECOSOC President and represent the seven socio-cultural regions determined to give broad representation to the world’s Indigenous Peoples: Africa; Asia; Central and South America and the Caribbean; the Arctic; Central and Eastern Europe, Russian Federation, Central Asia and Transcaucasia; North America; and the Pacific. The one additional seat rotates among the three first listed above.

Members (16) 2023–25\*

Nominated by states

Vital Bambanze, Burundi (re-elected)

Tove Søvndahl Gant, Denmark (re-elected)

Ali Hajilari, Iran

Keith M Harper, USA

Li Nan, China

Suleiman Mamutov, Ukraine

Bornface Museke Mate, Namibia (re-elected)

Rodrigo Eduardo Paillalef Monnard, Chile

Nominated by Indigenous Peoples’ organizations

Africa

Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, Chad (re-elected)

Arctic

Aluki Kotierk, Canada (Chair)

Asia (2 seats for 2023–25)

Naw Ei Ei Min, Myanmar

Hanieh Moghani, Iran

Central and Eastern Europe, Russian Federation, Central Asia and Transcaucasia

Valentina Vyacheslavovna Sovkina, Russian Federation

Central and South America and the Caribbean

Dario José Mejía Montalvo, Colombia (re-elected)

North America

Geoffrey Scott Roth, USA (re-elected)

Pacific

Hannah McGlade, Australia (re-elected)

Note

\* On 4 April 2025, ECOSOC elected seven members to serve a three-year term beginning 1 January 2026: Anne-Chantal Nama, Cameroon (African states); Li Nan, China (re-elected) (Asia–Pacific states); Valts Ernštreits, Latvia, and Suleiman Mamutov, Ukraine (re-elected) (Eastern European states); Rodrigo Eduardo Paillalef Monnard, Chile (re-elected), and Diego A Tituaña Matango, Ecuador (Latin American and Caribbean states); and Brenda Gunn, Canada (Western European and Other states). On 10 June 2025, ECOSOC elected Aili Keskitalo, Norway (Western European and Other states) for the same term. On 16 June 2025, the ECOSOC President announced the appointment of eight members nominated by Indigenous Peoples’ Organizations for the same term: Amina Amharech, Morocco, Aluki Kotierk, Canada (re-elected), Patricia Gualinga Montalvo, Ecuador, Lea Nicholas-Mackenzie, Canada, Edward Porokwa, UR of Tanzania, Emma Rawson-Te Patu, New Zealand, Valentina Sovkina, Russian Federation (re-elected) and Jennifer Tauli Corpuz, Philippines.

UN Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN)

UN Statistics Division

Department of Economic and Social Affairs

2 United Nations Plaza, Room DC2–1670

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 963 4849

Email: [geoinfo\_unsd@un.org](mailto:geoinfo_unsd@un.org)

X: [@UNSD\_GEGN](http://www.twitter.com/UNSD_GEGN)

Website: <https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/>

Purpose

UNGEGN emphasizes the importance of the standardization of geographical names at the national and international levels and demonstrates the benefits to be derived from such standardization. It promotes the recording of locally used names reflecting the languages and traditions of a country. UNGEGN’s goal is for every country to decide on its own standardized names nationally through the creation of national authorities or recognized administrative processes. UNGEGN considers and reaches agreement on a romanization system for each non-Roman writing system for application to geographic names; develops standardization principles; and makes standardized geographical names available as practical information for as wide a user community as possible.

The Group was established by ECOSOC resolutions [715A](https://undocs.org/E/RES/715(XXVII)) (XXVII) (1959) and [1314](https://undocs.org/E/RES/1314(XLIV)) (XLIV) (1968), a decision taken by ECOSOC on 4 May 1973 and the decision [E/2002/307](https://ecosoc.un.org/sites/default/files/documents/2023/decision-2002-307.pdf) of 25 October 2002 to further the standardization of geographical names at national and international levels.

At the 11th UN Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names (UNCSGN) in August 2017, the Conference decided that the UNCSGN and the UNGEGN be discontinued in their current formats and be subsumed by a subsidiary body of ECOSOC that will retain their respective mandates, where relevant, and that the UNGEGN will convene biennial sessions, in principle, over a period of five days, beginning in 2019, with the full authority to set its strategic direction. The creation of the new UNGEGN was approved on 10 November 2017 in ECOSOC res. [2018/2](https://undocs.org/E/RES/2018/2).

Meetings

The new UNGEGN held its first biennial session in New York from 29 April to 3 May 2019 and implemented its new method of work. The 2021 session was held from 3 to 7 May using a virtual platform, and its [most recent session](https://unstats.un.org/unsd/ungegn/sessions/4th_session_2025/) took place from 28 April to 2 May 2025. The next session is scheduled to take place in New York from 3 to 7 May 2027.

Membership

UNGEGN is composed of representatives of Member States who may be experts and advisors with specific knowledge drawn from the inter-related fields of geography, cartography, geospatial information, linguistics and history. Intergovernmental organizations and other entities accorded observer status by the General Assembly and other intergovernmental organizations designated on an ad hoc or continuing basis by ECOSOC may be represented at the meetings of the Group and may participate without the right to vote. A person with specialized knowledge of particular aspects of the standardization of geographical names may be invited by the Group to place before the Group that specialized knowledge. UNGEGN consists of 24 linguistic–geographical divisions, nine working groups and two task teams.

Bureau (2023–27)

Chair

Pierre Jaillard, France

Vice-Chairs

Sungjae Choo, ROK

Wendy Shaw, New Zealand

Rapporteurs

Ana Cristina da Rocha Bérenger Resende, Brazil

Majdi Hamed AlHarbi, Saudi Arabia

UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM)

UN Statistics Division

Department of Economic and Social Affairs

2 United Nations Plaza, Room DC2–1670

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 963 4849

Email: [ggim@un.org](mailto:ggim@un.org)

X: [@UNGGIM](http://www.twitter.com/UNGGIM)

Website: [https://ggim.un.org](https://ggim.un.org/)

Purpose

UN-GGIM was established by ECOSOC in July 2011 (res. [2011/24](https://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2011/res%202011.24.pdf)) as the UN intergovernmental mechanism for making joint decisions and setting directions with regard to the production, availability and application of geospatial information within national, regional and global policy frameworks. ECOSOC res. [2016/27](http://undocs.org/E/RES/2016/27) broadened and strengthened the mandate of the Committee of Experts, stressing the need to strengthen the coordination and coherence of global geospatial information management, and to report to ECOSOC under the agenda item ‘Geospatial Information’. ECOSOC res. [2022/24](http://docs.un.org/E/RES/2022/24) enhanced the institutional arrangements of the Committee of Experts as a subsidiary body of ECOSOC in charge of all matters related to geospatial information, geography, land administration and related topics.

UN-GGIM plays a leading role in setting the agenda for the development of global geospatial information management, and promotes the availability, accessibility and application of integrated geospatial information to address key national and global challenges. It provides a forum for Member States and international organizations to exchange knowledge and experiences, set directions, and make joint decisions on enhanced collaboration in integrated geospatial information management within national and global policy frameworks. The Committee of Experts is mandated to provide a platform for the development of effective frameworks and strategies to develop and strengthen national capacity in geospatial information management.

The secretariat for the Committee of Experts is situated in the Statistics Division, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), and is supported by the Geospatial Information Section of the Operational Support Division, Office of Information and Communications Technology (OICT).

Meetings

The Committee meets at least annually. Its [15th session](https://ggim.un.org/meetings/GGIM-committee/15th-session/) was scheduled to take place from 6 to 8 August 2025 in New York. Under exceptional circumstances, it may hold additional meetings as appropriate. Its inaugural session was held in 2011 in Seoul, ROK, in conjunction with the first High-level Forum on UN Global Geospatial Information Management. Annual sessions are open to all UN Member States and entities invited by the Committee to participate in the session as observers. The UN system, academic and research institutions, private sector entities and international organizations invited by the Committee participate as observers.

Membership

The Committee comprises experts designated by governments of all UN Member States, with specific knowledge of geospatial information management and its many inter-related fields of geospatial sciences, geomatics, surveying, geography, land administration, geodesy, cartography and mapping, remote sensing, hydrography and oceanography, land/sea and geographic information systems and environmental sciences. The Committee is served by a [bureau](http://ggim.un.org/Bureau/) composed of up to three co-chairs and a rapporteur who are elected during each session from among its members, respecting geographical balance and representation.

Bureau (14th session, August 2024 to August 2025)

Co-Chairs

Deirdre Dalpiaz Bishop, USA

Fernand Eanes Bale, Côte d’Ivoire

Ingrid Vanden Berghe, Belgium

Rapporteur

Meizyanne Hicks, Fiji

#### Other Subsidiary Bodies

##### UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB)

##### New York Office

##### United Nations Plaza, Room DC2–0610

##### New York, NY 10017

##### United States of America

##### Telephone: +1 212 963 8138

##### Email: [ceb@un.org](mailto:ceb@un.org)

##### Geneva Office

##### Palais des Nations

##### W-60, Building H

##### CH-1211 Geneva 10

##### Switzerland

##### Telephone: +41 22 917 3276

##### Website: [www.unsceb.org](http://www.unsceb.org)

##### Secretary of CEB and Director of CEB Secretariat: Maaike Jansen, Netherlands (based in New York)

Purpose

CEB is the longest-standing and highest-level coordination forum of the UN system, and the principal inter-agency instrument for supporting and reinforcing the coordination role of the UN intergovernmental bodies on social, economic and related matters.

CEB is composed of the Executive Heads of the 31 UN system organizations and is chaired by the UN Secretary-General. It is supported by two high-level committees: the High-Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP) and the High-Level Committee on Management (HLCM). The Board and its high-level committees aim to advance cooperation and coherence among UN system organizations (specialized agencies, funds and programmes, and other related organizations) in policy, programme and management areas through a coordinated approach on issues of system-wide concern. Specific thematic issues are the subject of inter-agency networks that are not formally subsidiary bodies of CEB but retain a relationship with it and its high-level committees. CEB succeeded the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC) in 2001, which had been established by ECOSOC res. [13](https://undocs.org/E/RES/13(III)) (III) (1946).

Meetings

The CEB meets twice a year, usually in May and November. The November meetings are typically held in New York.

Member organizations (31)

United Nations (UN)

UN International Labour Organization (ILO)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO)

UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

World Health Organization (WHO)

World Bank Group (WBG)

International Monetary Fund (IMF)

Universal Postal Union (UPU)

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

International Maritime Organization (IMO)

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

World Tourism Organization (UN Tourism)

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

World Trade Organization (WTO)

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

UN Development Programme (UNDP)

UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)

UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF)

UN Population Fund (UNFPA)

World Food Programme (WFP)

UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)

UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS)

High-Level Committee on Management (HLCM)

Palais des Nations

W-60, Building H

CH–1211 Geneva 10

Switzerland

Telephone: +41 22 917 3276

Email: [ceb@un.org](mailto:ceb%40un.org?subject=)

Website: [www.unsceb.org/content/hlcm](https://www.unsceb.org/content/hlcm)

Secretary: Remo Lalli, Italy

Purpose

HLCM is the principal mechanism for inter-agency coordination and policy coherence in the administration and management areas, particularly regarding financial and budgetary matters, human resources, digital and technology matters, procurement and staff safety and security issues within the UN system on behalf of the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB).

Priority items on the HLCM agenda include:

* Identification, promotion and coordination of management reforms that will improve services, achieve productivity improvements and increase efficiency and effectiveness across the UN system
* Promotion of digital transformation in UN system organizations, and development and coordination of transformative digital business solutions that have the potential to streamline business processes at large scale
* Accountability and transparency
* Supporting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requirement for quality, accessible, timely and reliable disaggregated data
* Compilation and publication of UN system-wide statistics on personnel, financial resources and procurement
* Coordination of financial management practices and policies
* Harmonization of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) infrastructure and service delivery
* Representation of UN system organizations in coordinating with the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) on issues related to the management of the common system of pay and benefits
* Enhancing efficiency and transparency of procurement processes
* Fostering the safety, security, health and well-being of UN system personnel

Strengthening risk management capacity and tools.

HLCM is also responsible for maintaining dialogue with staff representatives on concerns of a system-wide nature. It interacts with Member States in the General Assembly’s Fifth Committee and Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ), as well as with other intergovernmental bodies, the ICSC and Joint Inspection Unit (JIU).

Meetings

HLCM meets twice a year. It undertakes consultation and coordination on a continuing basis between sessions as required.

Membership

HLCM is composed of senior representatives of the CEB member organizations responsible for management and administration (and authorized to take decisions on behalf of their executive heads). The Chair is Catherine Pollard, Guyana, Under-Secretary-General from the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance (DMSPC); and the Vice-Chair is Kelly Clements, USA, the UN Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees.

High-Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP)

2 United Nations Plaza, Room DC2–0610

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 963 8138

Email: [ceb@un.org](mailto:ceb@un.org)

Website: [www.unsceb.org/content/hlcp](https://www.unsceb.org/content/hlcp)

Acting Secretary: Xenia von Lilien-Waldau, Germany

Purpose

HLCP is the principal mechanism for UN system-wide coordination and policy coherence in the programme area. Its main functions are to advise the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) on strategic planning, policy and programme matters of system-wide importance; and to foster inter-agency cooperation and coordination on these matters on behalf of the CEB.

HLCP’s mandate includes:

* Fostering policy coherence and programme coordination in response to intergovernmental mandates and in support of the implementation and follow-up to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the outcomes of other UN conferences and summits
* Supporting integrated and coordinated preparation of and follow-up to major UN conferences and summits
* Scanning for and identifying emerging programme issues requiring a system-wide response with a view to developing common approaches, strategies and frameworks, and shared positions and messages, to address emerging issues of challenges facing the UN system

Serving as a forum for inter-agency dialogue, consultations and knowledge-sharing on the policy development and programme dimensions of matters of UN system-wide concern.

Meetings

HLCP meets twice a year. It undertakes consultation and coordination on a continuing basis between sessions as required.

Membership

HLCP is composed of senior representatives of the CEB member organizations responsible for policy and programme matters (and authorized to take decisions on behalf of their executive heads). The Chair is Inger Andersen, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

## TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

Website: [www.un.org/en/about-us/trusteeship-council](http://www.un.org/en/about-us/trusteeship-council)

The Trusteeship Council was set up under Chapters XII and XIII of the UN [Charter](http://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter) to ensure that the Non-Self-Governing Territories were administered in the best interests of their people and of international peace and security.

The Council’s role was originally to consider reports submitted by the administering authority of the trust territory, accept petitions and examine them in consultation with the administering authority, provide for periodic visits to the territory and take other actions in conformity with the trusteeship agreements.

The Council suspended operation on 1 November 1994, one month after the last remaining UN trust territory, Palau, became independent. With the Trusteeship Agreement for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands terminated by SC res. [956](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/956(1994)) (1994), and Palau’s admission as the 185th member of the UN in December 1994, the Trusteeship Council completed the task entrusted to it under the Charter with respect to the last of the 11 territories that had been placed under the Trusteeship System. The Council amended its rules of procedure (res. [2200](https://docs.un.org/en/T/RES/2200(LXI)) (LXI) (1994)) to meet only as and where occasion might require.

The former Secretary-General recommended in both his 1994 report on the work of the Organization and his 2005 report [In Larger Freedom](http://undocs.org/A/59/2005/Add.3%20) that the General Assembly proceed with steps to eliminate the Trusteeship Council in accordance with Article 108 of the Charter. World leaders endorsed this recommendation at the 2005 World Summit and recorded in the Outcome Document their agreement to delete Chapter XIII of the Charter and references to the Council in Chapter XII.

## INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE (ICJ)

##### Peace Palace

##### Carnegieplein 2

##### 2517 KJ The Hague

##### The Netherlands

##### Telephone: +31 70 302 2323

##### Email: [information@icj-cij.org](mailto:information@icj-cij.org)

##### X: [@cij\_icj](http://www.twitter.com/cij_icj)

##### Website: [www.icj-cij.org](http://www.icj-cij.org)

##### Registrar: Philippe Gautier, Belgium (elected for a seven-year term from August 2019)

##### Deputy-Registrar: Jean-Pelé Fomété, Cameroon (since March 2013; re-elected for a second seven-year term from April 2020)

Purpose

The ICJ is the UN’s principal judicial organ. It was established in June 1945 by the UN [Charter](http://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter) and began work in April 1946. Its [Statute](https://www.icj-cij.org/en/statute) is an integral part of the UN Charter.

The Court’s functions are twofold. First, it settles, in accordance with international law, legal disputes that are submitted to it by states. Pursuant to Article 38, para. 1, of its Statute, the Court applies:

* International conventions establishing rules expressly recognized by the contesting states
* International custom, as evidence of a general practice accepted as law
* The general principles of law recognized by civilized nations

Judicial decisions and the teachings of the most highly qualified international law experts as subsidiary means for the determination of rules of law.

Second, the Court gives advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by the General Assembly, Security Council or other organs of the UN and specialized agencies that are authorized by the General Assembly to request them.

The Charter provisions concerning the Court are contained in Chapter [XIV](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-14) (Articles 92–96). Article 34, para. 1 of the Statute of the Court provides that only states may be parties to contentious cases before the Court. States entitled to appear before the Court fall into three categories:

* States members of the UN (Article 93, para. 1 of the Charter provides that all UN members are parties to the Statute)
* States not members of the UN that are parties to the Statute (Article 93, para. 2 of the Charter). Conditions are to be determined in each case by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Security Council

States not parties to the Statute to which the Court is open (Article 35, para. 2 of the Statute). The conditions upon which the Court is open to such states were laid down in SC res. [9](http://undocs.org/S/RES/9(1946)) (1946).

Structure

Under Article 21, para. 2 of its [Statute](https://www.icj-cij.org/en/statute), the Court appoints its own officers. The Court elects its Registrar and Deputy-Registrar by secret ballot. Terms are for seven years and may be renewed. In accordance with Article 26, para. 3 of the Rules of Court, the Registrar is responsible to the Court in the discharge of his or her functions.

The Court comprises 15 members, no two of whom may be nationals of the same state. Candidates are nominated by the national groups in the [Permanent Court of Arbitration](https://pca-cpa.org/en/home/) or by national groups appointed for this purpose (Article 4 of the [Statute](https://www.icj-cij.org/en/statute)).

The UN Secretary-General draws up a list of candidates nominated. From this list, the General Assembly and the Security Council, voting independently, elect the Members of the Court. An absolute majority in both the General Assembly and the Security Council is required for election. Members of the Court are elected for a term of nine years and may be re-elected. Under Article 9 of the Statute, at every election, the electors shall bear in mind not only that the persons to be elected should individually possess the qualifications required, but also that in the body as a whole the representation of the main forms of civilization and of the principal legal systems of the world should be assured. The terms of five (one-third) of the judges expire every three years. The most recent triennial elections were held in November 2023, for the current term of 6 February 2024 to 5 February 2033.

The conditions under which a state that is a party to the Statute of the Court, but not a member of the UN, may participate in the election of judges were laid down on the recommendation of the Security Council by GA res. [264](http://undocs.org/A/RES/264(III)) (III) (1948).

The [President and Vice-President](https://www.icj-cij.org/presidency) are elected by the Members of the Court by secret ballot every three years and may be re-elected. The election of the President and Vice-President is held on the date on which Members of the Court elected at a triennial election are to begin their terms of office or shortly after. An absolute majority is required. There are no conditions with regard to nationality.

Members of the Court (15)

Listed in order of precedence; terms end on 5 February of the year shown. More detail is available on the [website](https://www.icj-cij.org/current-members).

President

Yuji Iwasawa, Japan 20301

Vice-President

Julia Sebutinde, Uganda 2030

Judges

Peter Tomka, Slovakia 2030

Ronny Abraham, France 2027

Abdulqawi Ahmed Yusuf, Somalia 20272

Xue Hanquin, China 2030

Dalveer Bhandari, India 2027

Georg Nolte, Germany 2030

Hilary Charlesworth, Australia 2033

Leonardo Nemer Caldeira Brant, Brazil 20273

Juan Manuel Gómez Robledo, Mexico 2033

Sarah H Cleveland, USA 2033

Bogdan-Lucian Aurescu, Romania 2033

Dire Tladi, South Africa 2033

Mahmoud Daifallah Al-Hmoud, Jordan 20274

Notes

1 Elected on 3 March 2025 to serve as President of the Court for the remainder of the term ending February 2027, after Judge Nawaf Salam, Lebanon, resigned from the Court effective 14 January 2025.

2 On 11 June 2025, Judge Abdulqawi Ahmed Yusuf, Somalia, informed the President of the ICJ of his resignation as a member of the Court, effective 30 September 2025. On 2 July 2025, the Security Council decided that the election to fill the vacancy will take place on 12 November 2025 (SC res. [2784](https://docs.un.org/S/RES/2784(2025)) (2025)).

3 Elected on 4 November 2022, to serve the remainder of the term ending 2027, after Judge Antônio Augusto Cançado Trindade, Brazil, passed away on 29 May 2022.

4 Elected on 27 May 2025, to serve the remainder of the term ending 2027, after Judge Nawaf Salam, Lebanon, resigned effective 14 January 2025.

## Secretariat

United Nations Headquarters

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Website: [www.un.org/en/about-us/secretariat](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/secretariat)

### CHARTER PROVISIONS

The Secretariat, which is headed by the UN Secretary-General, is one of the six principal organs of the UN. The main [Charter](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter) provisions concerning the Secretariat are contained in Chapter [XV](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-15) (Articles 97–101). Other provisions concerning the Secretariat and the Secretary-General are in Articles 7, 12, 20, 73, 102 and 110.

### STRUCTURE AND OFFICERS

Secretaries-General

António Guterres: Portugal, installed 1 January 2017

Ban Ki-moon: Republic of Korea, installed 1 January 2007

Kofi Annan: Ghana, installed 1 January 1997

Boutros Boutros-Ghali: Egypt, installed 1 January 1992

Javier Pérez de Cuéllar: Peru, installed 1 January 1982

Kurt Waldheim: Austria, installed 1 January 1972

U Thant: Burma (now Myanmar), installed 3 November 1961

Dag Hammarskjöld: Sweden, installed 10 April 1953 (died in office 18 September 1961)

Trygve Lie: Norway, installed 2 February 1946

Deputy Secretaries-General

Amina J Mohammed: Nigeria, appointed 1 January 2017

Jan Eliasson: Sweden, 2012–16

Asha-Rose Migiro: UR of Tanzania, 2007–12

Mark Malloch Brown: UK, 2006

Louise Fréchette: Canada, 1998–2006

Departments and Offices

The Secretariat major organizational units listed below are each headed by an official appointed by and accountable to the Secretary-General. More detailed information about the work of individual units is listed later in this chapter.

Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG)

Website: [www.un.org/sg](http://www.un.org/sg) and [www.un.org/sg/en/global-leadership/executive-office-of-the-secretary-general](http://www.un.org/sg/en/global-leadership/executive-office-of-the-secretary-general)

Chef de Cabinet: E Courtenay Rattray, Jamaica (appointed in December 2021)

Under-Secretary-General for Policy: Guy Ryder, UK (appointed in October 2022)

Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

Website: [www.un.org/en/desa](https://www.un.org/en/desa)

Under-Secretary-General: Li Junhua, China (appointed in July 2022)

Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development: Navid Hanif, Pakistan (appointed in June 2022)

Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination: Bjørg Sandkjær, Norway (appointed in February 2025)

Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (DGACM)

Website: [www.un.org/dgacm/](http://www.un.org/dgacm/)

Under-Secretary-General: Movses Abelian, Armenia (appointed in June 2019)

Assistant Secretary-General: Cherith Norman Chalet, USA (appointed in March 2021)

Department of Global Communications (DGC)

Website: [www.un.org/en/department-global-communications](http://www.un.org/en/department-global-communications)

Under-Secretary-General: Melissa Fleming, USA (appointed in September 2019)

Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance (DMSPC)

Website: [www.un.org/management/](http://www.un.org/management/)

Under-Secretary-General: Catherine Pollard, Guyana (appointed in June 2019)

Assistant Secretary-General for Programme Planning, Finance and Budget, Controller: Chandramouli Ramanathan, India (appointed in February 2019)

Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management: Martha Helena Lopez, Colombia (appointed in July 2017)

Assistant Secretary-General, Chief Information Technology Officer: Bernardo Mariano Junior, Mozambique (appointed in June 2021)

Department of Operational Support (DOS)

Website: <https://operationalsupport.un.org/en>

Under-Secretary-General: Atul Khare, India (appointed in January 2019)

Assistant Secretary-General for Support Operations: Lisa M Buttenheim, USA (appointed in January 2019)

Assistant Secretary-General for Supply Chain Management: AnneMarie van den Berg, Netherlands (appointed in April 2023)

Assistant Secretary-General for Information and Communications Technology: Bernardo Mariano Junior, Mozambique (appointed in June 2021)

Department of Peace Operations (DPO)

Website: <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/department-of-peace-operations>

Under-Secretary-General: Jean-Pierre Lacroix, France (appointed in April 2017)

Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions: Alexandre Zouev, Russian Federation (appointed in April 2017)

Assistant Secretary-General, Acting Military Adviser: Major General Cheryl Pearce, Australia (appointed Deputy Military Adviser in January 2024)

UN Police Adviser: Faisal Shahkar, Pakistan (appointed in October 2022)

Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA)

Website: <https://dppa.un.org/en>

Under-Secretary-General: Rosemary A DiCarlo, USA (appointed in March 2018)

Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support: Elizabeth Spehar, Canada (appointed in January 2022)

DPO/DPPA shared positions

Assistant Secretary-General for Africa: Martha Ama Akyaa Pobee, Ghana (appointed in May 2021)

Assistant Secretary-General for Europe, Central Asia and the Americas: Miroslav Jenča, Slovakia (appointed in March 2015)

Assistant Secretary-General for Middle East, Asia and the Pacific: Mohamed Khaled Khiari, Tunisia (appointed in May 2019)

Development Coordination Office (DCO)

Website: <https://un-dco.org>

Assistant Secretary-General: Oscar Fernández-Taranco, Argentina (appointed in November 2022)

Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

Website: [www.unocha.org](http://www.unocha.org)

Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Emergency Relief Coordinator: Tom Fletcher, UK (appointed in October 2024)

Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator: Joyce Msuya, UR of Tanzania (appointed in December 2021)

Office for Digital and Emerging Technologies (ODET)

Website: [www.un.org/digital-emerging-technologies/](https://www.un.org/digital-emerging-technologies/)

Under-Secretary-General, Special Envoy for Digital and Emerging Technologies: Amandeep Singh Gill, India (appointed in January 2025)

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

Website: [www.ohchr.org](http://www.ohchr.org)

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights: Volker Türk, Austria (appointed in September 2022)

Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights: Nada Al-Nashif, Jordan (appointed in December 2019)

Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, Head of the New York Office of OHCHR: Ilze Brands Kehris, Latvia (appointed in December 2019)

Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS)

Website: <https://oios.un.org>

Under-Secretary-General: Fatoumata Ndiaye, Senegal (appointed in October 2019)

Assistant Secretary-General: Benjamin Swanson, UK (appointed in July 2021)

Office of Legal Affairs (OLA)

Website: [www.un.org/ola/](http://www.un.org/ola/)

Under-Secretary-General, Legal Counsel: Elinor Jane Britt Hammarskjöld, Sweden (appointed in December 2024)

Assistant Secretary-General: Stephen D Mathias, USA (appointed in September 2010)

UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS)

Website: [www.un.org/en/safety-and-security](http://www.un.org/en/safety-and-security)

Under-Secretary-General: Gilles Michaud, Canada (appointed in May 2019)

Assistant Secretary-General: Unaisi Lutu Vuniwaqa, Fiji (appointed in November 2021)

UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT)

Website: [www.un.org/counterterrorism/](http://www.un.org/counterterrorism/)

Under-Secretary-General: Vladimir Voronkov, Russian Federation (appointed in June 2017)

UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)

Website: <https://disarmament.unoda.org>

Under-Secretary-General, High Representative for Disarmament Affairs: Izumi Nakamitsu, Japan (appointed in March 2017)

UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)

Website: [www.undrr.org](http://www.undrr.org/)

Assistant Secretary-General, Special Representative: Kamal Kishore, India (appointed in March 2024)

UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

Website: [www.unodc.org](http://www.unodc.org)

Under-Secretary-General, Executive Director: Ghada Fathi Waly, Egypt (appointed in November 2019)

UN Youth Office

Website: [www.un.org/youthaffairs/en](https://www.un.org/youthaffairs/en)

Assistant Secretary-General for Youth Affairs: Felipe Paullier, Uruguay (appointed in October 2023)

UN Office at Geneva (UNOG)

Website: [www.ungeneva.org/en](http://www.ungeneva.org/en)

Under-Secretary-General, Director-General: Tatiana Valovaya, Russian Federation (appointed in May 2019)

UN Office at Nairobi (UNON)

Website: [www.unon.org](http://www.unon.org)

Under-Secretary-General, Director-General: Zainab Hawa Bangura, Sierra Leone (appointed in December 2019)

UN Office at Vienna (UNOV)

Website: [www.unov.org](https://www.unov.org)

Under-Secretary-General, Director-General: Ghada Fathi Waly, Egypt (appointed in November 2019)

UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)

Website: [www.unoosa.org](file:///C:\Users\lwright5\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\P3TS7U4J\www.unoosa.org)

Director: Aarti Holla-Maini, UK (since September 2023; appointed on 26 June 2023)

Special and Personal Representatives, Envoys and Advisers of the Secretary-General

Website: [www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/personnel-appointments](https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/personnel-appointments) and [www.un.org/dgacm/en/content/protocol/senior-officials](http://www.un.org/dgacm/en/content/protocol/senior-officials)

Africa

Under-Secretary-General, Special Adviser on Africa, Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA)

Cristina Duarte, Cabo Verde (appointed 2 July 2020)

Special Representative to the African Union and Head of the UN Office to the African Union (UNOAU)

Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, Gabon (appointed 22 February 2022)

Special Representative and Head of the UN Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA)

Abdou Abarry, Niger (appointed 28 July 2022)

Special Representative for the Central African Republic and Head, UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA)

Valentine Rugwabiza, Rwanda (appointed 23 February 2022)

Deputy Special Representative and Deputy Head of Mission, MINUSCA

Joanne Adamson, UK (appointed 1 July 2023)

Deputy Special Representative Resident Coordinator, Humanitarian Coordinator and UN Development Programme (UNDP) Resident Representative, MINUSCA

Mohamed Ag Ayoya, Mali (appointed 21 November 2022)

Special Representative for DR Congo, Head of the UN Organization Stabilization Mission in DR Congo (MONUSCO)

Bintou Keita, Guinea (appointed 14 January 2021)

Deputy Special Representative for DR Congo, Protection and Operations, MONUSCO

Vivian van de Perre, Netherlands (appointed 27 February 2024)

Deputy Special Representative for DR Congo, Resident Coordinator, Humanitarian Coordinator and Resident Representative, MONUSCO

Bruno Lemarquis, France (appointed 18 January 2022)

Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region of Africa

Huang Xia, China (appointed 22 January 2019)

Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa

Guang Cong, China (appointed 17 July 2025)

Special Representative for Libya and Head of the UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL)

Hanna Serwaa Tetteh, Ghana (appointed 22 January 2025)

Deputy Special Representative (Political), UNSMIL

Stephanie Koury, USA (appointed 1 March 2024)

Deputy Special Representative and Resident Coordinator, UNSMIL

Ingeborg Ulrika Ulfsdotter Richardson, Sweden (appointed 8 August 2025)

Special Representative for Somalia and Head of the UN Transitional Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNTMIS)

James Swan, USA (appointed 28 March 2025)

Deputy Special Representative (Political), UNTMIS

Raisedon Zenenga, Zimbabwe (appointed 26 January 2024)

Deputy Special Representative Resident Coordinator, Humanitarian Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, UNTMIS

George Conway, Canada (appointed 18 August 2023)

Special Representative for South Sudan and Head of the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)

Nicholas Haysom, South Africa (appointed 15 January 2021)

Deputy Special Representative (Political), UNMISS

Guang Cong, China (appointed 24 March 2020)

Deputy Special Representative, Resident Coordinator, Humanitarian Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, UNMISS

Anita Kiki Gbeho, Ghana (appointed 8 December 2023)

Acting Head of Mission and Force Commander, UN Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA)

Major General Robert Yaw Affram, Ghana (since July 2024)

Personal Envoy for Sudan

Ramtane Lamamra, Algeria (appointed 21 November 2023)

Special Representative for West Africa and Head of the UN Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS)

Leonardo Santos Simão, Mozambique (appointed 2 May 2023)

Deputy Special Representative, UNOWAS

Barrie Freeman, USA (appointed 10 May 2024)

Special Representative for Western Sahara and Head of the UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO)

Alexander Ivanko, Russian Federation (appointed 27 August 2021)

Personal Envoy for Western Sahara

Staffan de Mistura, Italy (appointed 6 October 2021)

Americas

Special Representative for Colombia and Head of UN Verification Mission in Colombia

Appointment pending

Deputy Special Representative for Colombia and Deputy Head of Verification Mission

Raúl Rosende, Uruguay (appointed 15 March 2022)

Special Representative for Haiti and Head of UN Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH)

Carlos G Ruiz Massieu, Mexico (appointed 3 July 2025)

Deputy Special Representative, Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator, BINUH

Carlos Ruiz Massieu, Mexico (appointed 10 December 2018)

Asia and the Pacific

Special Representative for Afghanistan and Head of the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA)

Roza Otunbayeva, Kyrgyzstan (appointed 2 September 2022)

Deputy Special Representative (Political), UNAMA

Georgette Gagnon, Canada (appointed 3 September 2024)

Deputy Special Representative for Afghanistan, Resident Coordinator, Humanitarian Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, UNAMA

Indrika Ratwatte, Sri Lanka (appointed 7 November 2023)

Personal Envoy on Afghanistan and Regional Issues

Jean Arnault, France (appointed 18 March 2021)

Special Representative and Head of the UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA)

Kaha Imnadze, Georgia (appointed 14 June 2023)

Deputy Head and Senior Political Affairs Officer, UNRCCA

Philipp Saprykin, Russian Federation (appointed 14 November 2016)

Chief Military Observer and Head of the UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP)

Major General Ramón Guardado Sánchez, Mexico (appointed 13 November 2024)

Special Envoy on Myanmar

Julie Bishop, Australia (appointed 5 April 2024)

Europe

Special Representative in Cyprus and Head of UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP)

Colin Stewart, Canada (appointed 4 November 2021)

Special Representative and Head of the UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK)

Caroline Ziadeh, Lebanon (appointed 19 November 2021)

Deputy Special Representative, UNMIK

Milbert Dongjoon Shin, USA (appointed 24 July 2024)

UN Representative to the Geneva International Discussions (UNRGID)

Ayşe Cihan Sultanoğlu, Türkiye (appointed 6 July 2018)

Middle East

Deputy Special Coordinator and Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator, Office of the UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO); Officer-in-Charge of UNSCO

Ramiz Alakbarov, Azerbaijan (appointed 13 June 2025)

Head of the UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) in Palestine

Major General Patrick Gauchat, Switzerland (appointed 28 October 2021)

Special Representative for Iraq and Head of the UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI)

Mohamed al Hassan, Oman (appointed 15 July 2024)

Deputy Special Representative (Political Affairs and Electoral Assistance), UNAMI

Claudio Cordone, Italy (appointed 11 July 2022)

Deputy Special Representative (Development and Humanitarian Support), Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, UNAMI

Ghulam Mohammad Isaczai, Afghanistan (appointed 19 July 2022)

Special Coordinator for Lebanon (UNSCOL)

Jeanine Hennis-Plasschaert, Netherlands (appointed 20 May 2024)

Deputy Special Coordinator for Lebanon, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator, UNSCOL

Imran Riza, Pakistan (appointed 1 September 2022)

Head of Mission and Force Commander of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)

Major General Diodato Abagnara, Italy (appointed 4 June 2025)

Deputy Head of Mission, UNIFIL

Hervé Lecoq, France (appointed 8 May 2023

Special Envoy for the Implementation of Security Council resolution 1559 (2004) (concerning Lebanon)

Reporting functions fulfilled by Under-Secretary-General, Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

Special Envoy for Syria

Geir O Pedersen, Norway (appointed 31 October 2018)

Deputy Special Envoy for Syria

Najat Rochdi, Morocco (appointed 29 June 2022)

Head of Mission and Force Commander of the UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) (Syrian Golan)

Major General Anita Asmah, Ghana (appointed 11 December 2024)

Special Envoy for Yemen

Hans Grundberg, Sweden (appointed 6 August 2021)

Acting Chair of the Redeployment Coordination Committee (RCC) and Officer-in-Charge of the UN Mission to support the Hudaydah Agreement (UNMHA)

Mari Yamashita, Japan (appointed Deputy Head of Mission 23 May 2024)

Other High-Level Appointments

Under-Secretary-General, High Representative for the UN Alliance of Civilizations, Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia

Miguel Ángel Moratinos Cuyaubé, Spain (appointed 20 November 2018/7 May 2025)

Under-Secretary-General, Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict

Virginia Gamba de Potgieter, Argentina (appointed 12 April 2017)

Assistant Secretary-General, Special Adviser on [Climate Action and Just Transition](https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/profiles/selwin-hart)

Selwin Hart, Barbados (appointed 4 February 2020)

Special Envoy for Climate Ambition and Solutions

Michael Bloomberg, USA (appointed 5 March 2018)

Special Envoy on Climate Change

Robert Orr, USA (appointed 27 August 2014)

Special Envoy on Disability and Accessibility

María Soledad Cisternas Reyes, Chile (appointed 20 June 2017)

Assistant Secretary-General, Special Representative for Disaster Risk Reduction, UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)

Kamal Kishore, India (appointed 27 March 2024)

Special Envoy for [Global Education](https://educationenvoy.org)

Gordon Brown, UK (appointed 13 July 2012)

Special Envoy on Financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Mahmoud Mohieldin, Egypt (appointed 4 February 2020)

Special Advocate for [Financial Health](https://www.unsgsa.org)

Her Majesty Queen Máxima, Netherlands (appointed 25 September 2024)

Special Envoy on Innovative Finance and Sustainable Investments

Hiro Mizuno, Japan (appointed 30 December 2020)

Chair of the [Internet Governance Forum](https://intgovforum.org)’s Multistakeholder Advisory Group ([MAG](https://intgovforum.org/en/content/about-mag))

Carol Roach, Bahamas (appointed in 2024)

Special Envoy for the Ocean

Peter Thomson, Fiji (appointed 12 September 2017)

Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide

Chaloka Beyani, Zambia (appointed 22 August 2025)

Assistant Secretary-General, Special Adviser on the Responsibility to Protect

Mô Bleeker, Switzerland (appointed 5 March 2024)

Special Envoy for [Road Safety](https://unece.org/united-nations-special-envoy-road-safety)

Jean Todt, France (appointed 29 April 2015)

Special Adviser on Human Security

Yukio Takasu, Japan (appointed 8 May 2017)

Special Coordinator on Improving UN Response to [Sexual Exploitation and Abuse](https://www.un.org/preventing-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/)

Christian Saunders, UK (appointed 15 July 2022)

Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict

Pramila Patten, Mauritius (appointed 12 April 2017)

Special Envoy on South–South Cooperation

Jorge Chediek, Argentina (appointed 21 March 2016)

Co-Chairs of the [SDG Advocates](https://unpartnerships.un.org/un-sdg-advocates)

Mia Amor Mottley, Prime Minister of Barbados

Justin Trudeau, former Prime Minister of Canada (both appointed 6 April 2022)

Special Representative for Sustainable Energy for All

Damilola Ogunbiyi, Nigeria (appointed 29 October 2019)

Special Representative for the UN International School (UNIS)

Lisa M Buttenheim, USA (designated in September 2021)

Assistant Secretary-General, Victims’ Rights Advocate

Najla Nassif Palma, Brazil (appointed 4 March 2024)

Special Representative on Violence Against Children

Najat Maalla M’jid, Morocco (appointed 30 May 2019)

High-Level Advisory Board on Mediation

(appointed 13 September 2017 unless otherwise indicated)

Radhika Coomaraswamy, Sri Lanka

Leymah Gbowee, Liberia

Jean-Mari Guéhenno, France

Tarja Halonen, Finland

David Harland, New Zealand

Noeleen Heyzer, Singapore

Nasser Judeh, Jordan

Ramtane Lamamra, Algeria

Graça Machel, Mozambique

Asha-Rose Migiro, UR of Tanzania

Raden Mohammad Marty Muliana Natalegawa, Indonesia

Olusegun Obasanjo, Nigeria

Roza Otunbayeva, Kyrgyzstan

Michèle Pierre-Louis, Haiti

Gert Rosenthal, Guatemala

Sima Samar, Afghanistan (appointed 18 January 2019)

Juan Gabriel Valdés, Chile (appointed 18 January 2019)

Justin Welby, UK

### SECRETARIAT OFFICES AND DEPARTMENTS

#### Offices and Departments in New York

##### Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG)

##### United Nations Headquarters

##### New York, NY 10017

##### United States of America

##### Website: [www.un.org/sg](http://www.un.org/sg)

##### Secretary-General: António Guterres, Portugal (since January 2017)

##### Deputy Secretary-General: Amina J Mohammed, Nigeria (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in January 2017)

##### Chef de Cabinet: E Courtenay Rattray, Jamaica (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in December 2021)

Purpose

EOSG provides assistance to the UN Secretary-General in the establishment of general policy, in the executive direction, coordination and expeditious performance of the Secretariat’s work and of the programmes and other elements of the Organization, and in contacts with governments, delegations, the press and the public. It provides further assistance to the Secretary-General in strategic planning, the preparation of the annual report on the work of the Organization and the annual report on rule of law, political, economic and inter-agency affairs, liaison and representation functions, and the fulfilment of the priorities and mandates set out by the General Assembly.

Structure

The Secretary-General is the Organization’s chief administrative officer. The Charter also requires the Secretary-General to perform other functions as are entrusted by the main UN organs, as well as to “bring to the attention of the Security Council any matter which in his opinion may threaten the maintenance of international peace and security”.

The Secretary-General may also use the ‘good offices’ of the position – the value of its independence, impartiality and integrity – in order to prevent or resolve international disputes. (See UN Charter, Chapter XV, [Articles 97 to 101](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter/chapter-15).)

The Secretary-General chairs the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), which twice a year brings together the executive heads of all UN funds, programmes and specialized agencies.

The CEB is the UN system’s longest-standing and highest-level coordination forum, and was established as a standing committee of the Economic and Social Council. While not a policy-making body, the CEB supports and reinforces the coordinating role of UN system intergovernmental bodies on social, economic and related matters. Most importantly, the CEB facilitates the UN system’s collective response to global challenges, such as climate change and financial crisis.

Committees support the executive decision-making process in the Secretariat by enabling an exchange of advice and guidance between the Secretary-General and members of his or her senior management team on issues of a strategic or policy nature. The main committees are the:

* Senior Management Group: functions as a forum for the exchange of information and activities among heads of UN departments, offices, funds and programmes. The Secretary-General may use the Senior Management Group to raise and provide guidance on important cross-cutting issues (see [www.un.org/sg/en/content/senior-management-group](https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/senior-management-group)).
* Executive Committee: a cabinet-style decision-making body. Its main purpose is to assist the Secretary-General in taking decisions on issues of strategic importance that require principal-level attention across all pillars of the UN’s work. These include country situations and thematic priorities.
* Management Committee: considers internal reform and management-related initiatives and issues, including change management processes requiring strategic direction from the Secretary-General. It also ensures that findings and recommendations of the Board of Auditors, Joint Inspection Unit and Office of Internal Oversight Services are effectively fed into the executive management processes and that accepted recommendations are followed up and implemented in a timely manner.

Management Performance Board: undertakes an advisory role to the Secretary-General. Its main functions include monitoring the performance of senior managers and heads of UN field missions. The Board also reviews the outcome of the administration of justice proceedings in the Secretariat for management performance and accountability purposes, with a particular focus on UN Dispute Tribunal and Appeals Tribunal judgments, so as to identify and make recommendations to address systemic problems. In addition, it conducts yearly reviews of the performance appraisal system within the UN Secretariat to ensure Secretariat-wide consistency in its application.

Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

United Nations Headquarters

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/joinundesa](http://www.facebook.com/joinundesa)

X: [@UNDESA](http://www.twitter.com/UNDESA)

LinkedIn: <https://bit.ly/UNDESA_LinkedIn>

Website: [www.un.org/desa/](http://www.un.org/desa/)

Under-Secretary-General: Li Junhua, China (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in July 2022)

Purpose

UN DESA upholds the development pillar of the United Nations and is a vital interface between global policies and national action in the economic, social and environmental spheres. UN DESA is mandated with supporting deliberations in two major UN Charter bodies: the UN General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), as well as ECOSOC’s subsidiary bodies, forums and other entities. In this regard, UN DESA’s main activities focus on promoting progress towards development priorities, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). UN DESA is also responsible for ensuring civil society engagement with the UN by way of ECOSOC.

UN DESA’s work falls into three main categories:

* Norm-setting by providing substantive support to UN Charter bodies and facilitating major global conferences and summits related to the SDGs
* Monitoring and analysing social, economic and environmental trends, prospects and policies, to provide forward-looking guidance and recommendations for shaping effective development policy and practice

Supporting capacity development in policy formulation and implementation as well as data collection and application to translate internationally agreed commitments, standards, policies and programmes into action on the ground, especially for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In executing these functions, UN DESA helps governments and other stakeholders take integrated and networked approaches to decision-making, organizing and supporting consultations with a range of stakeholders, including the private sector and civil society.

Each July, UN DESA hosts the secretariat for the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), the central platform within the UN system for the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda. The Department also coordinates the process of Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) and manages the database of all VNR reports submitted by Member States.

Structure

UN DESA’s work areas are managed by the following [divisions and offices](https://www.un.org/en/desa/about-us/organigramme): Office of the Under-Secretary-General; Office of Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development; Division for Inclusive Social Development; Division for Sustainable Development Goals; Statistics Division; Population Division; Economic Analysis and Policy Division; Division for Public Institutions and Digital Government; Secretariat of the UN Forum on Forests; Financing for Sustainable Development Office; Capacity Development Programme Management Office; and Executive Office.

Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (DGACM)

United Nations Headquarters

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Email: [DGACM-Feedback@un.org](mailto:DGACM-Feedback@un.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UNDGACM.en](http://www.facebook.com/UNDGACM.en) and [www.facebook.com/UNDGACM.fr](http://www.facebook.com/UNDGACM.fr)

X: [@UNDGACM\_EN](http://www.twitter.com/UNDGACM_EN), [@UNDGACM\_AR](http://www.twitter.com/UNDGACM_AR), [@UNDGACM\_CH](http://www.twitter.com/UNDGACM_CH), [@UNDGACM\_ES](http://www.twitter.com/UNDGACM_ES), [@UNDGACM\_FR](http://www.twitter.com/UNDGACM_FR), [@UNDGACM\_RU](http://www.twitter.com/UNDGACM_RU)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/undgacm](https://www.linkedin.com/company/undgacm)

Website: [www.un.org/dgacm](http://www.un.org/dgacm) (available in the six UN official languages)

Under-Secretary-General: Movses Abelian, Armenia (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in June 2019)

Purpose

DGACM provides comprehensive support for conferences and meetings. It provides procedural and technical secretariat support and advice to facilitate deliberations and follow-up actions of the: General Assembly and its General Committee, the First (Disarmament and International Security) Committee, the Second (Economic and Financial) Committee, the Third (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) Committee and the Fourth (Special Political and Decolonization) Committee; the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and most of the Council’s subsidiary, ad hoc and expert bodies; and special UN conferences and expert groups dealing with disarmament, international security, and economic, social and related matters.

DGACM also assists in the revitalization efforts of the General Assembly and other UN bodies, including by providing substantive services to the Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly. It is responsible for the provision of meetings and document management services to intergovernmental bodies, including conference planning and organization; preparation of the UN calendar of conferences and meetings; and provision of conference room facilities and other services, including interpretation, editing and translation services, verbatim reporting, production editing, editorial and desktop publishing and digital publishing in the organization’s six official languages. Some documents are also translated into German, funded by extra-budgetary resources. The Under-Secretary-General is also the Secretariat-wide Coordinator for Multilingualism with terms of reference outlined in [A/71/757](http://undocs.org/A/71/757) (see GA res. [71/328](http://undocs.org/A/RES/71/328)). The [UN Strategic Framework on Multilingualism](https://www.un.org/dgacm/sites/www.un.org.dgacm/files/english_un_strategic_framework_on_multilingualism_web.pdf), which reaffirms the Organization’s commitment to multilingualism as a core value, was launched in 2024 in the official languages, under the Coordinator’s direction.

The Department provides policy guidance with regard to conference-related resources under the authority of the Directors-General of the UN Offices at Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi. While the Department is responsible for the implementation of policy, the formulation of standards and guidelines, overseeing and coordinating UN conference services and the overall management of resources under the relevant budget section, the Offices remain responsible and accountable for day-to-day operational activities (see GA res. [57/283 B](https://undocs.org/A/RES/57/283B)).

Structure

The Department consists of the following organizational units in New York: Office of the Under-Secretary-General; Central Planning and Coordination Division; Documentation Division; General Assembly and ECOSOC Affairs Division; Meetings and Publishing Division; Protocol and Liaison Service; Global Innovation and Data Analytics Service; and Executive Office. The units at the other three duty stations are: Division of Conference Management in Geneva; Conference Management Service in Vienna; and Division of Conference Services in Nairobi. An organizational chart is published on the Department’s [website](https://www.un.org/dgacm/en/content/structure).

Department of Global Communications (DGC)

United Nations Headquarters

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/unitednations](http://www.facebook.com/unitednations)

X: [@UN](http://www.twitter.com/UN)

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/user/unitednations](https://www.youtube.com/user/unitednations)

Instagram: [@unitednations](https://www.instagram.com/unitednations/)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/united-nations](http://www.linkedin.com/company/united-nations)

Threads: [@unitednations](https://www.threads.net/@unitednations)

WhatsApp: [United Nations](https://www.whatsapp.com/channel/0029Vb0agVCL2ATtvuBszK2q)

Website: [www.un.org/department-global-communications/](http://www.un.org/department-global-communications)

Under-Secretary-General: Melissa Fleming, USA (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in September 2019)

Purpose

DGC, previously known as the Department of Public Information (DPI), was established in 1946 to inform global audiences about the state of the world and build support for the organization’s work and goals. Through impactful and innovative communications, DGC reaches millions of people with trusted, objective information in many languages and across multiple platforms.

Structure

The Department comprises three divisions:

* The [Campaigns and Country Operations](https://www.un.org/en/department-global-communications/campaigns-and-country-operations) Division delivers global communications campaigns that support the organization’s priorities. It also manages the global network of United Nations Information Centres. (See [unic.un.org](http://unic.un.org).)
* The [News and Media](https://www.un.org/en/department-global-communications/news-media) Division produces and distributes to broadcasters and global audiences multilingual, multimedia news and features on UN priority issues. It also provides media accreditation services, photos, live television feeds, webcast and real-time coverage of intergovernmental meetings, and audiovisual collections documenting the UN’s history.

The [Outreach](https://www.un.org/en/department-global-communications/outreach) Division builds support for the UN by fostering dialogue with global constituencies such as civil society, the entertainment and creative industries media, academia, publishers, educators, youth, students and libraries.

Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance (DMSPC)

405 East 42nd Street

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 963 8227

Email: [dmspc-ousg@un.org](mailto:dmspc-ousg@un.org)

Website: [www.un.org/management/](http://www.un.org/management/)

Under-Secretary-General: Catherine Pollard, Guyana (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in June 2019; assumed role in September 2019)

Purpose

The Department provides policy leadership in all management areas through the provision of an integrated global management strategy and policy framework and through strengthened monitoring, evaluation and accountability mechanisms. It oversees and is responsible for: facilitating deliberations and decision-making by the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly and the Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC); intergovernmental and inter-agency relations, and outreach on management-related topics and initiatives; internal administration of justice; programme planning, finance and budget; human resources policy and strategy; business transformation and accountability; the enterprise resource planning solution; information and communications technology; and addressing racism and racial discrimination.

Structure

DMSPC [offices and divisions](https://www.un.org/management/content/our-work) include: Office of the Under-Secretary-General; Office of Programme Planning, Finance and Budget; Office of Human Resources; Business Transformation and Accountability Division; Enterprise Resource Planning Solution Division; Office of Information and Communications Technology; and Anti-Racism Office. The Assistant Secretary-General of the Office of Information and Communications Technology reports to both the Under-Secretary-General of the Department of Operational Support (DOS) and the Under-Secretary-General of DMSPC.

Department of Operational Support (DOS)

United Nations Headquarters

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UnitedNationsOperationalSupport](http://www.facebook.com/UnitedNationsOperationalSupport)

X: [@UN\_OpSupport](http://www.twitter.com/UN_OpSupport)

Instagram: [@unoperationalsupport](http://www.instagram.com/unoperationalsupport)

Website: <https://operationalsupport.un.org/en>

Under-Secretary-General: Atul Khare, India (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in January 2019)

Purpose

The Department of Operational Support (DOS) provides operational support to UN Secretariat entities globally, including advisory, operational and transactional support services and, where needed, exercises delegated authority on behalf of clients. DOS supports the entire UN Secretariat, consisting of almost 100 entities located around the globe.

DOS is built on [five key pillars](https://operationalsupport.un.org/en/background). It provides end-to-end service delivery and integration of operational support in:

* Human resources, training, health-care management and occupational safety and health
* Supply chain management including aviation, logistics, procurement and support for uniformed capabilities
* Operational planning, support partnerships, resource planning and support to start-up, surge, draw-down and liquidation in UN Secretariat entities
* UN Headquarters administrative services and campus support

Operational information and communications technology (ICT).

DOS became operational on 1 January 2019 as part of the Secretary-General’s Management Reform.

Structure

In addition to the Office of the Under-Secretary-General, DOS consists of three offices (Support Operations, including [human resources](https://operationalsupport.un.org/en/human-resources), [health-care management](https://operationalsupport.un.org/en/health-care-management) and [capacity-building](https://operationalsupport.un.org/en/capacity-development-operational-training); [Supply Chain Management](https://operationalsupport.un.org/en/supply-chain); [Information and Communications Technology](https://operationalsupport.un.org/en/technology)) and two divisions (the Division for Special Activities and the Division of Administration New York). The Assistant Secretary-General of the Office of Information and Communications Technology reports to both the Under-Secretary-General of DOS and the Under-Secretary-General of the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance (DMSPC).

Approximately 1200 civilian staff and military-seconded personnel work in UN Operational Support, supporting operations globally. Global operational functions, including centralized support for technology, logistics and other specialized services, are concentrated at the [Global Service Centre](https://www.ungsc.org/) in Brindisi, Italy and Valencia, Spain. Most administrative location-independent functions, including standard back-office services for finance and human resource management, are centralized in a [Regional Service Centre](https://rsce.unmissions.org) in Entebbe, Uganda, as well as the Joint Support Office in Kuwait. The Global Procurement Support Section (GPSS) supports regional procurement from Entebbe, Uganda, whereas Headquarter-based entities are supported through the Headquarters Client Support Service in the Division of Administration. Only location-dependent functions that must be provided on the ground are maintained in field missions.

Department of Peace Operations (DPO)

United Nations Headquarters

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

X: [@Lacroix\_UN](file:///C:\Users\lwright5\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\P3TS7U4J\www.x.com\Lacroix_UN)

Website: <https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/department-of-peace-operations>

Under-Secretary-General: Jean-Pierre Lacroix, France (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in April 2017)

Purpose

DPO provides political and executive direction to UN peacekeeping operations around the world, and maintains contact with the Security Council, troop and financial contributors, and parties to the conflict in the implementation of Security Council mandates. It works to integrate the efforts of the UN system, governmental and non-governmental entities in the context of peacekeeping operations. DPO also provides guidance and support on military, police, mine action and other relevant issues to UN political and peacebuilding missions.

DPO was formally created in 1992 as the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) but traces its roots back to 1948 with the creation of the first UN peacekeeping operations.

As at 28 February 2025, there were more than 68,000 military, police and civilian personnel serving with 11 peacekeeping operations. As at 1 July 2025, the peacekeeping operations overseen by DPO are, with start years:

* UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO), 1948
* UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP), 1949
* UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP), 1964
* UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF), 1974
* UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), 1978
* UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO), 1991
* UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), 1999
* UN Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) (prior to 1 July 2010, named the UN Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC)), 1999
* UN Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA), 2011
* UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), 2011

UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA), 2014.

Structure

The three main DPO offices are: [Military Affairs](https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/military); [Rule of Law and Security Institutions (OROLSI)](https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/office-of-rule-of-law-and-security-institutions); and Policy Evaluation and Training Division. In addition, DPO shares with the [Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs](https://dpa.un.org/en) (DPPA) eight regional divisions, managed by three Assistant Secretaries-General, that cover the Americas, Europe, Africa, Asia and the Pacific.

UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS)

Department of Peace Operations

Office of the Rule of Law and Security Institutions

2 United Nations Plaza, 14th Floor

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 963 5682

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UnitedNationsMineActionService](http://www.facebook.com/UnitedNationsMineActionService)

X: [@UNMAS](http://www.twitter.com/UNMAS)

Instagram: [@un\_mineaction](http://www.instagram.com/un_mineaction)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/united-nations-mine-action-service](http://www.linkedin.com/company/united-nations-mine-action-service)

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/unmineaction](http://www.youtube.com/unmineaction)

Website: [www.unmas.org](http://www.unmas.org)

Director: Ilene Cohn, USA (appointed June 2022)

Purpose

Established in 1997, UNMAS works to eliminate the threat posed by mines, explosive remnants of war and improvised explosive devices by coordinating UN mine action, leading operational responses at the country level, and supporting peace operations, as well as the development of standards, policies and norms. As a specialized service located within the Department of Peace Operations (DPO), it operates under UN legislative mandates of both the General Assembly and the Security Council. UNMAS also responds to specific requests for support from the UN Secretary-General or designated officials.

UNMAS chairs the Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action (IACG-MA) and its subsidiary groups (as mandated in GA res. [72/75](https://undocs.org/A/RES/72/75) and SC res. [2365](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2365(2017)) (2017)). It is also the global lead for the [Mine Action Area of Responsibility](https://www.globalprotectioncluster.org/AoR/Mine-Action) within the [Global Protection Cluster](https://www.globalprotectioncluster.org) and Chair of the International Mine Action Standards (IMAS) [Review Board](https://www.mineactionstandards.org/imas-governance/) and its Steering Committee, and leads the UN Coordinating Task Force on a Whole-of-System Approach to Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs).

UNMAS has a small team at its New York headquarters, a humanitarian hub in Geneva and approximately 3000 staff in the field. As at July 2025, UNMAS provided direct support and technical assistance to mine-action programmes in Afghanistan, Central African Republic, Colombia, Cyprus, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Nigeria, Somalia, South Sudan, State of Palestine, Sudan, Sudan/South Sudan–Abyei (UN Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA)), Syria, Ukraine, the Territory of Western Sahara (UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO)) and Yemen.

Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA)

United Nations Headquarters

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

X: [@UNDPPA](http://www.twitter.com/UNDPPA)

Website: <https://dppa.un.org/en>

Under-Secretary-General: Rosemary A DiCarlo, USA (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in March 2018)

Purpose

DPPA monitors and assesses global political developments with an eye to detecting potential crises before they erupt and devising effective responses. The Department provides support to the Secretary-General and his envoys, as well as to UN political missions deployed around the world to help defuse crises or promote lasting solutions to conflict.

DPPA was established on 1 January 2019 as part of the reform of the UN peace and security pillar. It brought together the former Department of Political Affairs (DPA), which was created in 1992, and the UN [Peacebuilding Support Office](https://unsdg.un.org/un-entities/un-pbso) (PBSO). As part of this reform, DPA and the former Department of Peacekeeping Operations (now the [Department of Peace Operations](https://peacekeeping.un.org/en/department-of-peace-operations), or DPO) also merged their previously parallel regional divisions to create a single structure to provide more coherent political analysis and strategic advice in the support of prevention, peacekeeping and peacebuilding after conflict.

DPPA focuses primarily on five areas in international peace and security:

* Ensuring sound analysis and early warning
* Preventing conflict and engaging in peacemaking
* Managing political crises and violent conflicts
* Sustaining peace

Enhancing partnerships.

The PBSO within DPPA fosters international support for nationally owned and led peacebuilding efforts.

As at 1 July 2025, DPPA oversees 37 special political missions, comprising envoys of the Secretary-General, sanctions monitoring teams, as well as regional offices and offices in support of the political process. This includes the following political and peacebuilding support offices, with start years:

* Office of the UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO), 1994
* UN Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), 2002
* UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), 2002
* UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI), 2003
* UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA), 2007
* Office of the UN Special Coordinator for Lebanon (UNSCOL), 2007
* UN Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA), 2011
* UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL), 2011
* UN Verification Mission in Colombia, 2017
* UN Mission to support the Hudaydah Agreement (UNMHA), 2019
* UN Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH), 2019

UN Transitional Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNTMIS), 2024.

DPPA manages the offices of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Cyprus, the Personal Envoys of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and Western Sahara, and the Special Envoys of the Secretary-General for Myanmar, the Sudan, the Syrian AR, Yemen, the Horn of Africa and the Great Lakes region. It also oversees the UN representative to the Geneva International Discussions and the UN Office to the African Union (UNOAU), as well as UN support for the Cameroon-Nigeria Mixed Commission.

The Department coordinates UN electoral assistance activities and provides substantive and secretariat support for the Security Council. It also supports two standing committees established by the General Assembly: the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People and the Special Committee on Decolonization.

Structure

The Department is headed by the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs. The common regional pillar it shares with the DPO covers Africa; the Americas; Europe; Asia and Pacific; and the Middle East. The Department’s functional or thematic responsibilities are covered by divisions for Electoral Assistance; Policy and Mediation; Palestinian Rights; Security Council Affairs; and Decolonization.

UN Development Coordination Office (DCO)

UN Secretariat Building

405 East 42nd Street, 25th Floor

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Email: [DCOcommunications@un.org](mailto:DCOcommunications@un.org)

Website: <https://un-dco.org>

Assistant Secretary-General for Development Coordination: Oscar Fernández-Taranco, Argentina (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in November 2022)

Established in 2019 following GA res. [72/279](http://undocs.org/A/RES/72/279) (2018), DCO serves as the secretariat for the UN Sustainable Development Group ([UNSDG](https://unsdg.un.org/)) – 38 agencies, funds and programmes working on development – at the regional and global levels. DCO provides technical and advisory support to the UN development system, supporting resource mobilization for system-wide financing priorities and facilitating inter-agency programmatic and policy collaboration and partnership for achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

DCO coordinates and manages the Resident Coordinator [system](https://un-dco.org/RC-System-Management), providing substantive guidance and support to [Resident Coordinators](https://un-dco.org/resident-coordinators) and 130 UN country teams covering 162 countries and territories, in addition to daily backstopping to Resident Coordinator [Offices](https://un-dco.org/resident-coordinators-their-offices) on the ground. At the regional level, five DCO Regional Directors and their teams in Addis Ababa, Amman, Bangkok, Istanbul and Panama provide Resident Coordinators with regional-specific support, with a secretariat role for the UNSDG. DCO also provides troubleshooting, quality assurance and dispute resolution services in close cooperation with the relevant regional teams of the UNSDG.

Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

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Palais des Nations

1211 Geneva 10

Switzerland

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Email: please use the contact form on [www.unocha.org](https://www.unocha.org/contact-us)

Website: [www.unocha.org](http://www.unocha.org)

Under-Secretary-General: Tom Fletcher, UK (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in October 2024)

Purpose

OCHA coordinates the global emergency response to save lives and protect people in humanitarian crises. It helps humanitarian organizations do this in four ways: assembles support; alerts and informs; advocates for solutions; and raises funds for the response. As the central hub for humanitarian information and analysis, OCHA is the first to inform humanitarian organizations about a humanitarian crisis. OCHA brings international and national partners together to respond to a crisis. It provides the tools and services to aid organizations to help the most vulnerable affected people, and it helps aid organizations understand and navigate the complex challenges they often face during a response operation. OCHA campaigns for the rights of people affected by a crisis, and it ensures that aid organizations have the funds and resources they need to respond during a crisis.

OCHA ensures more responsive, predictable and strategic humanitarian financing through the OCHA-managed Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) and Country-Based Pooled Funds (CBPFs). The pooled funds allow governments and private donors to pool their contributions into common, unearmarked funds to deliver life-saving assistance to people who need it most. CERF can fund an emergency anywhere in the world, and the CBPFs are country specific.

OCHA was created in 1998 as part of the Secretary-General’s Reform Programme. It replaced the Department of Humanitarian Affairs, which was created in 1991.

Structure

The head of OCHA is the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, who is also the Emergency Relief Coordinator ([ERC](https://www.interagencystandingcommittee.org/emergency-relief-coordinator)). The General Assembly created the ERC position in its resolution [46/182](http://undocs.org/A/RES/46/182) (1991). The ERC is the principal adviser to the Secretary-General on humanitarian issues, and also:

* Holds responsibility for the oversight of all emergencies requiring UN humanitarian assistance
* Acts as the central focal point for governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental relief activities
* Processes requests from Member States for emergency aid
* Mobilizes international emergency-relief capacity
* Negotiates access to populations who need assistance
* Chairs the Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)
* Manages the worldwide network of Humanitarian Coordinators

Promotes the smooth transition from relief to recovery.

OCHA’s Headquarters focuses primarily on support to the country and regional offices, information management, advocacy, humanitarian financing, policy and communications and outreach with Member States, regional organizations and emerging partners. It works directly with the Security Council, Economic and Social Council, General Assembly and other UN organs. The Geneva office manages partnerships, resource mobilization, inter-agency coordination, emergency preparedness and response tools and mechanisms, and provides programme support to the country and regional offices. OCHA also has five regional offices, seven liaison offices, and 27 country offices throughout the world.

Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC)

Geneva Office

Palais des Nations,

H building, 4th Floor

8–14 Avenue de la Paix

1211 Geneva 10

Switzerland

New York Liaison Office

2 United Nations Plaza

323 East 44th Street

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 963 5592

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/FriendsofIASC](http://www.facebook.com/FriendsofIASC)

X: [@iascch](http://www.twitter.com/iascch)

Linkedin: [www.linkedin.com/company/inter-agency-standing-committee-iasc](https://www.linkedin.com/company/inter-agency-standing-committee-iasc)

Email: [iasccorrespondence@un.org](mailto:iasccorrespondence@un.org)

Website: [www.interagencystandingcommittee.org](http://www.interagencystandingcommittee.org)

Chair: Tom Fletcher, UK (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in October 2024)

Purpose

Created by the General Assembly in 1991 through its resolution [46/182](https://undocs.org/A/RES/46/182), the IASC is the longest-standing and highest-level humanitarian coordination forum of the UN system. It brings together 19 Principals of UN and non-UN entities to coordinate and harmonize the global humanitarian response, and set priorities for strengthened humanitarian action. This includes coordination of system-wide efforts in operational response, advocacy and policy formulation. The IASC facilitates the leadership role of the UN Secretary-General by meeting regularly to ensure better preparation for, as well as rapid and coherent response to, humanitarian crises. It is chaired by the UN Emergency Relief Coordinator ([ERC](https://www.interagencystandingcommittee.org/emergency-relief-coordinator)). The IASC defines global strategic priorities on a regular basis, and regularly reviews the IASC structures so that they are fit for purpose. The five IASC priorities are: operational response; accountability and inclusion; collective advocacy; humanitarian–development collaboration and its linkages to peace; and humanitarian financing.

Structure

The ERC is both the Chair of the IASC and the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs. The IASC is composed of the IASC [Principals](https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/the-inter-agency-standing-committee), the executive heads of the IASC organizations. They are supported in delivering their priorities by subsidiary bodies. The [Deputies Group](https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/Deputies-Forum) serves as a critical platform for dialogue and decision-making to drive forward progress on key strategic issues as tasked by the IASC Principals. It comprises representatives at the level of Deputy Executive Head/Assistant Secretary-General or equivalent.

The [Emergency Directors Group](https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/the-emergency-directors-group) (EDG), the Emergency Directors of the IASC members, advises and follows up on strategic and operational issues requiring urgent collective action, system-wide resource mobilization and/or targeted field support to sustain or scale up a given humanitarian response. It is composed of representatives from IASC member organizations, partners and observers. The [Operational Policy and Advocacy Group](https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/operational-policy-and-advocacy-group) (OPAG) drives the normative and strategic policy work of the IASC, including on system-wide policy matters with a direct bearing on humanitarian operations. It consists of Emergency or Policy Director-level representatives.

The formal IASC structures are supported by technical structures that are created to drive specific workstreams. These structures are time bound and regularly reviewed. There are currently five ‘[Entities Associated with the IASC](https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/entities-associated-iasc)’ supporting the work of the IASC: the Inter-Agency Humanitarian Evaluation Steering Group, the Global Cluster Coordination Group, the Humanitarian Programme Cycle Steering Group, the Reference Group on Gender and Humanitarian Action and the Reference Group on Mental Health and Psychosocial Support. More information is available on the [website](https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/entities-associated-iasc).

Meetings

The IASC regularly convenes to ensure preparedness and a rapid and coordinated humanitarian response. As part of the [Humanitarian Reset](https://interagencystandingcommittee.org/humanitarian-reset), it prioritizes virtual meetings. The IASC Principals meet in person twice a year, with the addition of ad hoc meetings in response to urgent or pressing humanitarian issues. The IASC Deputies Group and OPAG convene on an as-needed basis. The EDG meets on an ad hoc basis in response to emerging and ongoing crises, and for an extended meeting once a year to review global humanitarian operations and assess the performance of Humanitarian Coordinators.

Membership

IASC Principals are the heads of the IASC’s full members and Standing Invitees. IASC full members are the UN organizations listed below. The IASC Standing Invitees are the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons and the World Bank. The non-governmental organizations (NGOs) consortia International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA), InterAction and the Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response (SCHR) are also invited on a permanent basis to attend. They are each joined by two operational NGO representatives at each of the IASC structures and at the OPAG and Task Force levels by an additional two local NGOs.

The Chair of the IASC may also invite, on an ad hoc basis, representatives of other specialized organizations. Non-members are invited systematically to contribute to the work carried out by the various structures to ensure the inclusion of critical expertise to contribute to IASC efforts.

Members

Chair

Tom Fletcher, UK, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

Full members

Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Ethiopia, World Health Organization (WHO) Director-General

Sima Sami Bahous, Jordan, UN-Women Executive Director

Filippo Grandi, Italy, UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Diene Keita, Guinea, UN Population Fund (UNFPA) Executive Director

Cindy McCain, USA, World Food Programme (WFP) Executive Director

Joyce Msuya, UR of Tanzania, Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, OCHA

Amy Pope, USA, International Organization for Migration (IOM) Director General

Qu Dongyu, China, UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Director-General

Anacláudia Marinheiro Centeno Rossbach, Brazil, UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) Executive Director

Catherine Russell, USA, UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) Executive Director

Volker Türk, Austria, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

Haoliang Xu, UN Development Programme (UNDP) Acting Administrator

Standing invitees

Jagan Chapagain, Nepal, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) Secretary General

Mirjana Spoljaric Egger, Switzerland, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) President

Paula Gaviria Betancur, Colombia, Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons

Tom Hart, USA, InterAction President and CEO

Nimo Hassan, Somalia, International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA) Board Chair (Director, Somali NGO Consortium)

Abby Maxman, Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response (SCHR) Chair (President and CEO, Oxfam)

James Munn, Norway, International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA) Executive Director

Gareth Price-Jones, UK, Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response (SCHR) Executive Secretary (Senior Humanitarian Policy and Advocacy Coordinator, Care International)

Janti Soeripto, Indonesia/Netherlands, Save the Children President and CEO

Anna Bjerde, Sweden, World Bank Managing Director for Operations

Office for Digital and Emerging Technologies (ODET)

405 East 45th Street

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Email: [Please](mailto:ohchr-InfoDesk@un.org) use the contact form on the [website](https://www.un.org/digital-emerging-technologies/contactus)

X: [@odet\_un](https://x.com/odet_un)

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Bluesky: [@unodet.bsky.social](https://web-cdn.bsky.app/profile/unodet.bsky.social)

Website: [www.un.org/digital-emerging-technologies/](https://www.un.org/digital-emerging-technologies/)

Under-Secretary-General, Special Envoy for Digital and Emerging Technologies: Amandeep Singh Gill, India (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in January 2025)

Purpose

On 24 December 2024, following the adoption of the [Global Digital Compact](https://www.un.org/global-digital-compact/en) at the [Summit of the Future](https://www.un.org/en/summit-of-the-future) in September 2024, the UN General Assembly decided to transition the Office of the Secretary-General’s Envoy on Technology into a new UN Office (GA res. [79/258](https://docs.un.org/a/res/79/258)). The establishment of ODET on 1 January 2025 reflects the growing importance of a coordinated, inclusive and multistakeholder approach to the governance of technologies anchored in the UN Charter, human rights, and the sustainable development agenda.

ODET helps the UN address the opportunities and challenges posed by today’s rapidly evolving technological landscape. It acts across five strategic areas to:

* Serve as advocate and focal point for digital cooperation in the UN for Member States and stakeholders
* Facilitate inclusive, multistakeholder policy dialogue on digital and emerging technologies
* Advise senior UN leadership on key technology trends so as to guide the strategic approach taken by the Organization on such issues
* Strengthen system-wide coordination within and across the UN system on digital and emerging technologies

Support the follow-up and implementation of the Global Digital Compact, including its decisions on global cooperation on artificial intelligence (AI) governance.

The third [UN Open Source Week](https://www.un.org/digital-emerging-technologies/content/open-source-week-2025) took place in May 2025. Co-hosted by ODET and the UN Office of Information and Communications Technology ([OICT](https://unite.un.org)), this event facilitates global dialogue and collaboration on open source, digital public infrastructure ([DPI](https://www.un.org/digital-emerging-technologies/content/digital-public-infrastructure)), and the development of innovative solutions to global challenges.

Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS)

UN Secretariat Building

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United States of America

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Email: [feedback2oios@un.org](mailto:feedback2oios@un.org)

Website: <http://oios.un.org/>

Under-Secretary-General: Fatoumata Ndiaye, Senegal (appointed by the UN Secretary-General for a five-year term from October 2019; appointment extended in August 2024 for a further two years, until 24 October 2026)

Purpose

The Office is the UN’s internal oversight body. Established in 1994 by the General Assembly, the Office assists the Secretary-General in fulfilling his or her oversight responsibilities in respect of the organization’s resources and staff through the provision of audit, inspection and evaluation, and investigation services.

The Office is mandated to provide oversight coverage of all UN activities under the Secretary-General’s authority, including: the UN Secretariat in New York, Geneva, Nairobi and Vienna; five regional commissions; peacekeeping missions; special political missions; humanitarian operations; and funds and programmes administered separately under the authority of the Secretary-General (including the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)). The Office also provides oversight services to other UN entities such as the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD), the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the UN Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF).

The Office issues around 500 reports each year and makes recommendations aimed at improving governance, risk management and control processes and organizational efficiency and effectiveness. It submits its reports to the Secretary-General, or a delegated programme manager, or directly to the General Assembly. Member States’ access to all OIOS reports, subject to certain exceptions, was significantly expanded following the adoption of GA res. [59/272](http://undocs.org/A/RES/59/272) in 2004. GA res. [67/258](http://undocs.org/A/RES/67/258) (2013) also approved the publishing of OIOS audit reports on the OIOS [website](https://oios.un.org/audit-reports) on an experimental basis, later made permanent by GA res. [69/253](http://undocs.org/A/RES/69/253) (2014), which also expanded it to include OIOS evaluation reports, effective 1 January 2015.

Structure

The Office is organized into the following functional units:

* [Internal Audit](https://oios.un.org/internal-audit) Division: assesses the adequacy and effectiveness of internal controls for the purpose of improving the organization’s risk management, control and governance processes
* [Inspection and Evaluation](https://oios.un.org/inspection-and-evaluation) Division: assesses the relevance, efficiency and effectiveness (including impact) of the organization’s programmes in relation to its objectives and mandates

[Investigations](https://oios.un.org/investigations) Division: establishes facts related to suspected or reported misconduct, fraud or other irregularities to guide the Secretary-General on jurisdictional or disciplinary action to be taken.

The Office may also provide support and advice to management on the effective discharge of their responsibilities and on the implementation of recommendations, and also facilitates self-evaluation by programme managers through appropriate methodological support.

The Office is headed by the Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services, who is appointed by the Secretary-General, following consultations with Member States and approval by the General Assembly, for one five-year term without the possibility of renewal.

Office of Legal Affairs (OLA)

Telephone: +1 212 963 5338

Website: [www.un.org/ola/](https://www.un.org/ola/)

Under-Secretary-General and United Nations Legal Counsel: Elinor Jane Britt Hammarskjöld, Sweden (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in December 2024)

Purpose

OLA was established by GA res. [13](http://undocs.org/A/RES/13(I)) (I) (1946) to provide a unified central legal service for the Secretariat and organs of the UN. It provides secretariat functions to UN bodies, including the General Assembly’s Sixth Committee, the International Law Commission and the UN Commission on International Trade Law.

OLA also provides legal services for UN offices, funds and programmes, and special political missions, peacekeeping operations and other field missions on issues, including respect for privileges and immunities and the legal status of the organization. It provides legal advice on cooperation with international or internationalized judicial accountability mechanisms.

OLA discharges the Secretariat’s responsibilities under Article 102 of the UN [Charter](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter) regarding the registration and publication of treaties, and the Secretary-General’s responsibilities as the depository for multilateral conventions. It also contributes to the development and codification of international public and trade law and assists in its teaching, study and dissemination. It prepares the Repertory of Practice of UN Organs (a record of the General Assembly procedural practice) and other legal publications.

In addition, OLA’s objectives include promoting the strengthening, development and effective implementation of the international legal order for the seas and oceans, as reflected in the [UN Convention on the Law of the Sea](https://www.un.org/depts/los/convention_agreements/convention_overview_convention.htm) (1982). It provides information and assistance to states on law of the sea and ocean affairs; monitors and reports on related developments, services institutions and intergovernmental and expert bodies as mandated by the Convention and the General Assembly; and fulfils capacity-building functions.

In its resolution [68/70](https://undocs.org/A/RES/68/70) (2013), the General Assembly identified the UN Legal Counsel/Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea as the focal point of UN-Oceans, an inter-agency mechanism that seeks to enhance the coordination of competent UN organizations and the International Seabed Authority. In its resolution [77/321](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/77/321) (2023), the General Assembly approved the assumption by the Secretary-General of the functions assigned to him under the Agreement under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement), including the depository functions and the performance, through the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea of the OLA, of the secretariat functions under the Agreement until such time as the secretariat to be established under the Agreement commences its functions. Pursuant to GA res. [78/272](http://undocs.org/A/RES/78/272), OLA, in cooperation with other relevant departments of the Secretariat, also supports the Preparatory Commission for the entry into force of the BBNJ Agreement and the convening of the first meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Agreement.

Structure

The Office of the Under-Secretary-General coordinates the work of OLA’s six substantive units: Office of the Legal Counsel; General Legal Division; Codification Division; Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea; International Trade Law Division; and Treaty Section.

UN Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS)

UN Secretariat Building, 8th Floor

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Website: [www.un.org/undss/](http://www.un.org/undss/)

Under-Secretary-General: Gilles Michaud, Canada (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in May 2019)

Purpose

UNDSS is responsible for strengthening the UN Security Management System (UNSMS) by enabling the safest and most efficient conduct of the programmes and activities of the UN within acceptable levels of security risk and by providing leadership, operational support and oversight to the System. The Department is composed of the Office of the Under-Secretary-General for Safety and Security; the Division of Field Operations; the Division of Partnerships and Specialized Support; and the Division of Headquarters Security and Safety Services. UNDSS maintains offices in more than 125 countries.

Evolution

The Department was established by GA res. [59/276](http://undocs.org/A/RES/59/276) of 23 December 2004, following the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening and unifying the UN security management ([A/59/365](http://undocs.org/A/59/365)). This also resulted in the merger of the security management component of the previous Office of the UN Security Coordinator with the Security and Safety Services at headquarters and at offices away from headquarters (including the regional commissions).

UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT)

United Nations Headquarters

405 East 42nd Street

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

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X: [@UN\_OCT](http://www.x.com/UN_OCT)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/unoct/](http://www.linkedin.com/company/unoct/)

Website: [www.un.org/counterterrorism/](https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/)

Under-Secretary-General: Vladimir Voronkov, Russian Federation (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in June 2017)

Purpose

UNOCT was established through the adoption of GA res. [71/291](http://undocs.org/A/RES/71/291) on 15 June 2017. This resolution endorsed the competencies and functions of the Office set out in the report of the Secretary-General on the capability of the UN system to assist Member States in implementing the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy ([A/71/858](http://undocs.org/A/71/858)). The creation of the Office is considered the first major institutional reform undertaken by Secretary-General António Guterres in the UN peace and security pillar.

UNOCT has five main functions:

* To provide leadership on the General Assembly counter-terrorism mandates entrusted to the Secretary-General from the UN system
* To enhance coordination and coherence across the [UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact](https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/global-ct-compact) entities to ensure the balanced implementation of the four pillars of the [UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy](https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/un-global-counter-terrorism-strategy)
* To strengthen the delivery of UN counter-terrorism capacity-building assistance to Member States
* To improve visibility, advocacy and resource mobilization for UN counter-terrorism efforts

To ensure that due priority is given to counter-terrorism across the UN system and that the important work on preventing violent extremism conducive to terrorism is firmly rooted in the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

Structure

UNOCT is the main policy, coordination and capacity-building entity on counter-terrorism mandated by the General Assembly. It is led by the Under-Secretary-General for Counter-Terrorism, supported by the Office of the Under-Secretary-General (OUSG), who is responsible for its programme of work and concurrently serves as the Executive Director of the UN Counter-Terrorism Centre ([UNCCT](https://www.un.org/counterterrorism/cct)), as well as Chairperson of the Coordination Committee of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact. UNOCT implements its policy leadership and coordination mandate with the support of its Policy, Knowledge Management and Coordination Branch (PKMCB). The Office provides capacity-building support to Member States, in partnership with international, regional and sub-regional organizations, and other relevant counter-terrorism actors, through the UNCCT, established in 2011 by GA res. [66/10](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/66/10(2011)), and the Special Projects and Innovation Branch (SPIB). UNOCT has a dedicated Human Rights and Gender Section (HRGS) to support the integration of human rights and gender equality across the Office's work and to enhance collaboration with civil society.

In February 2018, the Secretary-General signed the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact with the heads of 36 UN entities plus the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the World Customs Organization (WCO) to strengthen coordination and coherence to support Member States’ efforts to prevent and counter terrorism. The Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact is supported by a Coordination Committee that oversees eight thematic Inter-Agency Working Groups addressing key counter-terrorism priorities of Member States in line with the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and other relevant General Assembly and Security Council resolutions. As of July 2025, the Counter-Terrorism Compact brings together 46 entities, including 42 UN entities as well as INTERPOL, WCO, the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)

United Nations Headquarters

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United States of America

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Email: [unoda-web@un.org](mailto:unoda-web@un.org)

Website: [www.un.org/disarmament](http://www.un.org/disarmament)

Under-Secretary-General, High Representative for Disarmament Affairs: Izumi Nakamitsu, Japan (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in March 2017; took office in May 2017)

Purpose

Originally established in 1982, the Office for Disarmament Affairs replaced the Department of Disarmament Affairs in 2007. The Office:

* Promotes the goals of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation, and the strengthening of the disarmament regimes for weapons of mass destruction and chemical and biological weapons
* Promotes the limitation and reduction of conventional weapons, including the illicit trade in small arms, and the elimination of inhumane weapons, including land mines and cluster munitions
* Supports disarmament through the work of the General Assembly and its First Committee, the UN Disarmament Commission, Conference on Disarmament and other bodies
* Promotes transparency and confidence-building on military matters, and encourages regional disarmament efforts
* Provides information and education on the UN’s multilateral disarmament efforts
* Supports efforts such as the collection, control and disposal of arms, especially small arms and light weapons, coupled with restraint over the production and procurement as well as transfers of such arms; demobilization and reintegration of former combatants; demining; and other disarmament-related activities for the maintenance and consolidation of peace and security in areas that have suffered from conflict

Monitors and analyses the risks and implications posed by scientific and technological advances and developments of new weapon technology in order to understand their impact on existing international normative, institutional and policy frameworks.

Structure

The Office has five sub-programmes:

* Conference on Disarmament Secretariat and Conference Support (Geneva)
* Weapons of Mass Destruction
* Conventional Arms
* Information and Outreach

Regional Disarmament.

The Office for Disarmament Affairs is based in New York, with a [branch in Geneva](https://disarmament.unoda.org/disarmament-in-geneva) and a [Vienna office](https://disarmament.unoda.org/vienna), as well as three regional centres: the UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa ([UNREC](https://www.unrec.org/)) in Lomé, Togo; the UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific ([UNRCPD](https://www.unrcpd.org/)) in Kathmandu, Nepal; and the UN Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean ([UN-LiREC](https://www.unlirec.org/en/)) in Lima, Peru.

The Geneva branch also provides implementation support for the Biological Weapons Convention and the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons. Dedicated Implementation Support Units provide substantive and administrative support; facilitate communication among States Parties and organizations; and promote universalization and other activities to support the treaties. The Office’s Science, Technology and International Security Unit works on the identification and analysis of emerging issues, including developments in science and technology, and their impacts on international security.

UN Youth Office

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Instagram: [@unyouthaffairs](file:///C:\Users\lwright5\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\P3TS7U4J\www.instagram.com\unyouthaffairs)

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/un-youth-affairs/>

Website: [www.un.org/youthaffairs](https://www.un.org/youthaffairs/en)

Assistant Secretary-General for Youth Affairs: Felipe Paullier, Uruguay (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in October 2023)

Purpose

The UN Youth Office was established by the General Assembly to lead the engagement and advocacy for the advancement of youth issues across the UN and to promote the meaningful, inclusive and effective engagement of youth, youth-led and youth-focused organizations in the work of the UN (GA res. [76/306](http://docs.un.org/A/RES/76/306) (2022).

Following the recommendation in the Secretary-General’s groundbreaking report ‘[Our Common Agenda](https://www.un.org/en/common-agenda)’, Member States unanimously agreed to the establishment of the UN Youth Office as a dedicated entity for youth affairs within the Secretariat, building upon more than a decade of work led by the Secretary-General’s Envoys on Youth, and marking a pivotal breakthrough for the revitalization and expansion of the UN’s engagement with and for youth.

The UN Youth Office champions the rights, perspectives, contributions and potential of young people everywhere. Under the umbrella of [Youth2030](https://www.un.org/youthaffairs/en/youth2030/about), the UN system-wide strategy on youth, the Office leads efforts to enhance collaboration, coordination and accountability on youth affairs, ensuring that the UN works effectively and inclusively with young people in all their diversity. By fostering meaningful, inclusive and impactful participation of youth in decision-making processes, the UN Youth Office empowers young people as agents of transformative change in addressing global challenges in the areas of sustainable development, peace and security, human rights and humanitarian action.

#### Offices and Departments in Geneva

See also Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), page 223, and Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC), page 224.

UN Office at Geneva (UNOG)

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LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/ungeneva](http://www.linkedin.com/company/ungeneva)

YouTube: [@UNGenevaChannel](https://www.youtube.com/user/UninformationGeneva)

Website: [www.ungeneva.org/en](http://www.ungeneva.org/en)

Under-Secretary-General, Director-General: Tatiana Valovaya, Russian Federation (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in May 2019)

Housed at the Palais des Nations, UNOG serves as the representative office of the Secretary-General at Geneva. A focal point for multilateral diplomacy, UNOG services around 8000 meetings per year, making it one of the busiest conference centres in the world. With more than 1300 staff, UNOG is the biggest duty station of the UN Secretariat outside of headquarters in New York.

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

Palais des Nations

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Switzerland

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Fax: +41 22 917 9012

Email: [ohchr-InfoDesk@un.org](mailto:ohchr-InfoDesk@un.org)

Website: [www.ohchr.org](http://www.ohchr.org)

High Commissioner: Volker Türk, Austria (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in September 2022)

Purpose

The OHCHR is the principal UN Office mandated to promote and protect the human rights of all people. It also serves as the Secretariat to the Human Rights Council and provides assistance to the system of Special Procedures and the Universal Periodic Review system. The Office also services the core human rights treaty bodies.

The creation of a High Commissioner for Human Rights was agreed at the World Conference on Human Rights in Vienna in 1993. GA res. [48/141](https://undocs.org/A/RES/48/141) (1993) established the post to promote and protect the effective enjoyment by all people of all civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights, including the right to development. It further held that the High Commissioner should function as the UN official with principal responsibility for global human rights efforts. The High Commissioner is appointed by the Secretary-General and approved by the General Assembly, with regard to geographical rotation. Appointments are for a fixed term of four years, with the possibility of one renewal.

Structure

OHCHR is based in Geneva. It has an office in New York plus 18 country or stand-alone offices, 13 regional offices or centres, nine human rights components in UN peace or political missions, and 43 human rights advisers embedded in UN country teams and human rights mainstreaming projects. More detailed information is available on the [website](https://www.ohchr.org/en/about-us/where-we-work).

United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)

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Website: [www.undrr.org](http://www.undrr.org) and [www.preventionweb.net](http://www.preventionweb.net)

Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction: Kamal Kishore, India (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in March 2024; took up position in May 2024)

Purpose

UNDRR was established in 1999 as a dedicated secretariat to facilitate the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction. It is mandated to serve as the focal point in the UN system for the coordination of disaster reduction and to ensure synergies among the disaster reduction activities of the UN system and regional organizations, as well as activities in the socio-economic and humanitarian fields (GA res. [56/195](http://undocs.org/A/RES/56/195) (2001)) to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risks and to strengthen resilience.

UNDRR supports the implementation of the [Sendai Framework](https://www.undrr.org/implementing-sendai-framework/what-sendai-framework) for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, adopted by the third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction on 18 March 2015 in Sendai, Japan. This includes reviewing progress, most recently with the [Midterm Review of the Sendai Framework](https://sendaiframework-mtr.undrr.org/high-level-meeting-midterm-review-sendai-framework-disaster-risk-reduction-2015-2030), where the Political Declaration was adopted by the General Assembly in May 2023 (GA res. [77/289](http://undocs.org/A/RES/77/289)). The Sendai Framework guides countries on how best to manage their risks to protect their people and economies from disasters, which is critical to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

UNDRR also leads a number of inter-agency efforts, including the ‘[UN Plan of Action on Disaster Risk Reduction for Resilience](https://www.preventionweb.net/sendai-framework/united-nations-plan-action-drr-resilience)’ and the [Early Warnings for All](https://www.undrr.org/early-warnings-for-all) initiative (with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) as co-lead). It also hosts the [Santiago network](https://www.undrr.org/what-we-do/santiago-network) for averting, minimizing and addressing loss and damage (with the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS)), and builds local government capacities through the [Making Cities Resilient 2030](https://mcr2030.undrr.org/) initiative.

UNDRR mobilizes a broad range of stakeholders in the development of national plans and local disaster risk reduction strategies. These stakeholders include parliamentarians, the private sector, the science community, civil society organizations and others. It convenes the [Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction](http://globalplatform.undrr.org), established in 2006 (GA res. [61/198](http://undocs.org/A/RES/61/198)). The Global Platform (GP) is the main global forum for disaster risk reduction and for the provision of strategic and coherent guidance for the implementation of the Sendai Framework and sharing of experience among stakeholders. The [eighth session](https://www.undrr.org/event/eighth-session-global-platform-disaster-risk-reduction-gp2025) of the GP took place in June 2025 in Geneva.

UNDRR leads on global advocacy campaigns around the [International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction](https://iddrr.undrr.org/) on 13 October and [World Tsunami Awareness Day](https://tsunamiday.undrr.org/) on 5 November and produces the Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction ([GAR](https://www.undrr.org/gar)) every three years.

Structure

UNDRR is led by the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, assisted by the UNDRR Director. It is funded by voluntary contributions through the UN Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction.

The Secretariat is based in Geneva, Switzerland. It has regional offices and other presences in Africa, Americas and the Caribbean, Arab States, Asia and the Pacific, and Europe and Central Asia, as well as a liaison office in New York.

#### Office in Nairobi

UN Office at Nairobi (UNON)

##### UN Avenue, Gigiri

##### P.O. Box 67578 (00200)

##### Nairobi

##### Kenya

##### Website: [www.unon.org](http://www.unon.org)

##### Under-Secretary-General, Director-General: Zainab Hawa Bangura, Sierra Leone (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in December 2019)

UNON is the only UN headquarter office in Africa and the global south and serves as the representative office of the UN Secretary-General in Kenya. UNON provides administrative and other support services to the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), the UN Resident Coordination System (RCS) and the UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) globally in 166 countries. UNON also provides joint and common services to other organizations of the UN System in Kenya. Home to diverse fauna and flora in a rich environmental ecosystem, UNON sits on 140-acres of land, the largest of any UN compound in the world.

#### Offices in Vienna

##### UN Office at Vienna (UNOV)

##### Vienna International Centre

##### Wagramer Straße 5

##### 1220 Vienna

##### Austria

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##### Instagram: [@unitednationsvienna](https://www.instagram.com/unitednationsvienna)

##### LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/united-nations-office-for-outer-space-affairs](http://www.linkedin.com/company/united-nations-office-for-outer-space-affairs)

##### Website: [www.unvienna.org](http://www.unvienna.org)

##### Under-Secretary-General, Director-General: Ghada Fathi Waly, Egypt (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in November 2019)

UNOV provides administrative support including conference planning, security and language interpretation to UN programmes. The Director-General of UNOV represents the Secretary-General in dealings with the host country and diplomatic missions in Vienna.

The Vienna International Centre (VIC), commonly known in Austria as ‘UNO City’, was opened in 1979 and is leased to the UN for 99 years, for a symbolic annual rental sum of one Austrian schilling (equivalent to seven Euro cents). Around 5000 employees from more than 150 countries work for the organizations based in Vienna.

UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

Vienna International Centre

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YouTube: [www.youtube.com/user/UNODCHQ](https://www.youtube.com/user/UNODCHQ)

Website: [www.unodc.org](http://www.unodc.org)

Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director: Ghada Fathi Waly, Egypt, Director-General of the UN Office at Vienna (since February 2020; appointed by the UN Secretary-General in November 2019)

Purpose

UNODC is mandated to support Member States in the prevention of illicit drugs, crime, corruption and terrorism. The Office is also the Secretariat of the:

* Commission on Narcotic Drugs ([CND](https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CND/index.html)) and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice ([CCPCJ](https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/commissions/CCPCJ/index.html))
* [Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime](https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/organized-crime/intro/conference-of-the-parties.html) and its three supplementary protocols: the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children; the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air; and the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunitions
* Conference of the States Parties to the UN Convention against Corruption

UN [Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice](https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/crimecongress/about.html), held every five years.

The three pillars of UNODC’s work programme are:

* Research and analytical work to increase knowledge and understanding of drugs and crime issues and expand the evidence base for policy and operational decisions
* Normative work to assist states in the ratification and implementation of the relevant international treaties, the development of domestic legislation on drugs, crime and terrorism, and the provision of secretariat and other services to the treaty-based and governing bodies

Field-based technical cooperation projects to enhance the capacity of Member States to prevent and counteract illicit drugs, crime and terrorism.

The drug programme works on the prevention of drug abuse and assistance for drug treatment, as well as to strengthen international action against production and trafficking of illicit drugs. The crime programme works to strengthen the rule of law and to promote stable criminal justice systems. It pays special attention to addressing transnational organized crime, including trafficking in people, the smuggling of migrants and illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, as well as combating corruption and preventing terrorism.

Evolution

The UN International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), the predecessor of UNODC, was established under GA res. [45/179](http://undocs.org/A/RES/45/179) (1990) as the programme responsible for coordinated international action in the field of drug abuse control. The Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme was established under GA res. [46/152](http://undocs.org/A/RES/46/152) (1991) and was, from 1992, implemented under ECOSOC res. [1992/1](http://undocs.org/E/RES/1992/1) by the CCPCJ. The authority for the Programme’s Fund was conferred on the Executive Director by GA res. [46/185C](http://undocs.org/A/RES/46/185) (1991). Former Secretary-General Kofi Annan ([ST/SGB/2004/6](http://undocs.org/ST/SGB/2004/6)) established UNODC on 15 March 2004 to implement the two programmes in an integrated manner.

Structure

UNODC has its headquarters in Vienna and a strong [field office network](https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/field-offices.html) employing over 2500 personnel in 111 countries. Eleven regional offices and seven country offices also manage and oversee the work of 108 programme offices worldwide.

The field office network is essential for UNODC’s technical cooperation activities and for its direct work with governments, institutions, civil society organizations, local communities, UN entities and development partners to deliver technical cooperation programmes tailored to the needs of Member States. Field offices also provide policy and strategic advice, technical expertise and support to their local counterparts for the development of new national policies, strategies and action plans in UNODC mandated areas.

UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA)

Vienna International Centre

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Instagram: [@unoosa](http://www.instagram.com/unoosa)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/united-nations-office-for-outer-space-affairs](http://www.linkedin.com/company/united-nations-office-for-outer-space-affairs)

Website: [www.unoosa.org](http://www.unoosa.org)

Director: Aarti Holla-Maini, UK (from September 2023; appointed by the UN Secretary-General on 26 June 2023)

Purpose

UNOOSA is responsible for advancing international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space and the use of space science and technology for sustainable development. Its programmes help bridge the gap in space capabilities, promote space sustainability, and contribute to building a more inclusive and diverse space sector. UNOOSA maintains the [UN Register of Objects Launched into Outer Space](https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/spaceobjectregister/index.html), the only treaty-based transparency and confidence-building measure that establishes a jurisdictional link between a state and a space object. UNOOSA facilitates multi-stakeholder dialogue on space affairs by convening conferences, such as the [World Space Forum series](https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/world-space-forum/WSF-main-page.html). It leads UN system-wide cooperation and coordination on space-related issues and activities through the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities ([UN-Space](https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/un-space/index.html)). The Office leads a number of capacity-building programmes, such as [Access to Space for All](https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/access2space4all/index.html), supporting UN Member States in their space journeys.

The Office also serves as the secretariat to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space ([COPUOS](https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/copuos/index.html), see entry on page 65), the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems ([ICG](https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/icg/icg.html)), and the Space Mission Planning Advisory Group ([SMPAG](https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/topics/neos/smpag.html)).

UNOOSA is based in Vienna, with offices for the UN Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response ([UN-SPIDER](https://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/ourwork/un-spider/index.html)) in Bonn and Beijing.

#### Special Representatives and Advisors

##### Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS)

##### United Nations Secretariat, 32nd Floor

##### New York, NY 10017

##### United States of America

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##### X: [@UNOHRLLS](http://www.twitter.com/UNOHRLLS)

##### Website: [www.un.org/ohrlls/](http://www.un.org/ohrlls)

##### Under-Secretary-General, High Representative: Rabab Fatima, Bangladesh (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in June 2022)

Purpose

UN-OHRLLS was established in 2001 (GA res. [56/227](https://undocs.org/A/RES/56/227)) to mobilize international support for the 92 most vulnerable Member States. Least Developed Countries ([LDCs](https://www.un.org/ohrlls/content/least-developed-countries)) represent the poorest and most vulnerable segment of the international community. Landlocked Developing Countries ([LLDCs](https://www.un.org/ohrlls/content/landlocked-developing-countries)) are challenged by their remoteness from world markets due to lack of territorial access to the sea. Small Island Developing States ([SIDS](https://www.un.org/ohrlls/content/small-island-developing-states)) are also remote from world markets and they are on the front lines of climate change. UN-OHRLLS raises awareness of their economic, social and environmental potential; coordinates UN system support towards their sustainable development; monitors global commitments towards them; and ensures that the pressing needs of the 1.1 billion people who live in them remain high on the international agenda.

Each group’s sustainable development is guided by a Programme of Action, the implementation and follow-up of which are facilitated and coordinated by the office with the support of its partners, which include Member States and other UN system organizations. The [Doha Programme of Action](https://www.un.org/ldc5/doha-programme-of-action) for the LDCs, adopted in March 2022, focuses on supporting the LDCs through the decade 2022–2031 as they seek to recover from COVID-19, tackle climate change and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The [Awaza Programme of Action](https://www.un.org/en/landlocked/awaza-programme-action-lldcs), adopted in December 2024, focuses on supporting LLDCs’ development aspirations, including through trade facilitation, structural transformation, transport connectivity, technology, climate resilience and the mobilization of international support. The [Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS](https://sdgs.un.org/sites/default/files/2024-04/SIDS4%20-%20Co-Chairs%20FINAL.pdf) (ABAS), adopted in May 2024, aims to mitigate SIDS’ development issues like geographic and economic isolation, limited resources, environmental fragility, transportation and energy access, and vulnerability to climate change and natural disasters.

Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA)

Secretariat Building S–3269

United Nations

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United States of America

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Website: [www.un.org/osaa/](http://www.un.org/osaa/)

Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa: Cristina Duarte, Cabo Verde (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in July 2020)

Purpose

Established by the Secretary-General in 2003 ([ST/SGB/2003/6](http://undocs.org/ST/SGB/2003/6), in line with GA resolutions [57/7](http://undocs.org/A/RES/57/7) (2002) and [57/300](http://undocs.org/A/RES/57/300) (2002)), OSAA promotes international support for the implementation in Africa of the African Union’s Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development through its [advisory](https://www.un.org/osaa/advisory), [advocacy](https://www.un.org/osaa/advocacy), [coordination](https://www.un.org/osaa/coordination) and [monitoring](https://www.un.org/osaa/monitoring) functions. In particular, OSAA provides advisory services to senior UN leadership, Member States and intergovernmental bodies on issues of priority and critical importance to Africa. It focuses on developing and analysing data-driven, evidence-based policy options across six thematic areas: [financing for development](https://www.un.org/osaa/content/financing-development); [sustainable development for durable peace](https://www.un.org/osaa/content/sustainable-development-deliver-sustainable-peace); [governance and human capital](https://www.un.org/osaa/content/governance-resilience-and-human-capital); [science, technology and innovation](https://www.un.org/osaa/content/science-technology-and-innovation); [industrialization and the African Continental Free Trade Area](https://www.un.org/osaa/content/industrialization-demographic-dividend-and-afcfta) (AfCFTA); and [energy access and climate action](https://www.un.org/osaa/content/sustainable-energy-and-climate-change). Through targeted advocacy, OSAA promotes integrated policies in these areas to accelerate implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

OSAA is the Secretariat of the [UN Monitoring Mechanism](https://www.un.org/osaa/reports-and-publications/secretary-generals-reports/united-nations-monitoring-mechanism) to review commitments made towards Africa’s development (GA res. [66/293](http://undocs.org/A/RES/66/293) (2012), in line with GA res. [63/1](http://undocs.org/A/RES/63/1) (2008)). The Office also convenes the [Inter-Departmental Task Force on African Affairs](https://www.un.org/osaa/what-we-do/interdepartmental-task-force-african-affairs), which aims to ensure a coherent and integrated approach to UN system support for Africa. In fulfilling its mandate, OSAA actively engages a wide range of stakeholders, including Member States, civil society, the private sector, academia, and women and youth groups.

UN Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect

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X: [@UNOSAPG](https://twitter.com/UNOSAPG)

Website: [www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/](http://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/)

Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide/Under-Secretary-General: Chaloka Beyani, Zambia (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in August 2025)

Special Adviser on the Responsibility to Protect/Assistant Secretary-General: Mô Bleeker, Switzerland (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in March 2024)

Purpose

The [Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide](https://www.un.org/en/genocide-prevention/prevention-genocide-related-crimes/special-adviser) acts as a catalyst to raise awareness of the causes and dynamics of genocide, to alert relevant actors where there is a risk of genocide, and to advocate and mobilize for appropriate action. The [Special Adviser on the Responsibility to Protect](https://www.un.org/en/genocide-prevention/SA-responsibility-protect) leads the conceptual, political, institutional and operational development of the Responsibility to Protect. The mandates of the two Special Advisers are distinct but complementary. They are supported by a joint office and work together to advance national and international efforts to protect populations from four mass atrocity crimes – genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity – as well as their incitement.

They work to strengthen the UN’s role in preventing atrocity crimes by providing actionable early warning of the risk of these crimes in situations worldwide and recommendations for preventive action; carrying out advocacy for the protection of populations from the crimes; providing political leadership that encourages wider international action in response to identified risks or ongoing atrocity crimes, including through implementation of the Responsibility to Protect principle; and training and technical assistance to strengthen the capacity of Member States, regional and sub-regional organizations and civil society to prevent atrocity crimes and protect populations. More detail is available on the [website](https://www.un.org/en/genocide-prevention/).

Evolution

In 2001, following the genocidal violence in Rwanda and the Balkans, the Security Council invited the UN Secretary-General “to refer to the Council information and analyses within the United Nations system on cases of serious violations of international law” and on “potential conflict situations” arising from “ethnic, religious and territorial disputes” and other related issues (SC res. [1366](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1366(2001)) (2001)).

In consideration of the Council’s request, the Secretary-General appointed the first Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide in 2004. The [mandate](https://www.un.org/en/genocide-prevention/mandate) of the Special Adviser, mainly outlined in a 2004 letter addressed by the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council ([S/2004/567](http://undocs.org/S/2004/567)), is to:

* Collect existing information, in particular, from within the UN system, on massive and serious violations of human rights and international humanitarian law of ethnic and racial origin that, if not prevented or halted, might lead to genocide
* Act as a mechanism of early warning to the Secretary-General, and through him or her to the Security Council, by bringing to the Council’s attention situations that could potentially result in genocide
* Make recommendations to the Security Council, through the Secretary-General, on actions to prevent or halt genocide

Liaise with the UN system on activities for the prevention of genocide and work to enhance the UN’s capacity to analyse and manage information regarding genocide or related crimes.

In paragraphs 138 and 139 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document (GA res. [60/1](http://undocs.org/A/RES/60/1) (2005)), heads of state and government affirmed their responsibility to protect their own populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity, and accepted a collective responsibility to encourage and help each other uphold this commitment. They also declared their preparedness to take timely and decisive action, in accordance with the UN Charter and in cooperation with relevant regional organizations, when national authorities manifestly fail to protect their populations.

The position of the Special Adviser on the Reponsibility to Protect was established in 2007 by an exchange of letters between the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council ([S/2007/721](https://undocs.org/Home/Mobile?FinalSymbol=S%2F2007%2F721&Language=E&DeviceType=Desktop&LangRequested=False)). In 2008, the Secretary-General appointed the first Special Adviser on the Responsibility to Protect, on a part-time basis, to focus on the conceptual, political and institutional–operational development of the Responsibility to Protect. This work is carried out through continued consultations and engagement with Member States, regional and sub-regional organizations, civil society and the UN. In 2021, the General Assembly decided to include an item on the Responsibility to Protect in its annual agenda and requested the Secretary-General to report annually on the topic (res. [75/277](http://undocs.org/A/RES/75/277)).

In addition to the mandate, the legal framework for the work of the Office is drawn from the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide; the wider body of international human rights law, international humanitarian law and international criminal law; and relevant resolutions of the General Assembly, Security Council and Human Rights Council, including the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document. The Office Is also the UN system-wide focal point on the Implementation of the [UN Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech](https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/UN%20Strategy%20and%20Plan%20of%20Action%20on%20Hate%20Speech%2018%20June%20SYNOPSIS.pdf).

Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG-CAAC)

United Nations Headquarters, Room FF-1732

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 963 3178

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/childrenandarmedconflict/](http://www.facebook.com/childrenandarmedconflict/)

Website: <http://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org>

Under-Secretary-General and Special Representative: Virginia Gamba de Potgieter, Argentina (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in April 2017)

Purpose

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (SRSG-CAAC) serves as the leading UN advocate for the protection and well-being of children affected by armed conflict. The role of the Special Representative is to strengthen the protection of children affected by armed conflict, raise awareness, promote the collection of information about children affected by war, foster international cooperation to improve their protection, and engage in prevention activities. The Special Representative reports annually to the General Assembly and Human Rights Council and raises challenges faced by children in war with political bodies, such as the Security Council, as well as with governments and other stakeholders such as regional and sub-regional organizations.

GA res. [51/77](http://undocs.org/A/RES/51/77) (1996) first established the Special Representative’s mandate for a period of three years following the publication, in 1996, of a report by Graça Machel entitled ‘Impact of Armed Conflict on Children’. The report highlighted the disproportionate impact of war on children and identified them as the primary victims of armed conflict. The Office’s mandate has been extended every three years since its establishment.

Through resolutions, the Security Council has provided the Office with the following tools to respond to violations against children:

* Gather and verify information detailing where and how children are affected by armed conflict
* Use this information in the annual report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict presented to the Security Council and in the country-specific reports of the Secretary-General presented to the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict
* Name parties to conflict who commit violations that are triggers for listing
* Engage in dialogue with listed governments and armed groups to develop action plans to halt and prevent violations against children

Engage in activities to strengthen measures to prevent violations against children.

The SRSG-CAAC [Europe Liaison Office](https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/about/srsg-caac-europe-liaison-office/) is located in Brussels, Belgium, and the [Analysis and Outreach Hub](https://childrenandarmedconflict.un.org/about/doha-hub/) on CAAC is located in Doha, Qatar.

Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict (OSRSG-SVC)

405 East 42nd Street, 31st Floor, Room S–3123

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

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X: [@endrapeinwar](http://www.twitter.com/endrapeinwar)

Instagram: [@endrapeinwar](http://www.instagram.com/endrapeinwar)

YouTube: [@endrapeinwar](https://www.youtube.com/@endrapeinwar)

Website: [www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict](http://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict)

Under-Secretary-General and Special Representative: Pramila Patten, Mauritius (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in April 2017)

Purpose

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict (SRSG-SVC) leads globally on UN advocacy and action to prevent and address conflict-related sexual violence. The mandate was established by SC res. [1888](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1888(2009)) (2009), one in a series of resolutions that recognized the detrimental impact that conflict-related sexual violence has on peace and security, and on recovery, once a conflict has ended. These resolutions signal a change in the way the international community views and deals with conflict-related sexual violence. It is no longer seen as an inevitable by-product of war, but rather a crime that is preventable and punishable under international human rights and humanitarian law. Most recently, SC res. [2467](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2467(2019)) of April 2019 called upon parties to armed conflict to implement specific, time-bound commitments to combat conflict-related sexual violence and affirmed for the first time that a survivor-centred approach must guide every aspect of the response of affected countries and the international community.

The OSRSG-SVC engages with a wide range of stakeholders, including governments, military and judicial officials, all parties to conflict and civil society. The Office publishes the annual Report of the Secretary-General on Conflict-Related Sexual Violence to highlight new and emerging concerns in relation to the use of sexual violence by parties to armed conflict, including as a tactic of war and terrorism (see [S/2025/389](https://docs.un.org/S/2025/389)).

The three priorities of the Office are:

* Converting cultures of impunity into cultures of justice and accountability through consistent and effective prosecution
* Fostering national ownership and leadership for a sustainable, survivor-centred response

Addressing structural gender-based inequality and discrimination, poverty and marginalization as the root causes and invisible drivers of sexual violence in times of war and peace.

Pursuant to SC res. 1888 (2009), Women’s Protection Advisers (WPAs) also work within peacekeeping and special political missions to facilitate and coordinate the implementation of Security Council resolutions on conflict-related sexual violence.

Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict

Website: [www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/our-work/team-of-experts/](http://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/our-work/team-of-experts/)

The Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict was mandated by SC res. [1888](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1888(2009)) (2009) to assist national authorities in conflict, post-conflict and other situations of concern by strengthening the rule of law to address impunity for conflict-related sexual violence. It reports directly to the SRSG-SVC and is composed of experts from the Department of Peace Operations (DPO), Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and UN Development Programme (UNDP), which serve as co-lead entities.

The Team of Experts provides technical assistance to national institutions in the following thematic areas: criminal investigations and prosecutions; collection and preservation of evidence; investigations and prosecutions within the military justice system; criminal law reform and procedural law reform; protection of victims, witnesses and justice officials; security sector oversight; and reparations. It promotes South–South cooperation, enabling countries facing conflict-related sexual violence to learn from each other’s experiences.

UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict

Website: [www.stoprapenow.org](http://www.stoprapenow.org) and [www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/about-us/un-action/](http://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/about-us/un-action/)

UN Action unites the work of 27 UN entities with the goal of ending sexual violence during and in the wake of conflict. Chaired by the SRSG-SVC, it aims to provide a holistic response to conflict-related sexual violence, encompassing public health, humanitarian, developmental, human rights, gender, political, legal and security perspectives. The network is supported by a small Secretariat, headed by a coordinator. In December 2008, UN Action established a Multi-Partner Trust Fund ([MPTF](https://mptf.undp.org/fund/csv00)) to mobilize funds to support a range of joint catalytic activities on the ground as well as the UN Action Secretariat. UN Action’s work is funded exclusively by voluntary contributions from a range of governments. The UN Action member entities are listed on the [website](https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/about-us/un-action/).

Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children (OSRSG-VAC)

United Nations Headquarters, Room FF-1708

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 917 367 6127

X: [@UN\_EndViolence](http://www.twitter.com/UN_EndViolence)

Website: https://[violenceagainstchildren.un.org](https://violenceagainstchildren.un.org)

Assistant Secretary-General and Special Representative: Najat Maalla M’jid, Morocco (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in May 2019)

Purpose

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children (SRSG-VAC) is an independent global advocate in favour of the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence against children, mobilizing action and political support to achieve progress the world over. The mandate of the SRSG-VAC is anchored in the Convention on the Rights of the Child and other international human rights instruments and framed by the UN Study on Violence against Children ([A/61/299](https://undocs.org/A/61/299) (2006)). The Special Representative’s mandate was established by GA res. [62/141](https://undocs.org/A/RES/62/141) (2008) and has since been regularly extended, most recently by GA res. [76/147](https://undocs.org/A/RES/76/147) (2022) for an additional four years.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development includes a specific target (16.2) to end all forms of violence against children, and ending the abuse, neglect and exploitation of children is mainstreamed across several other violence-related targets. The root causes, drivers and manifestations of violence against children are also relevant to the 2030 Agenda more broadly, and the Office supports advocacy for:

* Accelerating implementation of Agenda 2030 and reaching the targets on violence against children and its drivers, leaving no one behind

Widening the engagement of children as key players in decision-making processes related to violence and protection, and promoting a culture of children’s participation.

The SRSG-VAC reports directly to the UN Secretary-General and collaborates closely with a wide range of partners, within and beyond the UN system. The SRSG-VAC chairs the UN Interagency Working Group on Violence Against Children and the UN Task Force on Children Deprived of Liberty. The SRSG-VAC engages directly with Member States through country visits and bilateral meetings, and presents reports annually to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly. In addition to regular reports, the SRSG-VAC can issue thematic reports and advocacy briefs on key areas of concern.

Office of the Victims’ Rights Advocate (OVRA)

Library Building L-300

United Nations

New York, 10017

United States of America

Email: [ovra@un.org](mailto:ovra@un.org)

X: [@UN\_OVRA](http://www.twitter.com/UN_OVRA)

Website: [www.un.org/preventing-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/content/office-victims-rights-advocate](https://www.un.org/preventing-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/content/office-victims-rights-advocate%20) and [www.un.org/en/victims-rights-first](http://www.un.org/en/victims-rights-first)

Assistant Secretary-General and Victims’ Rights Advocate: Najla Nassif Palma, Brazil (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in March 2024)

Purpose

The UN Victims’ Rights Advocate ([VRA](https://www.un.org/preventing-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/content/victims-rights-advocate)) has a system-wide mandate across peace, humanitarian and development contexts to put the rights and dignity of victims and survivors of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) by UN staff and related personnel at the forefront of the UN’s prevention and response efforts. The Secretary-General created the role of the VRA in the report ‘Special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse: a new approach’ ([A/71/818](http://undocs.org/A/71/818)).

The Office supports the mandate of the VRA, who advocates to ensure victims have a voice, assistance and justice. She works with UN entities, Member States, civil society, national legal and human rights organizations to build networks of support and assist in ensuring accountability of perpetrators, remedies for victims and resolution of paternity claims for children born of SEA.

[Senior Victims’ Rights Officers](https://www.un.org/preventing-sexual-exploitation-and-abuse/content/senior-victims’-rights-officers) perform the functions of the VRA on the ground. They are fully dedicated to supporting the realization of the rights of victims. They work with, and under the guidance of, the VRA to implement a victim-centred approach. They maintain direct and regular contact with victims, ensuring they access assistance, accompanying them through UN and other investigations and accountability processes and keeping them updated on their cases.

#### Other Entities

##### United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)

##### FF Building, 304 E 45th St, 14th Floor

##### New York, NY, 10017

##### United States of America

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##### X: [@UNAOC](http://www.twitter.com/UNAOC)

##### Instagram: [@unaoc](http://www.instagram.com/unaoc)

##### Website: [www.unaoc.org](http://www.unaoc.org/)

##### Under-Secretary-General, High Representative, UN Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia: Miguel Ángel Moratinos Cuyaubé, Spain (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in November 2018; took office in January 2019)

Purpose

Launched by the UN Secretary-General in 2005, UNAOC serves as a soft-power political tool for conflict prevention and conflict resolution. Its special status and mandate have been recognized by the General Assembly in its resolutions [64/14](https://www.unaoc.org/resource/unaoc-resolution-2009/) (2009) and [69/312](https://www.unaoc.org/resource/unaoc-resolution-2015/) (2015). UNAOC aims to improve understanding and cooperation among nations and peoples across cultures; to reduce polarization at local and global levels; and to develop more inclusive societies, in which diversity is experienced as an asset.

UNAOC focuses on five strategic priority areas: prevention; mediation; preventing and countering violent extremism; promotion of interreligious and intercultural dialogue, including dialogue among civilizations for our shared humanity; and addressing religious intolerance, bigotry and other forms of discrimination. UNAOC also coordinates the implementation of the [UN Plan of Action to Safeguard Religious Sites](https://www.unaoc.org/resource/united-nations-plan-of-action-to-safeguard-religious-sites/) and the [UN Action Plan to Enhance Monitoring and Response to Antisemitism](https://www.unaoc.org/wp-content/uploads/Antisemitism-UN-Action-Plan.pdf), in collaboration with relevant UN agencies and departments, as well as other stakeholders. In 2020, the High Representative was designated by the UN Secretary-General as the focal point to monitor antisemitism and enhance a system-wide response. In May 2025, pursuant to GA res. [78/264](http://docs.un.org/A/RES/78/264) (2024), he was appointed UN Special Envoy to Combat Islamophobia.

Structure

The High Representative is responsible for UNAOC’s administration and activities. Pursuant to GA res. [79/258 B](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/79/258B) (2025), UNAOC is funded by both the regular budget and voluntary contributions through the Trust Fund for UNAOC. It has a secretariat in New York and a secondary office in Geneva.

UN Ethics Office

323 East 44th Street, DC2-0612

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United States of America

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Email: [ethicsoffice@un.org](mailto:ethicsoffice@un.org)

Website: [www.un.org/en/ethics/](http://www.un.org/en/ethics/)

Director: Juraj Strasser, Slovakia (since December 2024; appointed by the UN Secretary-General in August 2024)

Purpose

The UN Ethics Office promotes an ethical organizational culture based on the UN’s core values of integrity, professionalism and respect for diversity, and the values outlined in the Standards of Conduct for the International Civil Service, including loyalty to the UN, independence, impartiality, integrity, accountability and respect for human rights. It was established in 2006 pursuant to GA res. [60/248](http://docs.un.org/A/RES/60/248). It assists the Secretary-General in ensuring that all staff members perform their functions consistent with the highest standards of integrity in accordance with Article 101, para. 3, of the Charter of the UN, taking into consideration para. 161 of the 2005 World Summit Outcome.

Independent from management and all other UN offices, the UN Ethics Office is impartial in its treatment of individuals and maintains confidentiality of information entrusted to it. It provides a secure confidential environment where staff can feel free to consult on ethical issues, avoid and manage conflicts of interest, and seek protection against retaliation for reporting misconduct and cooperating with authorized audits and investigations.

Structure

The Office carries out its work through five strategic functions: [advice](https://www.un.org/en/ethics/advice/index.shtml); [protection against retaliation](https://www.un.org/en/ethics/protection-against-retaliation/index.shtml); [financial disclosure](https://www.un.org/en/ethics/financial-disclosure/index.shtml); [ethics training](https://www.un.org/en/ethics/ethics-training/index.shtml); and [coherence of ethical standards](https://www.un.org/en/ethics/overview/ethics-panel.shtml). It serves the UN Secretariat, including duty stations in New York, Geneva, Vienna and Nairobi; all regional commissions, peacekeeping operations, special political missions; and other designated offices.

UN Ombudsman and Mediation Services (UNOMS)

Office of the United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services

2 United Nations Plaza, DC2 7th Floor

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 917 367 5731

Email: unoms[@un.org](mailto:UNOMS@un.org) (case-related inquiries) or [unoms-oasg@un.org](mailto:unoms-oasg@un.org) (other inquiries)

Website: [www.un.org/ombudsman](https://www.un.org/ombudsman/)

United Nations Ombudsman: Shireen L Dodson, USA (since June 2018; reappointed by the UN Secretary-General in June 2023 for a second five-year term)

Purpose

The Office of the UN Ombudsman and Mediation Services is established in the Office of the Secretary-General to make available the services of an impartial and independent person to address the employment-related problems of staff members ([ST/SGB/2002/12](https://undocs.org/ST/SGB/2002/12)). The updated terms of reference for the Office were issued on 22 June 2016 ([ST/SGB/2016/7](https://undocs.org/ST/SGB/2016/7)).

Structure

The Office functions independently of any entity or official within the UN and with direct access to the Secretary-General, as needed. It is headed by the UN Ombudsman, at the level of Assistant Secretary-General, who is appointed by the Secretary-General after consultations with members of a search committee comprising staff, management and external experts. The Ombudsman reports regularly to the General Assembly and Secretary-General.

The Office is supported by [regional branch offices](https://www.un.org/ombudsman/contact-us) located around the globe, to provide services to all UN staff in any of the six official UN languages.

UN Office for Partnerships (UN Partnerships)

405 East 42nd Street, S-1512 to S-1517

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

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Instagram: [@un\_partners](http://www.instagram.com/un_partners)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/un-partnerships](https://www.linkedin.com/company/un-partnerships)

Website: <https://unpartnerships.un.org/>

Executive Director: Annemarie Hou, USA (since 2020)

Purpose

UN Partnerships is a global gateway for uniting stakeholders to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Convening, creating and mobilizing multi-stakeholder partnerships and initiatives, it guides and engages internal and external partners at all levels to innovate and amplify action to accelerate progress on the Goals.

The Office works to achieve these aims through its constituent teams, funds and initiatives:

* [SDG Advocates](https://unpartnerships.un.org/un-sdg-advocates): 17 influential champions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development appointed by the Secretary-General to promote the Organization’s priorities and messages
* Climate action mobilization team: The Office supports the work of the Executive Office of the Secretary-General in mobilizing support for ambitious climate action
* [Women Rise for All](https://www.un.org/en/coronavirus/women-rise-for-all): An initiative launched in 2020 by the Deputy Secretary-General, dedicated to amplifying the voice of the Secretary-General and women’s leadership in keeping the promise of the SDGs
* UN Democracy Fund ([UNDEF](https://www.un.org/democracyfund/)): A general trust fund that supports projects aimed at strengthening civil society’s voice, promoting human rights, and encouraging the participation of all groups in democratic processes

UN Fund for International Partnerships ([UNFIP](https://unpartnerships.un.org/united-nations-fund-international-partnerships)): As primary interface with the [UN Foundation](https://unfoundation.org/), UNFIP works closely with the Foundation to finance initiatives aimed at accelerating the achievement of the SDGs, including projects that advance global health priorities, climate action, digital cooperation and equality for girls and women.

UN Partnerships collaborates closely within the UN partnership ecosystem, including with the Executive Office of the Secretary-General, the Office of the Spokesperson for the Secretary-General, the Department of Global Communications (DGC), the Development Coordination Office (DCO), the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), the Climate Action Team, the [UN Global Compact](https://unglobalcompact.org), the UN Youth Office, UN-Women, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR).

## Other Bodies Subsidiary or Related to the UN

### FUNDS, PROGRAMMES AND BODIES OF THE UN

#### Recognized Funds and Programmes of the UN

##### UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF)

##### UNICEF House

##### 3 United Nations Plaza

##### New York, NY 10017

##### United States of America

##### Telephone: +1 212 326 7000

##### Facebook: [www.facebook.com/unicef](http://www.facebook.com/unicef)

##### X: [@UNICEF](http://www.twitter.com/UNICEF)

##### YouTube: [www.youtube.com/user/unicef](http://www.youtube.com/user/unicef)

##### Website: [www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org)

##### Executive Director: Catherine Russell, USA (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in December 2021)

Purpose

UNICEF was established by the General Assembly to provide emergency assistance to children in war-ravaged countries following World War II (GA res. [57](http://undocs.org/A/RES/57(I)) (I) (1946)). By GA res. [417](http://undocs.org/A/RES/417(V)) (V) (1950), the General Assembly charged it with addressing the needs of children in developing countries. GA res. [802](http://undocs.org/A/RES/802(VIII)) (VIII) (1953) extended UNICEF’s mandate indefinitely, with an emphasis on programmes giving long-term benefits to children everywhere, particularly those in developing countries, and changed the organization’s name to the United Nations Children’s Fund but retained the UNICEF acronym. The Fund continues to provide relief and rehabilitation assistance in emergencies.

UNICEF undertakes programmes in health, nutrition, education, water and sanitation, the environment, child protection, gender issues and development, emergency response and other fields of importance to children, benefiting all children everywhere, with special effort on reaching the most vulnerable and excluded children. It works with governments, local communities and other aid organizations in developing countries and territories, focusing on supporting children during critical periods of their lives when intervention can make a lasting difference.

UNICEF’s [strategic plan](https://www.unicef.org/reports/unicef-strategic-plan-2022-2025) for the years 2022–2025 aims to drive action towards an inclusive recovery from COVID-19, acceleration towards the achievement of the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the attainment of a society in which every child is included, without discrimination, and has agency, opportunity and their rights fulfilled. It consists of five [goal areas](https://www.unicef.org/media/108766/file) – that every child: survives and thrives; learns; is protected from violence and exploitation; lives in a safe and sustainable climate and environment; and has access to inclusive social protection and lives free from poverty – plus cross-cutting programmes on climate action, disability, peacebuilding, resilience and gender.

Structure

UNICEF reports through its [Executive Board](https://www.unicef.org/executiveboard/about) to the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), which in turn reports to the General Assembly. The Board is responsible for providing intergovernmental support to, and monitoring of, UNICEF’s activities, and for ensuring that UNICEF is responsive to the needs and priorities of recipient countries. It also approves UNICEF’s policies, country programmes and budgets. The specific functions of the Board are set out in Annex I of GA res. [48/162](http://undocs.org/A/RES/48/162) (1993). The Board’s work is coordinated by a bureau comprising one representative from each of the five regional groups of Member States.

UNICEF’s resources derive from voluntary contributions from governments, intergovernmental donors, non-governmental organizations and the private sector. Thirty-four UNICEF National Committees, mostly in industrialized countries, support its work in raising funds and in advocacy.

Meetings

The Board meets in one annual and two regular sessions a year, holding intersessional meetings as it deems necessary. A joint meeting is also held annually with the UN Development Programme (UNDP)/UN Population Fund (UNFPA)/UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS), UN-Women and World Food Programme (WFP) Executive Boards.

Membership

GA res. [48/162](http://undocs.org/A/RES/48/162) (1993) decided the UNICEF Executive Board should be reconstituted to comprise 36 members (previously 41) and that membership should be based on equitable geographical representation and other relevant factors. Members come from all UN Member States, with seats allocated for each UN regional group (as noted in the list of members). About a third of the Executive Board’s 36 [members](https://www.unicef.org/executiveboard/membership) are elected annually by ECOSOC, usually in April/May, for three-year terms that begin 1 January of the following year.

The [Bureau](https://www.unicef.org/executiveboard/bureau) consists of a president and four vice-presidents elected annually by the Board. As a matter of custom, Security Council permanent members do not serve as officers of the Board.

Executive Board members (36)\*

Previous Current

African states (8 seats)

Algeria 1971–74 82–85 2004–06 22–24

Angola 1991–97 2017–19

Benin 1975–78 84–90 2019–21

Botswana 1980–83 2016–18

Burkina Faso 1982–85 93–96 2006–08 15–17

Burundi 1979–82 95–97 2004–06 19–21

Cameroon 1967–70 76–79 88–91 2007–09 16–21

Cabo Verde 1997 99 2010–12

Central African Republic 1973–76 82–85 91–94 2007–09 13–15

Chad 1982–85 2022–24

Comoros 1998–2000 22–24

Congo 1972–75 85–88 91–94 1998–2000 10–12

Côte d’Ivoire 1981–84 2000–02 22–24

DR Congo 2001–03 13–15

Djibouti 1985–88 2004–06 13–15 19–21

Egypt 1955–59 64–67 70–76 88–91 2013–15

Equatorial Guinea 2025–27

Eritrea 2003–05 15–17 2025–27

Eswatini 1982–85 2025–27

Ethiopia 1966–69 85–88 91–94 2007–09 16–18 21–23

Gabon 1970–73 85–88 2001–03

Gambia 2001–03 12–14

Ghana 1978–81 93–96 2003–05 13–15 18–20

Guinea 1968–70 75–78 2000–02

Kenya 1995–97 2012–14

Lesotho 1983–89 2002–04

Liberia 1987–93 2009–11 21–23

Libya 1979–82 1998–2000 16–18

Madagascar 1982–85 2001–03

Malawi 1970–73 2004–06 10–12

Mali 1985–88 2007–09

Mauritania 2007–09 2025–27

Morocco 1965–68 76–79 95–97 2001–03 19–21

Mozambique 1992–95 2005–07 2023–25

Namibia 1996–98 2011–13

Niger 1984–87

Nigeria 1961–64 70–75 88–91 97–99 2025–27

Rwanda 1973–76 2006–08 22–24

São Tomé and Príncipe 1988–91

Senegal 1963–69 78–81 91–94 2004–06 2024–26

Sierra Leone 1969–71 90–93 2016–18

Somalia 1979–85 2010–12

South Africa 1946–51 1998–2000

Sudan 1963–65 88–93 1998–2000 09–11 18–20

Togo 1981–84

Tunisia 1957–71 85–88 2010–12

Uganda 1967–70 74–77 88–91 95–97

UR of Tanzania 1976–79 91–94 2024–26

Zambia 1977–80 2014–16

Zimbabwe 1989–92 1999–2001 08–10 20–22

Asia–Pacific states (7 seats)

Afghanistan 1960–63 65–67 77–80

Bahrain 1982–85

Bangladesh 1982–91 1998–2000 04–06 09–11 15–17 19–24

Bhutan 1984–87

China 1946–56 58–73 1980–2022 2023–25

DPRK 2005–07

India 1950–60 62–77 78–97 2000–05 07–09 12–14 16–18 2025–27

Indonesia 1951–78 84–96 97–99 2001–03 11–13

Iran 1957–62 2000–05 08–10 13–18

Iraq 1945–55 68–70

Jordan 1977–80

Kazakhstan 1998–2000 10–12 21–23

Lao PDR 2001–03 2025–27

Lebanon 1993–96 2004–06 22–24

Malaysia 2007–09

Mongolia 2019–21

Myanmar 2004–09

Nepal 1982–85 92–94 2002–04 16–18

Oman 1985–91 97–99 2024–26

Pakistan 1952–80 81–84 85–97 1999–2001 06–08 10–12 13–15 19–21

Papua New Guinea 2014–16

Philippines 1951–60 63–81 87–90 92–95

Qatar 2010–12

ROK 1988–97 2006–23 2025–27

Saudi Arabia 2017–19

Sri Lanka 1951–52 90–93

Tajikistan 2023–25

Thailand 1951–53 65–67 69–77 80–92 2013–15

Turkmenistan 2018–20 2024–26

UAE 1981–84 2022–24

Viet Nam 1959–62 96–98

Yemen 1991–94 1998–2000 01–03 20–22

Eastern European states (4 seats)1

Albania 2012–14

Armenia 2001–03

Azerbaijan 1994–97 1998–2000

Belarus 1946–56 78–81 88–91 94–95 2004–06 10–12 15–19

Bosnia and Herzegovina 2016–18

Bulgaria 1960–65 66–78 85–88 92–94 2013–15 2023–25

Croatia 2007–09

Czechia 1993 98–99 2017–19 2023–25

Estonia 2011–16 20–22 2024–26

Hungary 1979–85

Lithuania 2019–21

Poland 1946–50 57–79 86–92 2022–24

Republic of Moldova 2003–05 20

Romania 1971–74 84–87 93–96 2000–02 08–10

Russian Federation 1946–2019 20–22

Serbia 2006–08

Slovakia 2021–23

Slovenia 2002–04 09–11 2025–27

Ukraine 1946–50 1996–98 1999–2001 05–07

Latin American and Caribbean states (5 seats)

Antigua and Barbuda 1998–2000 08–19

Argentina 1946–55 85–88 2005–07 21–23

Bahamas 2007–09

Barbados 1977–83 89–92

Bolivia 1951 75–78 88–91 2000–02 05–07 2025–27

Brazil 1946–71 76–79 80–83 85–88 91–96 2015–20

Chile 1958–75 77–80 82–88

Colombia 1946–50 55–59 74–77 83–89 92–94 2001–03 06–08 11–13 15–20

Costa Rica 1970–73 92–95 2021–23

Cuba 1974–77 83–86 96–98 2001–02 09–17 20–22 2023–25

Dominican Republic 1951 54–65 67–70 2024–26

Ecuador 1946–62 65–68 2002–04 2023–25

El Salvador 1957–63 2004–06 10–12 16–18 2024–26

Grenada 2022–24

Guatemala 2006–08 17–19

Guyana 1986–89 1999–2001 13–15

Haiti 2008–10 12–14

Jamaica 1991–96 97–99 2002–04

Mexico 1960–65 79–91 2019–21

Nicaragua 1988–94 97–99 2003–05

Panama 1982–85 2014–16

Paraguay 1999–2001 20–22

Peru 1967–69 73–76 89–92 2003–05

Suriname 1993–95 96–98

Trinidad and Tobago 2000

Uruguay 1951–56 62–64 71–74 87–93 2009–11

Venezuela 1957–58 68–74 78–87 95–97

Western European and Other states (plus Japan) (12 seats)2

Andorra 2016

Australia 1946–61 66–69 79–82 83–86 87–90 91–95 2001–02 05–08 15–16 19 21–23 2025–27

Austria 1957–59 81–84 2004–06 08–09 12 18 23–24

Belgium 1951–61 65–71 80–83 84–90 97–99 2007 11 13–14 21–23

Canada 1946–58 62–96 1999–2001 03–06 09–10 12–13 15 17–20 24

Denmark 1946–50 84–87 90–93 96–97 1999–2001 03–04 06–07 09–11 13–14 16–17 19–20 22–23 2025

Finland 1974–77 83–86 89–94 95 1998–2000 05–06 08–09 12–13 15–16  21 24

France 1946–96 98–99 2001–02 04–05 09–11 13–15 17–19 22 2025–27

Germany 1975–95 97–99 2001–03 06–09 11–12 14–15 17–18 20–24 2025–27

Greece 1946–57 60–62 1998–2000 08–10 13 18 23

Iceland 2010 18 24

Ireland 2002–03 07 10 13 17 20 24

Israel 1951–59 61–68 2013

Italy 1951–64 70–79 82–97 2000–02 04–06 09–12 14–16 18–19 21–22

Japan 1954–57 60–62 1973–2009 11–12 14–17 20–21 23–24

Luxembourg 2003–10 16–17 19 23

Monaco 2022

Netherlands 1946–50 75–81 82–88 89–97 2000–02 05–07 09 11–12 14–16 18–19 21–24 2025

New Zealand 1946–52 58–61 97–98 2010–11 14 20–21

Norway 1946–55 71–74 77–83 86–89 91–94 95–99   
 2001–02 04–05 08–10 12–15 17–18 20–22 2023–25

Portugal 2001–03 07 12 19 2025–27

Spain 1963–65 90–93 2000 03–04 06 08 11–12 15 17 20 2025

Sweden 1946–50 55–84 88–91 92–98 2000–08 09–17 19–20 22–24 2025

Switzerland 1946–94 96–99 2002–04 07 09–10 13 16 19–21 2025–26

Türkiye 1951 59–74 86–89 93–94 96–97 2000 07 18 23

UK 1946–81 82–96 1998–2000 03–05 07–08 10–12 14 16–19 20–22 2024–25

USA 1946–24 2025

Bureau for 2025

President

Jonibek Ismoil Hikmat, Tajikistan

Vice-Presidents

Diego Pacheco Balanza, Bolivia

Rein Tammsaar, Estonia

Sophia Tesfamariam, Eritrea

Thomas Peter Zahneisen, Germany

Notes

\* On 5 April 2025, ECOSOC elected 10 members to serve three-year terms beginning on 1 January 2026: China and Kyrgyzstan (Asia–Pacific states); Georgia and Ukraine (Eastern European states); Antigua and Barbuda and Guatemala (Latin American and Caribbean states); and Iceland, Japan, Norway and UK (Western European and Other states). It postponed the election of one member from the African states group for the same term. It also elected Canada, Liechtenstein and Türkiye to complete the terms of Australia, Portugal and France, beginning on 1 January 2026 and expiring on 31 December 2027.

From 1946 to 1963, the Executive Board terms ran from 1 January to 31 December; from 1963 to 1966, 1 February to 31 January; and from 1967 to 1993, 1 August to 31 July. Since 1994, terms have again followed the calendar year. Some members elected for 1993–94 were not re-elected for 1994. These included Bulgaria, Finland, Nepal, Nicaragua, Norway, Senegal, Türkiye and Yemen.

1 Czechoslovakia served on the Board in 1968–71 and 1990–92; the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia served on the Board in 1946–61, 1965–68, 1974–86 and 1987–92; and the German Democratic Republic served on the Board in 1981–84 and 1990.

2 The Western European and Other states group has its own rotation scheme under which some of its members do not serve a full three-year term. The USA does not participate in this rotation scheme. The current terms listed reflect the rotation scheme as at July 2025.

UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

Palais des Nations

8–14, Avenue de la Paix

1211 Geneva 10

Switzerland

Telephone: +41 22 917 1234

Email: [unctadinfo@unctad.org](mailto:unctadinfo@unctad.org)

Website: <https://unctad.org>

Secretary-General: Rebeca Grynspan, Costa Rica (appointed in June 2021 for a four-year term from September 2021 to August 2025)

Purpose

UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD, formerly UN Conference on Trade and Development), which is governed by its 195 [member states](https://unctad.org/about/membership), is the UN body responsible for dealing with development issues, particularly international trade. Reflection on development is at the heart of UNCTAD’s work. It produces analyses that form the basis for recommendations to economic policy makers. The aim is to help policy makers take informed decisions and promote the macroeconomic policies best suited to ending global economic inequalities and to generating people-centred sustainable development.

UN Trade and Development is also a forum where representatives of all countries can discuss ways to establish a better balance in the global economy. In addition, UNCTAD offers direct technical assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition, helping them to become equitably integrated in the global economy and to improve the well-being of their populations.

Structure

The highest UNCTAD decision-making body is the quadrennial [Conference](https://unctad.org/en/Pages/Meetings/UNCTAD-Conferences.aspx), at which its members make assessments of current trade and development issues, discuss policy options and formulate global policy responses. The Conference also sets the organization’s mandate and work priorities. It adopted the Bridgetown Covenant ([TD/541/Add.2](https://unctad.org/system/files/official-document/td541add2_en.pdf)) at its hybrid session in October 2021 ([UNCTAD 15](https://unctad.org/meeting/fifteenth-session-united-nations-conference-trade-and-development-unctad-15)).

Between Conference sessions, the Trade and Development Board (TDB) functions as UNCTAD’s executive body to take action on implementing Conference decisions and ensure the overall continuity of UNCTAD’s work.

Meetings

The first UNCTAD session took place in Geneva in 1964 in accordance with ECOSOC res. [917](https://undocs.org/E/RES/917(XXXIV)) (XXXIV) (1962) and UN General Assembly resolution [1785](http://undocs.org/A/RES/1785(XVII)) (XVII) (1962). UNCTAD holds a ministerial-level meeting every four years. The 16th session of the quadrennial Conference is scheduled to be held in October 2025.

UNCTAD also holds discussions with civil society, where members of the public can express their views and interact with country representatives. UNCTAD organizes various forums, such as the [World Investment Forum](https://worldinvestmentforum.unctad.org), the Global Commodities Forum, the Civil Society Forum, the Youth Forum, and the UN Trade Forum, that bring together major players from the international community to discuss challenges and opportunities and to promote development policies and partnerships for sustainable development and equitable growth.

Trade and Development Board (TDB)

Website: <https://unctad.org/about/trade-and-development-board>

Purpose

Between UNCTAD sessions, the TDB functions under GA res. [1995](http://undocs.org/A/RES/1995(XIX)) (XIX) (1964) as UNCTAD’s executive body. The TDB reports to UNCTAD.

At the [UNCTAD XII](https://unctad.org/meeting/twelfth-session-united-nations-conference-trade-and-development-unctad-xii) Conference in April 2008, it was agreed that the TDB would have two subsidiary commissions that perform integrated policy work within specific terms of reference, the:

* [Investment, Enterprise and Development](https://unctad.org/meetings-search?f%5B0%5D=product%3A322) Commission

[Trade and Development](https://unctad.org/meetings-search?f%5B0%5D=product%3A319) Commission.

At the [UNCTAD XIV](https://unctad.org/meeting/fourteenth-session-united-nations-conference-trade-and-development-unctad-14) Conference in July 2016, it was agreed that the TDB would operationalize the creation of two intergovernmental expert groups. The terms of reference for the two groups, on E-commerce and the Digital Economy and on Financing for Development, were approved at the [31st special session](https://unctad.org/meeting/trade-and-development-board-thirty-first-special-session) of the TDB in April 2017 and were further refined in 2021.

Meetings

The TDB meets in Geneva in a regular [session](https://unctad.org/meetings-search?f%5B0%5D=product%3A317) once a year, usually in June and lasting two weeks, with several days set aside for informal meetings to discuss and reach consensus on agreed conclusions.

The Board also holds up to three [executive sessions](https://unctad.org/meetings-search?f%5B0%5D=product%3A333) a year, usually lasting three days, and convenes, if needed, [special sessions](https://unctad.org/meetings-search?f%5B0%5D=product%3A338) on matters that have immediate or expected future impact on the economic progress of developing countries. The TDB adjusts UNCTAD’s work to reflect current trade and development issues and concerns.

The TDB Bureau, made up of the Board’s President, Vice-Presidents and Rapporteur, regularly meets informally to facilitate consensus building. It sometimes meets in an ‘extended bureau’ format, which comprises the regional coordinators and interested TDB Member States.

In addition, TDB Member States may meet informally, including at the regular Consultations of the President of the TDB, which are normally held monthly. This is an opportunity for briefings on key issues and meetings, as well as continued informal work on pending issues and matters before they are referred to more formal forums.

Membership

TDB membership is open to all UNCTAD Member States. There are 160 TDB members, as listed on the UNCTAD [website](https://unctad.org/about/membership).

UN Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG)

UN Development Coordination Office

Secretariat Building, 25th Floor

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Email: [dcodirector@un.org](mailto:dcodirector%40un.org?subject=)

X: [@UN\_SDG](http://www.twitter.com/UN_SDG)

Website: <https://unsdg.un.org>

Chair (UN Deputy Secretary-General): Amina J Mohammed, Nigeria (since 2017)

Vice-Chair (UN Development Programme (UNDP) Acting Administrator): Haoliang Xu, China

Purpose

The UNSDG serves as the highest-level inter-agency forum for joint policy formation, decision-making and accountability of the UN development system with regard to operational activities at all levels. It unites the entities of the UN system that contribute to the attainment of the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda) at the country level.

The UNSDG provides strategic direction and oversight to ensure UN development system entities deliver coherent, effective and efficient support to countries seeking to attain sustainable development. To this effect, the UNSDG seeks to facilitate joint policy formation and decision-making, encourage programmatic cooperation and realize management efficiencies within the UN development system.

The UNSDG was originally created as the ‘United Nations Development Group (UNDG)’ following the UN General Assembly’s endorsement of former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan’s report ‘Renewing the United Nations: A Programme for Reform’ ([A/51/950](http://undocs.org/A/51/950), para. 73). UN Secretary-General António Guterres reinvigorated the UNDG as the ‘United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG)’, as described in his December 2017 report ‘Repositioning the United Nations development system to deliver on the 2030 Agenda: our promise for dignity, prosperity and peace on a healthy planet’ ([A/72/684–E/2018/7](https://undocs.org/A/72/684)).

Structure

The UNSDG is chaired by the UN Deputy Secretary-General. The UNDP Administrator serves as the UNSDG Vice-Chair. The UNSDG Chair convenes the UNSDG at the level of UN Executive Heads at least four times a year.

The UN Development Coordination Office (DCO, see page 223) is the secretariat and technical and advisory support unit of the UNSDG and works under the leadership of the UNSDG Chair and guidance of the UNSDG.

At the regional level, five Regional Collaborative Platforms, chaired by the UNSDG Chair and vice-chaired by the Executive Secretaries of the Regional Economic Commissions and UNDP, are composed of the regional directors of UNSDG member entities. As the highest-ranking representatives of the UN development system at the country level, Resident Coordinators lead the collective UN development efforts of 130 UN country teams.

Meetings

The UNSDG convenes four times a year at Principals level, including twice on the margins of the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB). The Chair also convenes extraordinary meetings as needed.

Membership

The UNSDG comprises all entities of the UN system that contribute operationally to the attainment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the country level. The Secretariats to Conventions, as well as UN research and training institutes, can be invited to the UNSDG as required by the topics under discussion.

Members

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

International Labour Organization (ILO)

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

International Trade Centre (ITC)

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)

UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF)

UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

UN Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA)

UN Development Programme (UNDP)

UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

UN Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)

UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)

UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)

UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS)

UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)

UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT)

UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

UN Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO)

UN Population Fund (UNFPA)

UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)

UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

UN Volunteers (UNV)

World Food Programme (WFP)

World Health Organization (WHO)

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

UN Development Programme (UNDP)

1 United Nations Plaza

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 212 906 5000

Website: [www.undp.org](http://www.undp.org)

Acting Administrator: Haoliang Xu, China (since 17 June 2025)

Purpose

UNDP leads the UN’s global development network. With activities in over 170 countries and territories, it works throughout the world helping countries achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) based on their national priorities. UNDP’s mandate is to end poverty, strengthen accountable and inclusive governance, and build resilience to crises and climate change. UNDP advocates for transformational development change and connects countries to knowledge, experience and resources to help build a better life. UNDP’s flagship publication is the [Human Development Report](http://hdr.undp.org), which focuses on key development issues and provides measurement tools, innovative analysis and policy proposals.

UNDP began operations in 1966 under GA res. [2029](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2029(XX)) (XX) (1965), which combined the UN Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA) with the UN Special Fund.

Structure

UNDP has a 36-member [Executive Board](https://www.undp.org/executive-board), which is responsible for providing intergovernmental support to and supervision of the activities of UNDP, the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) and the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS) in accordance with the overall policy guidance of the General Assembly and ECOSOC, and the responsibilities set out in the UN Charter. It must also be responsive to the needs of programme countries. The Board is under ECOSOC’s authority, and its functions are set out in GA res. [48/162](http://undocs.org/A/RES/48/162) (1993). The Executive Board superseded the 48-member Governing Council on 1 January 1994.

ECOSOC elects [Board members](https://www.undp.org/executive-board/membership) each year from among UN Member States. Members are elected for three-year terms ending on 31 December. GA res. [48/162](http://undocs.org/A/RES/48/162) (1993) specified that membership should be based on equitable geographic representation, as noted in the list of members.

The Executive Board [Bureau](https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/executive-board/the-bureau.html) is composed of one president and four vice-presidents, elected from members at the first regular session each year and taking into account the need for equitable geographical representation. The Bureau’s primary functions are to prepare and organize Board meetings, facilitate transparent decision-making and promote dialogue in decision-making.

UNDP administers special funds and programmes, including UN Volunteers and the UN Capital Development Fund (see separate entries). It also hosts the UN Office for South–South Cooperation ([UNOSSC](https://unsouthsouth.org)) and the Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office ([MPTFO](https://mptf.undp.org)). The UNDP Administrator is also the Vice-Chair of the UN Sustainable Development Group, which encompasses the funds, programmes, specialized agencies, departments and offices of the UN system that play a role in development.

UNDP is funded entirely from voluntary contributions by a range of partners including UN Member States, multilateral and philanthropic organizations. These contributions are provided as either regular budget resources or resources earmarked by contributors. Details for 2025 are at [open.undp.org/#2025](https://open.undp.org/#2025).

Meetings

The Executive Board meets in one annual and two regular sessions each year, held in New York.

Executive Board Members (36)\*

Previous Current

African states (8 seats)

Algeria 2006–08 21–23

Angola 2007–09 13–15

Benin 2006–08 16–18

Botswana 1998–2000 04–06 19–21

Burkina Faso 2010–12 18–20

Burundi 1995–97

Cameroon 1994 2004–06 10–12 16–24

Cabo Verde 2003–05

Central African Republic 2007–09

Chad 2016–18 22–24 2025–27

Comoros 2002–04

Congo 1994 2004–06 13–15

Côte d’Ivoire 2022–24 2025–27

DR Congo 1995–2003 10–12

Djibouti 2001–03 11–13

Egypt 2000–02 18–20

Eritrea 2004–06

Ethiopia 1995–97 1999–2001 13–15 2023–25

Gabon 2001–03

Gambia 1994–97 2004–06 19–21

Ghana 1998–2000

Guinea 1997–99 2015–17

Kenya 2022–24

Lesotho 1994 2013–15 22–24

Liberia 2012–14

Libya 1997–99 2015–17

Madagascar 1996–98 2025–27

Malawi 2007–09 16–18

Mauritania 2001–03 09–11

Mauritius 2017–19

Morocco 1994–96 2012–14

Mozambique 2001–03 2025–27

Niger 2013–15

Nigeria 2021–23 2024–26

Rwanda 2010–12 19–21

Senegal 2007–09

Sierra Leone 1994–96 2009–11

Somalia 1994 2007–09 20–22

South Africa 1998–2000 10–12 19–21

Sudan 1994–95

Togo 2000–02

Tunisia 2003–05 2024–26

Uganda 2005–07 16–18

UR of Tanzania 1998–2000 08–10 14–16

Zambia 1995–97 2025–27

Asia–Pacific states (7 seats)

Bangladesh 1994–96 2006–08 11–13 21–23 2024–26

Bhutan 2007–09

Cambodia 2018–20

China 1994–2003 04–09 11–22 2023–25

DPRK 2005–07

Fiji 2013–15

India 1994–2001 03–05 07–12 15–17 19–21 2025–27

Indonesia 1995–97 2000–02 04–06 12–14

Iran 2001–03 04–06 09–11 13–15 17–19 21–23

Kazakhstan 2005–07 22–24

Kuwait 2020–22

Kyrgyzstan 1999–2001

Lao PDR 2008–10 16–18

Lebanon 1998–2000

Malaysia 1996–98

Myanmar 2022–24

Nauru 2024–26

Nepal 2003–05 14–16

Pakistan 1994–99 2002–04 06–08 10–15

Papua New Guinea 1994

Philippines 1994–97 2001–03

Qatar 2010–12 22–24

ROK 1994–95 1998–2000 08–10 12–14 16–21 2023–25

Samoa 2016–18

Saudi Arabia 2018–20

Solomon Islands 2025–27

Tajikistan 2025–27

Thailand 1997–99

Vanuatu 2019–21

Viet Nam 2000–02

Yemen 2002–04 09–11 15–17

Eastern European states (4 seats)

Albania 2017–19

Armenia 2014–16

Azerbaijan 2008–10

Belarus 1999–2001 05–07 11–13 16–18

Bulgaria 1994–95 2001–03 13–15 20–22

Czechia 1998–2000 02–04 11–13 20–22

Estonia 2011–12

Georgia 2025–27

Montenegro 2014–16

Poland 1994–96 2004–06

Republic of Moldova 2017–19 2023–25

Romania 1996–98 2002–04 2024–26

Russian Federation 1994–95 1997–2023

Serbia 2007–09

Slovakia 1994–97 2008–10 2023–25

Slovenia 2010

Ukraine 1996–2001 05–07 19–24

Latin American and Caribbean states (5 seats)

Antigua and Barbuda 1997–99 2002–04 07–09 10–12 15–20

Argentina 1994–98 2011–13

Belize 1996–98

Brazil 1997–2002 12–14 18–20 2024–26

Colombia 2008–10 20–22 2023–25

Costa Rica 2022–24

Cuba 1994–97 1999–2001 04–06 09–11 14–19 21–23

Dominican Republic 2025–27

Ecuador 2001–03 06–08 14–16 2023–25

El Salvador 2003–05 11–13

Guatemala 1999–2001 05–07 13–15 21–23

Guyana 2005–07

Haiti 2008–10 16–18

Honduras 2000–02

Jamaica 1998–2000 06–08 2024–26

Mexico 2009–11 19–21

Nicaragua 2012–14

Panama 2017–19

Peru 1994–96 2002–04 20–22

Trinidad and Tobago 1994–96

Uruguay 1994–95 2003–05

Venezuela 2015–17

Western European and Other states (plus Japan) (12 seats)1

Australia 1997–98 2003–05 08 12 15 17–20 2025

Austria 1997–99 2009–10 16 20–21 2025–26

Belgium 1994–96 2000–02 07 10 14 16 19 23 2025–27

Canada 1994–96 98–99 2001–04 07 10–12 14 16 19–20 23–24

Denmark 1994–96 98–99 2001–02 04–09 11–12 15 17–18 20–21 23 2025–27

Finland 1996–97 2001–03 09–11 14 17–18 20–22

France 1994–95 97–98 2000–04 08–10 13–14 16–18 24

Germany 1994–97 1999–2003 04–07 09 11 13–15 7–18 24 2025–27

Greece 2007 12 21–22

Iceland 2008 15 23–24

Ireland 1998–2000 08 11 13–14 19–20 23 2025–26

Israel 2012

Italy 1994–95 1999–2001 03–05 07–08 11–12 15 19–20 24

Japan 1994–2005 06–08 10–13 15 16–18 20–22 2023–25

Luxembourg 2002 11–12 17–18 2025–26

Monaco 2019

Netherlands 1996–98 2000–02 04–06 08–11 13–16 19–22 24

New Zealand 1994–95 2000–01 06 09 13 17 21–22

Norway 1994–95 97–98 2000–01 03–09 12–22 2023–25

Portugal 1994–96 2005–07 13 18 24

Spain 1996 98–99 2002 07 10 13 15–16 21–22

Sweden 1995–97 1999–2003 04–06 08–17 19–20 22–24 2025–27

Switzerland 1996–97 1999–2000 02–04 08 10 12 14 16 18 20 22

Türkiye 2002 05–06 09 16 19 23

UK 1994–95 97–99 2002–04 06–07 09–11 13–15 17–19 21–23 2024–26

USA 1994–2019 21–22 2023–25

Bureau for 2025

President

Andrés Montalvo Sosa, Ecuador

Vice-Presidents

Cornel Feruță, Romania

Jonibek Ismoil Hikmat, Tajikistan

Karl Lagatie, Belgium

Tesfaye Yilma Sabo, Ethiopia

Notes

\* On 4 April 2025, ECOSOC elected 11 members to serve three-year terms beginning on 1 January 2026 and expiring on 31 December 2028: Rwanda (African states); China and Nepal (Asia–Pacific states); Armenia and Estonia (Eastern European states); Bolivia and Cuba (Latin American and Caribbean states); and Finland, Japan, Norway and the USA (Western European and Other states). It also elected Monaco, New Zealand and Türkiye to complete the terms of Austria, Luxembourg and Ireland, respectively, from 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2026, and Switzerland to complete the term of Belgium, from 1 January 2026 to 31 December 2027.

1 The Western European and Other states group has had its own rotation scheme since 26 April 2006, under which some of its members do not serve a full three-year term. The USA does not participate in this rotation scheme. The current terms listed reflect the rotation scheme as at July 2025.

UN Population Fund (UNFPA)

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UNFPA](http://www.facebook.com/UNFPA)

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Instagram: [@UNFPA](http://www.instagram.com/UNFPA)

Website: [www.unfpa.org](http://www.unfpa.org)

Executive Director: Diene Keita, Guinea (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in August 2025)

Purpose

UNFPA addresses population and development issues, with a strong emphasis on reproductive health and gender equality, as well as on advancing the rights and opportunities of young people. It is the lead UN agency for delivering a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person’s potential is fulfilled. Two frameworks guide UNFPA’s efforts: the Programme of Action adopted at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The UNFPA [Strategic Plan](https://www.unfpa.org/strategic-plan-2022) 2022–25 was approved in July 2021 by the Executive Board of the UN Development Programme (UNDP)/UNFPA/UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS). The Plan reaffirms the relevance of the current strategic direction of UNFPA. It calls for urgent action to achieve universal access to sexual and reproductive health, realize reproductive rights for all, and accelerate the implementation of the Programme of Action of the ICPD. UNFPA works in close collaboration with other development and humanitarian agencies, particularly the World Health Organization (WHO), UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), UN Development Programme (UNDP) and the Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS).

Evolution

Originally called the UN Fund for Population Activities, and under the management of the UNDP Administrator, UNFPA was set up as a trust fund by the UN Secretary-General in 1967 after GA res. [2211](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2211(XXI)) (XXI) (1966) called on UN system organizations to provide assistance in the field of population. GA res. [3019](http://undocs.org/A/RES/3019(XXVII)) (XXVII) (1972) gave UNFPA a separate identity and designated the UNDP Governing Council as its governing body. ECOSOC res. [1763](https://undocs.org/E/RES/1763(LIV)) (LIV) (1973) set down UNFPA’s aims and purposes, and tasked it with playing a leading UN role in promoting population programmes. In 1987, the name of UNFPA was changed to the United Nations Population Fund, but its official abbreviation remained the same.

GA res. [48/162](http://undocs.org/A/RES/48/162) (1993) transformed the governing body of UNDP/UNFPA into the UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board. Other significant resolutions and decisions include: ECOSOC res. [2025](https://undocs.org/E/RES/2025(LXI)) (LXI) (1976); GA res. [34/104](http://undocs.org/A/RES/34/104) (1979); UNDP/UNFPA Executive Board decision [95/15](https://docs.un.org/dp/1996/1) (1995); Executive Board decision [2000/11](https://docs.un.org/dp/2001/2) (2000); GA res. [64/219](http://undocs.org/A/RES/64/219) (2010); and Executive Board decision [2017/9](https://docs.un.org/dp/2018/3) (2017).

Structure

UNFPA is a subsidiary body of the UN General Assembly. It is governed by decisions adopted by the UNDP Governing Council (1973–93) and the UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board (1994 to present). UNFPA reports through the Executive Board to ECOSOC, which in turn reports to the General Assembly.

UNFPA headquarters are in New York. The Fund works in over 150 countries, territories and other areas through a [network](https://www.unfpa.org/worldwide) of 121 country and territory offices, plus six regional, two sub-regional and eight representational offices.

Committee for the UN Population Award

Website: [www.unfpa.org/public/home/about/popaward](http://www.unfpa.org/public/home/about/popaward)

Purpose

The Committee presents an annual award to an individual(s) and/or institution(s) in recognition of outstanding contributions to increasing the awareness of population questions and to their solutions. The Award was established by the General Assembly in November 1981 (GA res. [36/201](http://undocs.org/A/RES/36/201)) and was first presented in 1983. It consists of a gold medal, diploma and monetary prize. Nominations for the award are accepted through to 31 December of each year.

Varsha Deshpande, Founder, Dalit Mahila Vikas Mandal of India, and the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) were selected as laureates of the award in 2025.

Structure

The Committee comprises representatives of 10 UN Member States elected by ECOSOC, usually for three calendar years, as well as a representative of the UN Secretary-General and the UNFPA Executive Director as ex officio members. The UNFPA Executive Director is the designated Secretary of the Committee. The Committee selects laureates on the basis of their significant contributions to population-related activities.

Members elected by ECOSOC for 2025–27 (10)

Antigua and Barbuda

Belgium

Bulgaria

Burundi

Cyprus

Gambia

Guatemala

Mauritania

Two vacancies as at 1 July 2025

UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UNCDF](http://www.facebook.com/UNCDF)

X: [@UNCDF](http://www.twitter.com/UNCDF)

Instagram: [@UNCDF](http://www.instagram.com/UNCDF)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/uncdf](http://www.linkedin.com/company/uncdf)

Website: [www.uncdf.org](http://www.uncdf.org)

Executive Secretary: Pradeep Kurukulasuriya, Sri Lanka (appointed by the UNDP Administrator; took office in April 2024)

Purpose

UNCDF mobilizes and catalyses an increase in capital flows for impactful investments in high-risk markets, especially least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing states (SIDS) and fragile settings. By crowding in capital through the deployment of risk-absorbing financial instruments, mechanisms and structuring advisory, UNCDF contributes to job creation, sustained economic growth and equitable prosperity. In partnership with UN entities and development partners, UNCDF operates with speed and agility to deliver scalable, blended finance solutions to drive systemic change and pave the way for commercial finance and development finance institutions (DFIs).

As a non-credit-rated hybrid development and finance organization, UNCDF acts as an off-balance-sheet de-risker for national governments and DFIs and is uniquely positioned to unlock domestic resources and attract substantial private finance in underserved markets.

UNCDF’s investment toolkit includes grant-funded guarantees, concessional finance instruments and performance-based payments. These tools expand financial access for underserved communities while also facilitating their transition to sustainable, commercially viable financing.

Structure

UNDCF was created in 1966 by the General Assembly. It is an autonomous, voluntarily funded UN organization, affiliated with the UN Development Programme (UNDP). Since 1967, the UNDP Administrator has also held the role of Managing Director of UNCDF, with the Executive Secretary taking primary responsibility for overseeing UNCDF’s day-to-day operations and programs. The [UNDP/UNFPA/UNOPS Executive Board](https://www.undp.org/executive-board) also functions as the UNCDF Executive Board.

Similar to UNDP, UNCDF receives contributions from Member States and international development partners. The financial architecture of UNCDF is comprised of core voluntary contributions, flexible non-core funding and earmarked funds. In the past decade, UNCDF’s annual financing has more than doubled.

In 2024, UNCDF supported sustainable financing initiatives in 78 countries, including almost all the LDCs (43 out of 44) and 21 fragile countries. It issued over $22.1 million in loans, guarantees and grants to public and private entities. These investments helped to support governments, communities and local businesses through the development of their local economies, creating thousands of jobs, strengthening livelihoods and enabling access to affordable finance. They accounted for approximately 26 percent of the year’s disbursements.

The top five overall contributors were the USA, the [Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office](https://mptf.undp.org), Switzerland, UNDP and Luxembourg.

UNCDF’s headquarters are in New York and it has regional offices in Dakar, Senegal, Nairobi, Kenya, and Bangkok, Thailand.

UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)

220 East 42nd Street

New York, NY 10017

United States of America

Telephone: +1 646 781 4400

Fax: +1 646 781 4444

X: [@UN\_Women](http://www.twitter.com/UN_Women)

Website: [www.unwomen.org](http://www.unwomen.org)

Executive Director: Sima Sami Bahous, Jordan (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in September 2021)

Purpose

UN-Women was established in July 2010 by the General Assembly (res. [64/289](http://undocs.org/A/RES/64/289)) to improve the coordination and coherence of work on gender equality and women’s empowerment. It functions as a secretariat, carries out operational activities at the country level and promotes more effective gender mainstreaming across the UN system.

The main functions of UN-Women are to:

* Support intergovernmental bodies, such as the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), in their formulation of policies, global standards and norms
* Support Member States as they implement these standards, standing ready to provide suitable technical and financial support to those countries that request it and to forge effective partnerships with civil society

Lead, coordinate and promote the accountability of the UN system in its work on gender equality and women’s empowerment.

UN-Women’s priorities are:

* Global norms, policies and standards for gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls
* Women’s leadership and participation
* Women’s economic empowerment
* Ending all violence against women and girls

Women’s leadership in peace and security and humanitarian action.

Several international agreements guide the work of UN-Women: the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR); the [Convention](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-8&chapter=4&clang=_en) on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW); the Beijing [Declaration](https://beijing20.unwomen.org/en/about) and Platform for Action (BPfA); UN Security Council resolution [1325](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1325(2000)) on Women, Peace and Security (2000) and subsequent resolutions [1820](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1820(2008)) (2008), [1888](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1888(2009)) (2009), [1889](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1889(2009)) (2009), [1960](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1960(2010)) (2010), [2106](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2106(2013)) (2013), [2122](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2122(2013)) (2013), [2242](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2242(2015)) (2015), [2467](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2467(2019)) (2019) and [2493](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2493(2019)) (2019); the Sustaining Peace resolutions (GA res. [70/262](https://undocs.org/A/RES/70/262) (2016) and SC res. [2282](https://undocs.org/S/RES/2282(2016)) (2016)); and the [2030 Agenda](https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda) for Sustainable Development and Sustainable Development Goals ([SDGs](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300)).

The establishment of UN-Women was part of efforts to improve UN system-wide coherence that came from the World Summit of global leaders in 2005 when the UN Secretary-General was asked to undertake reforms within the UN on system-wide coherence related to operational activities for development. The goal was to have a stronger focus on operational outcomes at country and regional levels and more efficient operational practices. Strengthening the institutional arrangements for support of gender equality and the empowerment of women was part of this.

Structure

UN-Women provides support to intergovernmental policy and normative processes and operates at the country level to support Member States, at their request. It is headed by the Executive Director/Under-Secretary-General. A multi-tiered intergovernmental [governance](https://www.unwomen.org/en/about-us/governance) structure, comprising the General Assembly, ECOSOC and the CSW, provides normative policy guidance to the Entity. The [Executive Board](https://www.unwomen.org/en/executive-board) is the governing body providing operational policy guidance to UN-Women.

The Executive Board functions are aligned with GA res. [48/162](http://undocs.org/A/RES/48/162) (1993). Among its duties, the Board adopts the UN-Women strategic plan and budget, and engages with the executive boards of other UN development agencies to coordinate work across the UN system. The primary functions of the Board’s [Bureau](https://www.unwomen.org/en/executive-board/bureau) are to prepare and organize board meetings, facilitate transparent decision-making and promote dialogue in decision-making.

Meetings

The first regular session of the Executive Board is usually held in February, the annual session in June and a second regular session in September. Joint meetings are also held with the Executive Boards of the UN Development Programme (UNDP)/UN Population Fund (UNFPA)/UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS), UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and the World Food Programme (WFP).

Membership

Executive Board members are elected by ECOSOC from among UN Member States, usually for three-year terms beginning 1 January. GA res. [64/289](http://undocs.org/A/RES/64/289) (2010) specified there should be 41 [members](http://www.unwomen.org/en/executive-board/members) on the Board, with 35 representing the five regional groups (as noted in the following list), and six seats reserved for the top contributing countries.

The Executive Board [Bureau](http://www.unwomen.org/en/executive-board/bureau) is composed of one president and four vice-presidents elected by the Board from members at the first regular session each year, taking into account equitable geographical representation.

Executive Board members (41)\*

Previous Current

African states (10 seats)

Algeria 2013–15

Angola 2011–13 19–21

Burkina Faso 2017–19 2023–25

Burundi 2020–22

Cabo Verde 2011–13 2025–27

Cameroon 2017–19 22–24

Comoros 2016–18

Congo 2011–13

Côte d’Ivoire 2011–12 2023–25

Djibouti 2013–15

DR Congo 2011–12

Egypt 2022–24

Equatorial Guinea 2014–16 19–21 2025–27

Eritrea 2023–25

Eswatini 2020–22

Ethiopia 2011–13

Gabon 2013–18 2023–25

Gambia 2013–15 22–24

Ghana 2019–21

Kenya 2019–24

Lesotho 2011–12

Liberia 2016–18

Libya 2011–12

Madagascar 2020–22

Malawi 2013–15

Mauritania 2025–27

Morocco 2019–21

Namibia 2016–18

Nigeria 2011–13 17–22

Rwanda 2017–19

Senegal 2014–16

Sierra Leone 2020–22

Somalia 2014–16

South Africa 2014–16 22–24 2025–27

Togo 2014–16

Tunisia 2016–18

Uganda 2025–27

UR of Tanzania 2011–12

Zambia 2017–19

Zimbabwe 2023–25

Asia–Pacific states (10 seats)

Afghanistan 2022–24

Bahrain 2017–19

Bangladesh 2011–12 14–16 19–24

China 2011–22 2023–25

India 2011–12 14–16 19–24 2025–27

Indonesia 2011–13

Iran 2016–18

Japan 2011–22 2023–25

Kazakhstan 2011–13 20–22

Kyrgysztan 2025–27

Lebanon 2020–22

Malaysia 2011–12

Maldives 2013–15

Mongolia 2019–21

Nepal 2019–21 2025–27

Pakistan 2011–12 16–18

Philippines 2013–15

Qatar 2023–25

ROK 2011–22 2023–25

Samoa 2016–18

Saudi Arabia 2019–21 2025–27

Solomon Islands 2013–15

Tajikistan 2023–25

Thailand 2013–15 22–24

Timor-Leste 2011–12

Turkmenistan 2016–18 22–24

UAE 2013–18

Viet Nam 2025–27

Yemen 2017–19

Eastern European states (4 seats)

Albania 2025–27

Belarus 2017–19

Bosnia and Herzegovina 2014–16

Bulgaria 2023–25

Croatia 2016–18

Estonia 2011–12

Georgia 2019–21

Hungary 2011–13 19–21

Latvia 2013–15 2023–25

Lithuania 2020–22

Montenegro 2017–19

Poland 2014–16 22–24

Russian Federation 2011–18 20–22

Ukraine 2011–13 22–24 2025–27

Latin American and the Caribbean states (6 seats)

Antigua and Barbuda 2016–18 2025–27

Argentina 2011–12 20–22

Bolivia 2025–27

Brazil 2011–12 13–15 17–22

Chile 2019–21

Colombia 2014–16 19–24

Cuba 2014–16 19–21

Dominican Republic 2011–13 22–24

El Salvador 2011–12 17–19

Grenada 2011–13

Guyana 2016–18 22–24

Mexico 2020–22

Panama 2016–18 2023–25

Paraguay 2023–25

Peru 2011–13 2025–27

Suriname 2014–16

Trinidad and Tobago 2017–19 2023–25

Uruguay 2013–15

Venezuela 2013–15

Western European and Other states (5 seats, some rotating)1

Andorra 2021

Australia 2013–14 19 22 24

Austria 2013

Belgium 2013 17 20 24

Canada 2012 16 18 20 2025

Denmark 2016–17 20–22 2025

Finland 2012 18–19

France 2011 17 23

Germany 2015 16–17 21

Iceland 2014 20–22

Ireland 2013 19 23

Israel 2015

Italy 2011 14 15 21 23

Liechtenstein 2014

Luxembourg 2011 16–17 21 24–25

Monaco 2022

Netherlands 2012 18 20–22 2025–27

New Zealand 2012 14 18 20 23

Portugal 2015 18

Spain 2016

Sweden 2011 19 2024–25

Switzerland 2013 20 23

Türkiye 2015 19 24

UK 2025–27

USA 2012

Contributing countries (6 seats, some rotating)1

**Members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)/Development Assistance Committee (DAC)**

Denmark 2011 15

Finland 2021 2023–25

Germany 2023–25

Netherlands 2016

Norway 2019–22 2023–25

Spain 2014–15

Sweden 2016 20–22

Switzerland 2017–19

UK 2011–22

USA 2011 13 17–22 2023–25

**Contributing countries not members of the OECD/DAC**

Chile 2017–18

Israel 2017 19

Mexico 2014–16

Saudi Arabia 2014–16

Senegal 2020–22 2023–25

Türkiye 2018 20–22

UAE 2019 2023–25

Bureau for 2025

President

Nicola Clase, Sweden

Vice-Presidents

Suela Janina, Albania

Godfrey Kwoba, Uganda

Umetsu Shigeru, Japan

Walton Alfonso Webson, Antigua and Barbados

Notes

\* On 4 April 2025, ECOSOC elected 10 members for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 2026 and expiring on 31 December 2028: Burkina Faso, DR Congo, Rwanda and Senegal (African states); China, Japan, Philippines and ROK (Asia–Pacific states); Russian Federation (Eastern European states); and Colombia (Latin American and Caribbean states). On 10 June 2025, ECOSOC elected Bahrain (Asia–Pacific states) for the same term. It postponed the election of seven members for the same term: one from the African states group, one from the Eastern European stat es group, two from the Latin American and Caribbean states group, and three from the Western European and Other states group.

1 The Western European and Other states group (WEOG) has its own rotation scheme under which some of its members do not serve a full three-year term. Contributing countries from WEOG also have their own rotation scheme under which some countries do not serve a full three-year term. The current terms listed reflect the rotation schemes as at July 2025.

United Nations Volunteers (UNV)

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X: [@unvolunteers](http://www.twitter.com/unvolunteers)

Instagram: [@unvolunteers](http://www.instagram.com/unvolunteers/)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/united-nations-volunteers](http://www.linkedin.com/company/united-nations-volunteers)

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/user/unv](http://www.youtube.com/user/unv)

TikTok: [@unitednationsvolunteers](https://www.tiktok.com/@unitednationsvolunteers)

Website: [www.unv.org](http://www.unv.org)

Executive Coordinator: Toily Kurbanov, Russian Federation (appointed by the UNDP Administrator, took office in January 2021)

Purpose

UNV provides global citizens with an opportunity to volunteer across the three pillars of the UN system: development; peace and security; and human rights. It was created as an operational partner in international development (GA res. [2659](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2659(XXV)) (XXV) (1970)). Administered by the UN Development Programme (UNDP), UNV advocates for recognition of volunteers, works with partners to integrate volunteerism into development programming and helps to mobilize volunteers throughout the world.

UNV [engages](https://www.unv.org/unv-funding-partners) the UN system, Member States, civil society and the private sector in promoting an environment conducive to volunteerism and volunteers, thus enhancing the sustainability of development results. Through its [UNV Strategic Framework](https://www.unv.org/publications/unv-strategic-framework-2022-2025), it seeks to leverage volunteerism and volunteers for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In [2024](https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/2025-04/unv-report-2024-annual-report-of-the-adminstrator_final-corrected-1.pdf), there were over 14,600 UN Volunteers in the field in 170 countries, representing 181 nationalities. In addition, there were requests for about 23,000 [Online Volunteers](https://www.unv.org/become-online-volunteer) to support [online assignments](https://www.unv.org/engage-online-volunteers).

Every three years, UNV produces the [State of the World’s Volunteerism Report](https://www.unv.org/swvr), a flagship UN publication designed to strengthen understanding on volunteerism and demonstrate its universality, scope and reach in the 21st century. International Volunteer Day ([IVD](https://www.unv.org/international-volunteer-day)), on 5 December, was designated by the UN in 1985 as an international observance day to celebrate the power and potential of volunteerism.

UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

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Telex: 22068, 22173

X: [@UNEP](http://www.twitter.com/UNEP)

Website: <https://unep.org/>

Executive Director: Inger Andersen, Denmark (since 2019; confirmed by the UN General Assembly in February 2023 for a second four-year term from 15 June 2023)

Purpose

UNEP is the leading global authority on the environment. It unites 193 Member States in an effort to find solutions to [climate change](https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/climate-action/what-we-do/climate-adaptation), [nature and biodiversity loss](https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/ecosystems-and-biodiversity), and [pollution and waste](https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/chemicals-waste), collectively known as the triple planetary crisis. Through scientific studies, policy support, intergovernmental coordination and public advocacy, UNEP helps humanity to foster climate stability, live in harmony with nature and forge a pollution-free future, in line with the [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.](https://www.unep.org/explore-topics/sustainable-development-goals)

UNEP was established by GA res. [2997](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2997(XXVII)) (XXVII) (1972) following the Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment. In 1997, the Governing Council adopted the Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the UN Environment Programme, which established UNEP’s core mandate ([UNEP/GC/DEC/19/1](http://undocs.org/UNEP/GC/DEC/19/1)). In 2005, the Governing Council/Global Ministerial Environment Forum adopted the Bali Strategic Plan for Technology Support and Capacity-building. In 2010, the Council/Forum adopted the Nusa Dua Declaration, in preparation for the UN Conference on Sustainable Development, or Rio+20 Conference, in 2012. Information about the Rio+20 outcome document ‘The Future We Want’ is at <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/futurewewant.html>.

Structure

The 2012 Rio+20 outcome [document](http://undocs.org/A/RES/66/288) established universal membership of the then-named [Governing Council](https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/un-environment-assembly-and-governing-council-sessions). It had previously comprised 58 members elected by the UN General Assembly, as outlined in GA res. [2997](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2997(XXVII)) (XXVII) (1972). The first universal session of the Governing Council and Global Ministerial Environment Forum was held in Nairobi in February 2013 (GA res. [67/213](http://undocs.org/A/RES/67/213) (2012)), where decisions included a recommendation to the General Assembly to change the designation and rename the Governing Council the ‘United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA/Environment Assembly) of the United Nations Environment Programme’. This name was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution [67/251](http://undocs.org/A/RES/67/251) of 13 March 2013.

The 2013 session (decision [27/2](http://wedocs.unep.org/handle/20.500.11822/12221); OP 9) also decided to have an open-ended Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) as the subsidiary intersessional body of the UNEP governing body and to convene the Environment Assembly in Nairobi every two years, starting in 2014.

UNEA’s functions include setting the global environmental agenda; providing overarching policy guidance and defining policy responses to address emerging environmental challenges; undertaking policy review, dialogue and exchange of experiences; setting strategic guidance on the future direction of UNEP; organizing leadership and multi-stakeholder dialogues; and fostering partnerships for achieving environmental goals and resource mobilization. The Assembly reports to the General Assembly through ECOSOC.

UNEP is funded by regular budget allocations from the UN and the Environment Fund, as well as voluntary contributions from trusts and foundations and global funds such as the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and Green Climate Fund.

Meetings

The Environment Assembly meets every two years in Nairobi. [UNEA-7](https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/unea7) is scheduled to be held in Nairobi from 8 to 12 December 2025.

Membership

Since the establishment of the universal membership in 2013, all 193 UN Member States have been members of the [Environment Assembly](https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/about-united-nations-environment-assembly). The current [Bureau](https://www.unep.org/environmentassembly/about-un-environment-assembly-presidency-and-bureau) was elected at the end of UNEA-6 on 1 March 2024.

The CPR consists of the representatives of: all UN Member States, UN specialized agencies, the European Community and those accredited to the UNEP, whether based in Nairobi or not. Non-member states participate as observers. The CPR [Bureau](https://www.unenvironment.org/cpr/chair-and-bureau-committee-permanent-representatives) consists of a chair, three vice-chairs and a rapporteur, representing each of the UN regions.

Bureau of the Environment Assembly (1 March 2024 to 12 December 2025)

President

Abdullah Bin Ali Al-Amri, Oman

Vice-Presidents

Fitsum Assefa Adela, Ethiopia

Juan Carlos Castro Vargas, Peru

Ali Gholampour, Iran

Johanna Lissinger Peitz, Sweden

Peter Maddens, Belgium

Mike Mposha, Zambia

Anikó Raisz, Hungary

Nino Tandilashvili, Georgia

Rapporteur

Joyelle Clarke, Saint Kitts and Nevis

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency)

Case Postale 2500

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Switzerland

Telephone: +41 22 739 8111

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/UNHCR](http://www.facebook.com/UNHCR)

X: [@Refugees](http://www.twitter.com/Refugees)

Instagram: [@refugees](https://www.instagram.com/refugees)

Website: [www.unhcr.org](http://www.unhcr.org)

High Commissioner: Filippo Grandi, Italy (since January 2016; elected by the UN General Assembly on the nomination of the Secretary-General in November 2015 and term of office extended in August 2022 until 31 December 2025)

Purpose

UNHCR works to provide international protection and assistance to refugees and other persons of concern within its mandate and to seek durable solutions to their plight in cooperation with governments. With these aims, the Office promotes the conclusion and ratification of international conventions, advocates access to asylum, obtains from governments information concerning the number and conditions of refugees and the laws concerning them, and facilitates the coordination of humanitarian assistance. A crucial aspect of UNHCR’s work is preventing refoulement (the involuntary return of a refugee or a person of concern to a country where he or she may have a well-founded fear of persecution) and supporting host countries, particularly those hosting large numbers of refugees.

With respect to stateless persons, UNHCR’s initial mandate is set out in the [Statute](https://www.unhcr.org/3b66c39e1.html) of the Office and Article 1 of the [1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees](https://www.unhcr.org/about-unhcr/who-we-are/1951-refugee-convention). In accordance with GA res. [3274](https://www.undocs.org/A/RES/3274(XXIX)) (XXIX) (1974) and GA res. [31/36](https://www.undocs.org/A/RES/31/36) (1976), UNHCR has been designated, pursuant to Articles 11 and 20 of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, as the body to which a person claiming the benefits of this Convention may apply for examination of their claim and for assistance in presenting it to the relevant authorities. Activities on behalf of stateless persons therefore include the identification, prevention and reduction of statelessness, and the protection of stateless persons.

The General Assembly has authorized UNHCR to conduct operations under certain circumstances to protect and assist internally displaced persons. In the early 1990s, it clarified UNHCR’s role by setting out formal criteria for the Office’s involvement. In 2005, the Inter-Agency Standing Committee developed an inter-agency coordination approach for responding to internally displaced persons, under which UNHCR assumes global cluster leadership for protection, and co-leadership for camp coordination and management and emergency shelter. Today, the Office is guided by the [Policy on UNHCR’s Engagement in Situations of Internal Displacement](https://www.unhcr.org/50f951df9) (UNHCR/HCP/2019/1), the Secretary-General’s [Action Agenda on Internal Displacement](https://www.un.org/en/content/action-agenda-on-internal-displacement/) and other relevant [frameworks](https://www.unhcr.org/about-unhcr/who-we-protect/internally-displaced-people).

Evolution

UNHCR was established in the wake of World War II to help Europeans displaced by conflict. In 1949, the UN General Assembly decided to appoint a High Commissioner for Refugees (GA res. [319](https://undocs.org/A/RES/319(IV)) (IV) (1949)). The High Commissioner’s mandate is embedded in public international law and in international treaty law. The obligation of states to cooperate with the High Commissioner is explicitly mentioned in international and regional legal instruments for the protection of refugees, notably the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees. The 1951 Convention is the key legal document in defining who is a refugee and their rights. The 1967 Protocol removed geographical and temporal restrictions from this Convention.

In 2016, the General Assembly adopted the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (GA res. [71/1](http://undocs.org/A/RES/71/1)). UNHCR subsequently led two years of extensive consultations to develop the [Global Compact on Refugees](https://www.unhcr.org/the-global-compact-on-refugees.html), which was presented as part of the High Commissioner’s annual report to the General Assembly in 2018. In December 2018, the Assembly affirmed the Global Compact on Refugees (GA res. [73/151](http://undocs.org/A/RES/73/151)), reflecting the will of the international community to strengthen cooperation and solidarity with refugees and the countries that host them.

Structure

UNHCR’s governing body, the [Executive Committee](https://www.unhcr.org/executive-committee) of the High Commissioner’s Programme (ExCom), determines the general policies under which UNHCR plans, develops and administers refugee programmes and operations around the world; and advises the High Commissioner, on request, on the discharge of their duties under the Statute of the Office. There are 110 [ExCom members](https://www.unhcr.org/about-unhcr/governance-and-oversight/executive-committee/excom-plenary-sessions) as at July 2025. New members may be admitted by ECOSOC through the General Assembly. A Bureau is elected at the end of each annual plenary session of ExCom.

Meetings

ExCom holds an annual plenary session in Geneva, usually in October, to discuss programmes, budgets and other key issues, and approves the use of funds to carry out activities. ExCom members also meet in intersessional meetings of the Standing Committee, which was established to carry on ExCom’s work between plenary sessions.

Executive Committee members (110)

Afghanistan

Algeria

Angola

Argentina

Armenia

Australia

Austria

Azerbaijan

Bangladesh

Belarus

Belgium

Benin

Brazil

Bulgaria

Burkina Faso

Cameroon

Canada

Chad

Chile

China

Colombia

Congo

Costa Rica

Côte d’Ivoire

Croatia

Cyprus

Czechia

DR Congo

Denmark

Djibouti

Ecuador

Egypt

Estonia

Ethiopia

Fiji

Finland

France

Georgia

Germany

Ghana

Greece

Guatemala

Guinea

Holy See

Hungary

Iceland

India

Iran

Ireland

Israel

Italy

Japan

Jordan

Kenya

Latvia

Lebanon

Lesotho

Lithuania

Luxembourg

Madagascar

Malawi

Mali

Malta

Mexico

Montenegro

Morocco

Mozambique

Namibia

Netherlands

New Zealand

Nicaragua

Nigeria

North Macedonia

Norway

Pakistan

Paraguay

Peru

Philippines

Poland

Portugal

ROK

Republic of Moldova

Romania

Russian Federation

Rwanda

Senegal

Serbia

Slovakia

Slovenia

Somalia

South Africa

Spain

Sudan

Sweden

Switzerland

Thailand

Togo

Tunisia

Türkiye

Turkmenistan

Uganda

Ukraine

UK

UR of Tanzania

USA

Uruguay

Venezuela

Yemen

Zambia

Zimbabwe

Executive Committee Bureau for Oct 2024 to Oct 2025

Chair

Marcelo Vázquez Bermúdez, Ecuador

Vice-Chairs

Bilal Ahmad, Pakistan

Tsegab Kebebew Daka, Ethiopia

Rapporteur

Lisa Advani, UK

UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)

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Palestinian Territory

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UNRWA Representative Office, New York

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Telephone: +1 212 963 2255

Email: [unrwaofficenewyork@un.org](mailto:unrwaofficenewyork%40un.org?subject=)

Website: [www.unrwa.org](http://www.unrwa.org)

Commissioner-General: Philippe Lazzarini, Switzerland (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in consultation with members of UNRWA’s Advisory Commission in March 2020; mandate renewed for a further three-year term in March 2023)

Purpose

UNRWA is the main provider of development and humanitarian services to millions of registered Palestine refugees in the Middle East. The Agency was established by GA res. [302](http://undocs.org/A/RES/302(IV)) (IV) (1949), following the 1948 Arab–Israeli conflict, to carry out direct relief and works programmes for Palestine refugees, pending a just and lasting solution to their plight. The Agency began operations on 1 May 1950. In the absence of a solution to the Palestine refugee situation, the General Assembly has repeatedly renewed UNRWA’s mandate, most recently extending it until 30 June 2026 (GA res. [77/12](https://undocs.org/A/RES/77/123)3 (2022)). The Agency operates in Jordan, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and the Occupied Palestinian Territory (OPT), namely the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including East Jerusalem.

UNRWA defines eligible Palestine refugees as persons whose normal place of residence was Palestine during the period 1 June 1946 to 15 May 1948, and who lost both home and means of livelihood as a result of the 1948 conflict. In line with international law and the principle of family unity, which establishes that the children of refugees and their descendants are also considered refugees until a durable solution is found, UNRWA also recognizes descendants of Palestine refugees as refugees. In addition to Palestine refugees, the General Assembly has mandated UNRWA to offer services to certain other persons who require humanitarian assistance, on an emergency basis as and when required, in UNRWA’s fields of operations.

UNRWA’s human development and humanitarian services encompass basic and vocational education, primary health care, relief and social services, protection, infrastructure and camp improvement, microfinance and emergency response, including in situations of armed conflict. UNRWA is committed to upholding human rights and fostering the human development of Palestine refugees by supporting them to acquire knowledge and skills; to lead long and healthy lives; and to achieve decent standards of living.

Since 2000, UNRWA has provided emergency assistance to Palestine refugees in the OPT. Since 2012, UNRWA has also provided emergency assistance to Palestine refugees living in Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic and who are affected by interrelated conflicts, layered displacement and deep economic crisis. UNRWA works closely with host authorities to mitigate the impact of emerging crises, such as pandemics, armed conflict and natural disasters, on Palestine refugees.

The Agency is the largest UN operation in the Middle East and is unique in that it delivers services directly to beneficiaries. It has approximately 32,000 personnel, almost all of whom are Palestine refugees themselves, working directly to benefit their communities as teachers, doctors, nurses, social workers or in other practical capacities. UNRWA’s operations are financed almost entirely by voluntary contributions from donors to its Programme Budget, Emergency Appeals, ad hoc Flash Appeals and projects. In 2024, total funding pledged was approximately US$1.4 billion (all portals included), down from US$1.46 billion in 2023. This amounted to only 51 percent of total financial requirements for 2024, compared with 60.5 percent in 2023. For 2025, the Agency is seeking US$3.3 billion to run essential services and provide emergency aid to Palestine refugees across the Middle East. Only 18 percent of the US$3.3 billion is confirmed in pledges so far.

Structure

* Headquarters: the Commissioner-General is appointed by the UN Secretary-General after consultation with the UN General Assembly's Advisory Commission on UNRWA for a three-year renewable term, and is the only head of a UN body to report directly to the General Assembly. UNRWA Headquarters are located in Gaza City and Amman.
* The General Assembly's [Advisory Commission](https://www.unrwa.org/who-we-are/advisory-commission) on UNRWA (AdCom): the AdCom was established under the same General Assembly resolution as UNRWA (GA res. [302](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/302(IV)) (IV) (1949)). It provides advice and assistance to the Commissioner-General in carrying out the Agency's mandate. Consisting of four Member States and three host governments when first created, today it comprises 29 members and four observers.

Field offices and representative offices: UNRWA has five field offices, located in the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, Jordan, Lebanon and the Syrian Arab Republic. Each office is headed by a director who is accountable to the Commissioner-General. UNRWA also maintains representative offices in New York, Washington DC, Brussels (covering Europe) and Cairo.

Meetings

The Commissioner-General submits an annual report to the General Assembly, followed by an annual statement to the Fourth Committee of the UN General Assembly (also known as the Special Political and Decolonization Committee) is made every year in early November. GA res. 1729 (XVI) provides for the annual convening of the Ad Hoc Committee of the General Assembly for the Announcement of Voluntary Contributions to UNRWA at the so-called UNRWA Pledging Conference. The AdCom meets twice a year, usually in June and November. The Chair and Vice-Chairs, representing a host country and two donor countries, are appointed annually for terms beginning 1 July. Members and Observers meet more regularly through the Sub-Committee of the Advisory Commission, where they aim to assist the AdCom in the fulfilment of its guidance to the Commissioner-General.

Advisory Commission members (29)

Australia (since 2005)

Belgium (since 1953) (Vice-Chair July 2025 to June 2026)

Brazil (since 2014) (Chair July 2025 to June 2026)

Canada (since 2005)

Denmark (since 2005)

Egypt (since 1949) (Vice-Chair July 2025 to June 2026)

Finland (since 2008)

France (since 1949)

Germany (since 2005)

India (since 2020)

Iraq (since 2024)

Ireland (since 2008)

Italy (since 2005)

Japan (since 1973)

Jordan (since 1949)

Kuwait (since 2010)

Lebanon (since 1953)

Luxembourg (since 2012)

Netherlands (since 2005)

Norway (since 2005)

Qatar (since 2019)

Saudi Arabia (since 2005)

Spain (since 2005)

Sweden (since 2005)

Switzerland (since 2005)

Syrian AR (since 1949)

Türkiye (since 1949)

UAE (since 2014)

UK (since 1949)

Observers (4)

European Union (since 2005)

League of Arab States (since 2005)

State of Palestine (since 2005)

Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (since 2019)

UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

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X: [@UNHABITAT](http://www.twitter.com/UNHABITAT)

Instagram: [@UNHABITAT](http://www.instagram.com/UNHABITAT)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/un-habitat-united-nation-human-settlements-programme-](http://www.linkedin.com/company/un-habitat-united-nation-human-settlements-programme-)

Website: [www.unhabitat.org](http://www.unhabitat.org)

Executive Director: Anacláudia Marinheiro Centeno Rossbach, Brazil (elected by the General Assembly in June 2024 and appointed by the UN Secretary-General in June 2024 for a four-year term)

Purpose

UN-Habitat is the leading programme on sustainable urban development and human settlements. It is mandated by the General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities of all sizes, advocating for adequate shelter for all.

UN-Habitat’s objective is to achieve a better quality of life for all in an urbanizing world. Working in over 90 countries, the programme promotes sustainable urbanization as a driver of development and peace to improve living conditions for all. The programme supports a human-rights-based approach to urban development and human settlements that focuses on reduced poverty and spatial inequality, enhanced shared prosperity, climate action and urban environment and effective urban crisis prevention and response. UN-Habitat aims to improve the quality of human settlements, including the living and working conditions of both urban and rural dwellers. It is also tasked with supporting local authorities, increasing public awareness and enhancing the involvement of local people, including vulnerable communities, in decision-making concerning urban issues.

Since the Habitat III conference in October 2016, UN-Habitat is also the lead UN agency for implementation of the New Urban Agenda, a framework to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11 that also addresses other urban dimensions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This framework outlines the ways in which cities should be managed and planned with the aim of providing inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable cities for all.

UN-Habitat’s Strategic Plan for 2020–25\* focuses on four domains of change: reduced spatial inequality and poverty in communities across the urban–rural continuum; enhanced shared prosperity of cities and regions; strengthened climate action and improved urban environment; and effective urban crisis prevention and response. In May 2025, Member States adopted a new Strategic Plan for 2026–29 aimed at addressing the global housing crisis, which affects nearly 3 billion people globally. The plan focuses on enabling access to housing, land and basic services.

The Programme marries normative work with technical cooperation in the field. UN-Habitat helps governments of partner countries at all levels to improve the quality of urban planning and management so that cities can become more resilient against disaster and ensure people can access adequate and affordable housing. UN-Habitat is involved in the large-scale response to humanitarian emergencies, including supporting the overall response to COVID-19 in more than 250 cities, post-explosion recovery in Beirut, the migration crisis in Venezuela and neighbouring countries, post-earthquake reconstructions in Iran, the consequences of conflicts in Afghanistan and Burkina Faso and the aftermath of the earthquake in Myanmar. UN-Habitat prioritizes the poorest and the most vulnerable communities, including people in informal settlements, women, children, youth, migrants and the displaced.

UN-Habitat’s key advocacy initiatives and platforms include the [World Urban Forum](https://wuf.unhabitat.org), a biannual non-legislative event with over 25,000 participants; [Urban October](https://urbanoctober.unhabitat.org), starting with World Habitat Day and ending with World Cities Day; and the [World Urban Campaign](https://www.worldurbancampaign.org), which brings together more than 250 partners from 16 constituencies.

Evolution

Originally known as the UN Centre for Human Settlements, the UN Commission on Human Settlements (Habitat) was established by GA res. [32/162](http://undocs.org/A/RES/32/162) (1977). GA res. [56/206](http://undocs.org/A/RES/56/206) (2001) transformed the Commission and its Secretariat into the Governing Council of the UN Human Settlements Programme, UN-Habitat, a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly under ECOSOC. The other main documents outlining the organization’s mandate are the Vancouver [Declaration](https://unhabitat.org/the-vancouver-declaration-on-human-settlements-from-the-report-of-habitat-united-nations-conference-on-human-settlements-vancouver-canada-31-may-to-11-june-1976) on Human Settlements, Habitat [Agenda](https://docs.un.org/A/CONF.165/14) (para. 222) and Istanbul [Declaration](https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/2014/07/The-Habitat-Agenda-Istanbul-Declaration-on-Human-Settlements-20061.pdf) on Human Settlements (1996), and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium (GA res. [S-25/2](https://undocs.org/A/RES/S-25/2), annex (2001)).

Structure

In December 2018, the General Assembly adopted resolution [73/239](https://www.undocs.org/A/RES/73/239), which dissolved the UN-Habitat [Governing Council](https://unhabitat.org/governance/gc-previous-sessions) as a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly and replaced it with the UN-Habitat Assembly. UN-Habitat has a three-tier governance structure made up of the UN-Habitat [Assembly](https://unhabitat.org/governance/un-habitat-assembly), the [Executive Board](https://unhabitat.org/governance/executive-board) and the Committee of Permanent Representatives ([CPR](https://unhabitat.org/governance/committee-of-permanent-representatives)).

The UN-Habitat Assembly is a universal body composed of all 193 UN Member States. It provides policy guidance on human settlements and sustainable urbanization, as well as strategic oversight of UN-Habitat, and approves the four-year strategic plan.\* It reports every four years to the General Assembly through ECOSOC at its substantive session. Its intersessional bodies are the Executive Board and the CPR. The Executive Board comprises 36 members elected by the UN-Habitat Assembly for a term of four years\* to ensure the accountability, transparency, effectiveness and efficiency of UN-Habitat’s work. It has authority to submit periodic reports to the UN General Assembly through ECOSOC on issues pertinent to the Executive Board’s mandate in years when the UN-Habitat Assembly is not in session. The CPR is composed of all Permanent Representatives of UN Member States and members of the UN specialized agencies that are accredited to UN-Habitat. Its [Bureau](https://unhabitat.org/governance/committee-of-permanent-representatives#Governance-CPR-BureauofCPR) is elected every two years\* and is listed on the website.

UN-Habitat’s budget comes from multilateral and bilateral partners for technical cooperation, governments and other partners, including local authorities and foundations, and about 5 percent from the UN regular budget.

Meetings

The UN-Habitat Assembly (UNHA) meets every four years for five days. Its first meeting was held from 27 to 31 May 2019 and its [second](https://unhabitat.org/governance/un-habitat-assembly/second-session-2023) from 5 to 9 June 2023, both in Nairobi. On 8 June 2023, the Assembly decided to adjourn its second regular session to align UN-Habitat’s planning cycle with the UN’s quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities. The resumed [second session](https://unhabitat.org/governance/un-habitat-assembly/resumed-second-session-2025) was held from 29 to 30 May 2025 in Nairobi. The CPR meets twice every four years in an open-ended manner – once prior to the UN-Habitat Assembly for preparation of the session and a second time for a high-level mid-term review meeting, most recently from 26 to 28 May 2025. The Executive Board meets two to three times a year.

Executive Board Members (36)\*

Previous\* Current

African states (10 seats)

Algeria 2019–25 2025–29

Angola 2019–25

Burkina Faso 2025–29

Burundi 2025–29

Cameroon 2019–25 2025–29

Djibouti 2025–29

DR Congo 2019–25

Egypt 2019–25 2025–29

Ethiopia 2019–25

Kenya 2019–25

Malawi 2019–25

Morocco 2019–25

Mozambique 2025–29

Nigeria 2019–25 2025–29

Senegal 2019–25

Somalia 2025–29

Zimbabwe 2025–29

Asia–Pacific states (8 seats)\*

Bahrain 2021–25\*

China 2019–25 2025–29

India 2019–25

Indonesia 2019–21\* 2025–29

Iran 2019–25 2025–29

Iraq 2025–29

Japan 2019–25 2025–29

Pakistan 2019–25 2025–29

ROK 2019–25 2025–29

Sri Lanka 2019–25

UAE 2025–27\*

Eastern European states (4 seats)

Azerbaijan 2025–29

Poland 2019–25

Romania 2019–25

Russian Federation 2019–25 2025–29

Serbia 2019–25

Slovakia 2025–29

Ukraine 2025–29

Latin American and Caribbean states (6 seats)

Argentina 2019–25

Barbados 2025–29

Brazil 2019–25 2025–29

Chile 2019–25

Colombia 2025–29

Costa Rica 2019–25

Mexico 2019–25 2025–29

Peru 2025–29

Uruguay 2019–25 2025–29

Western European and Other states (8 seats)\*

Canada 2019–25

France 2019–25 2025–29

Germany 2019–25 2025–29

Portugal 2019–25 2025–29

Spain 2019–25 2025–29

Sweden 2019–25 2025–29

Türkiye 2019–25 2025–29

USA 2019–25 2025–29

Previous Governing Council Members (until May 2019)

African states (16 seats)

Algeria 1983–85 1996–2003 11–14

Angola 2016–191

Benin 1978–80 1996–2003 13–191

Botswana 1985–95

Burkina Faso 2003–06 08–11 12–15

Burundi 1978–83 85–91 2003–10

Cameroon 1979–81 1987–2002 191

Central African Republic 1978–80 84–86 2011–14

Chad 2016–191

Congo 2004–11 12–15

Côte d’Ivoire 2009–12

DR Congo 1986–88 1999–2006 15–18

Egypt 1977–82 88–94 2001–04 15–18

Equatorial Guinea 2007–10

Eswatini 1981–83 86–92 2004–11

Ethiopia 1997–2004 09–12

Gabon 1984–90 1995–2002 11–14 15–18

Gambia 1995–2002

Ghana 1984–86 92–95 2005–08 15–18

Guinea 1981–86 2001–04

Kenya 1979–2003 04–11 16–191

Lesotho 1980–82 85–87 89–96 2012–15

Liberia 1982–84 1997–2000 191

Libya 1983–85 93–96 2005–08 17–191

Madagascar 1987–90 93–96 2001–04 13–191

Malawi 1979–81 1986–2000 03–06

Mali 1999–2002 11–14

Mauritania 2007–10 191

Mauritius 2017–191

Morocco 1982–84 86–88 2000–03 13–16

Mozambique 2011–14

Namibia 1997–2000

Niger 2007–10

Nigeria 1977–88 91–98 2004–07 11–14 16–191

Rwanda 1978–80 84–86 2005–12

Senegal 1979–81 1999–2010 15–18

Sierra Leone 1977–85 87–94 2003–06

Somalia 1981–83 89–96 2013–191

South Africa 2004–07 12–191

Sudan 1978–80 82–84 92–99 2009–12

Togo 1979–81 87–90

Tunisia 1977–79 85–87 89–92 96–99 2009–12

Uganda 1977–85 87–98 2000–03 05–08 13–16

UR of Tanzania 1978–86 88–95 2001–04 05–08 12–15

Zambia 1981–83 1997–2000 08–11 191

Zimbabwe 1982–84 91–98 2007–10 15–18

Asia–Pacific states (13 seats)

Afghanistan2 2009–12 17–191

Bahrain 2008–11 12–191

Bangladesh 1979–94 1997–2004 05–16

China 1989–2004 05–191

Cyprus 1982–91

India 1979–2011 12–191

Indonesia 1980–2000 03–18

Iran 1978–80 1988–20191

Iraq 1977–81 84–86 89–92 2001–04 08–11 15–191

Japan 1978–20191

Jordan 1979–2007 12–15

Kazakhstan 1995–98 191

Lebanon 1983–85

Malaysia 1977–88 92–95 2000–03 16–191

Nepal 1988

Pakistan 1978–2014

Papua New Guinea 1977–85 93–96

Philippines 1978–90 1992–2007

ROK 1997–2000 09–16 17–191

Saudi Arabia 2004–11 12–191

Sri Lanka 1979–2011 13–191

Syrian AR 1977–79 81–83 89–92

Thailand 2012–15

Turkmenistan 2016–191

UAE 1993–99 2001–04 05–08

Viet Nam 1979–81 1999–2000

Eastern European states (6 seats)3

Albania 2011–14

Armenia 2009–12

Azerbaijan 1993–96

Belarus 1982–84 88–95 1997–2000 04–07 14–16

Bulgaria 1977–79 81–90 92–99 2004–07

Croatia 2000–03 17–191

Czechia 1996–2003 05–12 17–191

Georgia 2015–191

Hungary 1980–96

Lithuania 1999–2002

North Macedonia 2001–04

Poland 1979–81 86–88 90–91 1997–2000 03–10 191

Republic of Moldova 2001–04

Romania 1982–84 91–98 2008–11 14–16

Russian Federation 1978–20191

Serbia 2008–11 15–191

Slovakia 2005–08 15–18

Ukraine 1985–87

Latin American and Caribbean states (10 seats)

Antigua and Barbuda 1991–94 2005–16

Argentina 1978–83 87–90 1999–20191

Bahamas 1993–96

Barbados 1981–83 1992–2003

Bolivia 1982–84 86–92 1999–2002

Brazil 1987–2006 08–11 12–191

Chile 1979–87 1991–2014 16–191

Colombia 1977–85 1987–2003 13–191

Costa Rica 1995–98 2004–07

Cuba 1977–85 2009–12

Dominican Republic 1986–88 95–98

Ecuador 1978–80 87–90 1997–2000 03–06 15–18

El Salvador 1982–84 2013–16

Grenada 2007–14

Guatemala 1979–81 89–92 2009–12 15–18

Haiti 1984–86 92–95 2001–04 05–08 12–15

Honduras 1984–86 2008–11

Jamaica 1978–83 85–91 1993–2004 08–11

Mexico 1978–83 1985–2007 12–191

Nicaragua 1984–86

Panama 1986–88

Paraguay 1989–92 2004–07 17–191

Peru 1977–85 88–91

Trinidad and Tobago 2001–08

Uruguay 2015–18

Venezuela 1979–81 84–86 1993–2000 07–14

Western European and Other states (13 seats)

Australia 1979–81

Austria 1977–79 92–95 2001–04

Belgium 1980–82 1997–2004 05–08

Canada 1977–96 2005–08

Denmark 1981–83 86–91 96–99

Finland 1977–79 1981–2002 07–18

France 1977–2004 05–191

Germany 1979–2007 08–11 12–191

Greece 1979–2007

Israel 2004–11 12–191

Italy 1979–84 1986–2004 07–10 12–15

Netherlands 1977–2000 03–10

New Zealand 1982–84

Norway 1980–2003 05–16 17–191

Portugal 1978–80

Spain 1981–86 1996–2007 09–16 17–191

Sweden 1978–80 1983–2004 05–08 11–14 16–191

Türkiye 1984–2006 11–14 17–191

UK 1978–80 1987–2006

USA 1978–2018

Bureau of the UN-Habitat Assembly (2025–29)\*

President

Malaysia (2025–27)\*

Vice-Presidents

Ethiopia

Vacant, Eastern European states

Vacant, Western European and Other states

Rapporteur

Mexico

Notes

\* In June 2023, the second UN-Habitat Assembly (UNHA2) decided to extend the [2020–23 Strategic Plan](https://unhabitat.org/sites/default/files/documents/2019-09/strategic_plan_2020-2023.pdf) until 2025 to align UN-Habitat’s planning cycle with the UN’s quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities. It also extended the terms of the Executive Board and Bureau members for an additional two years, until the close of the resumed UNHA2 in May 2025. Bahrain and Indonesia shared a seat on the Executive Board for the 2019–23 term, with Indonesia serving from 2019 to 2021 and Bahrain from 2021 to 2023 (extended to 2025).

In May 2025, at the resumed session of UNHA2, Malaysia and UAE were elected to share the 2025–29 Presidency, with Malaysia serving 2025–27 and UAE 2027–29. The two countries will also share a seat on the Executive Board, with the UAE serving 2025–27 and Malaysia 2027–29. As at 1 July 2025, there were two vacancies on the Executive Board, one from the Eastern European states group and one from the Western European and Other states group.

1 Term ended in May 2019, when the Governing Council was dissolved pursuant to GA res. [73/239](https://www.undocs.org/A/RES/73/239) (2018).

2 Afghanistan’s 2009–12 term began 15 December 2009.

3 The former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia served on the Governing Council from 1978 to 1980 and from 1989 to 1992. It was not automatically succeeded by any of the new states created following its dissolution. Czechoslovakia served on the Governing Council from 1979 to 1981.

World Food Programme (WFP)

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X: [@WFP](http://www.twitter.com/WFP)

Website: [www.wfp.org](http://www.wfp.org) and <http://executiveboard.wfp.org>

Executive Director: Cindy McCain, USA (appointed jointly by the UN Secretary-General and FAO Director-General in March 2023 for a five-year term)

Purpose

WFP aims to save and change lives. It is among the first on the scene in an emergency, providing food and other assistance to the victims of conflict, drought, floods, earthquakes, hurricanes and crop failures, along with outbreaks and pandemics such as COVID-19. At the same time, it keeps a sharp focus on sustainable development, providing governments with the support and skills to manage food security in the long term. The WFP [Strategic Plan](https://www.wfp.org/publications/wfp-strategic-plan-2022-25) (2022–25) aligns WFP with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, focusing on ending hunger and contributing to revitalized global partnerships to implement the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It sets out WFP’s vision to lift the most vulnerable and marginalized people out of hunger through all of us working together.

Evolution

WFP was established in 1961 by the General Assembly and UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) Conference as the UN system’s food aid organization. In 2008, WFP was transformed from a food aid organization to a food assistance organization. By GA res. [50/227](http://undocs.org/A/RES/50/227) (1995), the FAO and the WFP absorbed the functions of the World Food Council, which was discontinued.

Structure

The [Executive Board](https://executiveboard.wfp.org) provides intergovernmental support for, policy direction to, and oversight and supervision of, WFP’s activities. It reports to ECOSOC and the FAO Council on its yearly activities. The Board became effective on 1 January 1996. It replaced the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes (CFA), which had been established in 1975 by General Assembly resolutions and the FAO Conference on the recommendation of the 1974 World Food Conference. The CFA had replaced the WFP’s Intergovernment Committee (IGC).

Governing body membership was reduced from 42 to 36 when the Executive Board was created. Eighteen members are elected by ECOSOC, usually in April/May, and 18 by the FAO Council, usually in November, from among UN Member States and FAO Member Nations, as set out in Appendix A of the [General Regulations](https://documents.wfp.org/stellent/groups/public/documents/govman/wfp268125.pdf). The distribution of seats is set out in Appendix B of the General Regulations (or see ‘Distribution of Seats’ at [http://executiveboard.wfp.org](http://executiveboard.wfp.org/state-members-and-distribution-seats)). Each member serves a three-year term, ending 31 December, and is eligible for re-election. The Board elects a [bureau](https://executiveboard.wfp.org/executive-board-bureau) at its first session each year, comprising a president, vice-president, three other members and alternates.

WFP is funded by voluntary contributions from governments, corporates and individuals. In 2024, it received US$9.4 billion in contributions, which accounted for 54 percent of its operational requirements of $18.2 billion. Due to the compounded effects of conflict, extreme climate events and economic downturns, as many as 343 million people are facing acute levels of food insecurity in 74 countries with WFP operations and where data is available.

Meetings

The Executive Board meets three times a year in Rome.

Executive Board members (36)\*

‘Term ends’ relates to the standard three-year period. Members may stand down for one or two years within this period, offering their seat to another state member.

Term ends 31 Dec 2025

Elected by ECOSOC

Algeria1

Ethiopia

France

Iran

Italy

Panama

Elected by the FAO Council

Brazil

Canada

Chad2

Germany

Kenya

Saudi Arabia

Term ends 31 Dec 2026

Elected by ECOSOC

China

Dominican Republic

Japan

Poland

UK

Zambia

Elected by the FAO Council

Gabon3

Hungary

Ireland

Mexico4

Morocco5

Switzerland

Term ends 31 Dec 2027

Elected by ECOSOC

Czechia

India

Mali

Norway

ROK

Sweden

Elected by the FAO Council

Colombia6

Côte d’Ivoire7

Kuwait8

Luxembourg9

Qatar8

USA

Bureau for 2025

President

Elissa Golberg, Canada (List D)

Vice-President

Berioska Morrison Gonzalez, Dominican Republic (List C)

Members

Roman Diatka, Czechia (List E)

Balaji Jujjavarapu, India (List B)

Fredrick Lusambili Matwang’a, Kenya (List A)

Alternates

List A: Patricia Chisanga Kondolo, Zambia

List B: Manar Sabah Mouhammad Al-Sabah, Kuwait

List C: Vicente Amaral Bezerra, Brazil

List D: Andreas von Brandt, Germany

List E: Zsolt Belánszky-Demkó, Hungary

Notes

\* On 4 April 2025, ECOSOC elected three members to three-year terms beginning on 1 January 2026 and expiring on 31 December 2028: Cuba, Gabon and Kenya (African states). On 10 June 2025, ECOSOC elected Australia and Belgium (Western European and Other states) for the same term. It postponed the election of one further member for the same term.

The [rotating seat](https://executiveboard.wfp.org/state-members-and-distribution-seats) is to be occupied by a country of: List C Fourth Term 2021/2022/2023, List A Fifth Term 2024/2025/2026, and List B Sixth Term 2027/2028/2029.

1 On 5 December 2023, ECOSOC elected Algeria to complete the term of Mauritania, beginning on 1 January 2024 and expiring on 31 December 2025.

2 Gabon and Chad reached an agreement to share a seat, with Gabon serving from 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2024 and Chad from 1 July 2024 to 31 December 2025.

3 Zimbabwe and Gabon reached an agreement to share a seat, with Zimbabwe serving in 2024 and Gabon serving in 2025 and 2026.

4 Argentina, Mexico and Chile reached an agreement to share a seat, with Argentina serving in 2024, Mexico in 2025 and Chile in 2026.

5 Morocco and Egypt reached an agreement to share a seat, with Morocco serving in 2024 and 2025 and Egypt in 2026.

6 Colombia and El Salvador reached an agreement to share a seat, with Colombia serving in 2025 and El Salvador in 2026 and 2027.

7 Côte d’Ivoire and Nigeria reached an agreement to share a seat, with Côte d’Ivoire serving from 1 January 2025 to 30 June 2026 and Nigeria from 1 July 2026 to 31 December 2027.

8 Bangladesh, Kuwait and Qatar reached an agreement to share two seats, with Bangladesh serving in 2026 and 2027, Kuwait in 2025 and 2027, and Qatar in 2025 and 2026.

9 Luxembourg and Finland reached an agreement to share a seat, with Luxembourg serving in 2025 and Finland in 2026 and 2027.

#### Other UN Entities

##### Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

##### 20 Avenue Appia

##### 1211 Geneva 27

##### Switzerland

##### Telephone: +41 22 791 3666

##### Fax: +41 22 791 4187

##### Email: [communications@unaids.org](mailto:communications@unaids.org)

##### Website: [www.unaids.org](http://www.unaids.org/en)

##### Executive Director: Winnie Byanyima, Uganda (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in August 2019)

Purpose

UNAIDS brings together 11 UN system organizations and a secretariat to help prevent new HIV infections, care for people living with HIV and mitigate the impact of the epidemic.

The Joint Programme was formally established through ECOSOC res. [1994/24](https://data.unaids.org/pub/externaldocument/1994/19940726_ecosoc_resolutions_establishing_unaids_en.pdf). UNAIDS began operation on 1 January 1996. In the preceding year, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the six original Cosponsors of UNAIDS:

* UN Development Programme (UNDP)
* UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
* UN Population Fund (UNFPA)
* World Health Organization (WHO)
* UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

World Bank.

The following agencies joined in 1999, 2001, 2003, 2004 and 2012 respectively:

* UN International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), which is now an integral part of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
* International Labour Organization (ILO)
* World Food Programme (WFP)
* Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women).

In March 2021, the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) adopted the [Global AIDS Strategy 2021–2026 – End Inequalities. End AIDS](https://www.unaids.org/en/Global-AIDS-Strategy-2021-2026). To close the gaps that are preventing progress towards ending AIDS, the Strategy aims to reduce these inequalities that drive the AIDS epidemic and prioritize people who are not yet accessing life-saving HIV services. It sets out evidence-based priority actions and bold targets to get every country and every community on track to end AIDS as a public health threat by 2030. The [Global Aids Strategy 2026–2031](https://www.unaids.org/en/2026-2031-global-aids-strategy) is under development, and will be put forward to the 57th PCB Meeting in December 2025 for adoption.

Structure

The organization is guided by the [PCB](https://www.unaids.org/en/whoweare/pcb), which serves as its governing body. This comprises 22 UN Member States, five non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the 11 Cosponsors. The states are elected by ECOSOC based on equitable geographical distribution, as noted in the list of [Board members](https://www.unaids.org/en/resources/documents/2025/PCB_composition). Terms usually last three years, beginning on 1 January and ending 31 December of the years shown in the list. Previous [members](https://www.unaids.org/en/resources/documents/2024/PCB-membership-timeline) are listed on the website.

The five NGOs, three from developing countries and two from developed countries or countries with economies in transition, represent the perspectives of civil society, including people living with HIV. The NGO representatives serve for up to three years and have non-voting status. The five organizations have one representative each and are supported by five other NGOs, which stand as alternate members. The [members](https://www.unaids.org/en/aboutunaids/unaidsprogrammecoordinatingboard/ngocivilsocietyparticipationinpcb) of the PCB’s NGO delegation are listed on the website.

The UNAIDS Secretariat has offices in more than 70 countries.1 The headquarters are in Geneva.

Board members (22)\*

African states (5 seats)

Burundi 2024–26

Kenya 2023–25

Lesotho 2025–27

Libya 2023–25

Senegal 2025–27

Asia–Pacific states (5 seats)

Cambodia 2023–25

China 2025–27

India 2023–25

Iran 2024–26

Philippines 2025–27\*

Eastern European states (2 seats)

Belarus 2023–25

Poland 2025–27

Latin American and Caribbean states (3 seats)

Brazil 2023–25

Haiti 2025–27

Mexico 2024–26

Western European and Other states (7 seats)2

Canada 2025–262

Finland 2024–26

France 2024–252

Netherlands 2025–27

Portugal 2025–27

UK 2025–27

USA 2023–25

NGO delegation 2025

Africa: Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) Alliance Uganda / Humanity First Cameroon Plus

Asia–Pacific: Youth LEAD (Asia-Pacific Network for Young Key Populations) / India HIV/AIDS Alliance

Europe: Frontline AIDS / Trans Europe and Central Asia

Latin America–Caribbean: Jamaica AIDS Support for Life (JASL) / Llanto, Valor y Esfuerzo (LLAVES)

North America: LetsStopAIDS / National Native American AIDS Prevention Center (NNAAPC)

Committee of Cosponsoring Organizations (CCO)

[CCO](http://www.unaids.org/en/aboutunaids/unaidscosponsors/) comprises representatives from the 11 Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) C[osponsors](https://www.unaids.org/en/aboutunaids/unaidscosponsors) and the UNAIDS Secretariat. It serves as the forum for the cosponsoring organizations to meet on a regular basis to consider matters concerning UNAIDS and provide input into its policies and strategies. The CCO comprises executive heads, or their designated representatives, and serves as a standing committee of the Programme Coordination Board (PCB). Each co-sponsor rotates as chair annually. The Chair for 2025 is ILO.

Notes

\* On 4 April 2025, ECOSOC elected Kenya and Ukraine for a three-year term beginning 1 January 2026. It also elected the Philippines to complete the term of Japan, from 4 April 2025 to 31 December 2027. On 10 June 2025, ECOSOC elected Brazil and Cambodia for a three-year term beginning 1 January 2026. It postponed the election of four members for the same term.

1 In June 2025, the PCB endorsed a revised operating model of the Joint Programme. The PCB also took note of the restructuring of the UNAIDS Secretariat, which included the reduction to offices in 35 countries and a focus on four core functions: leadership; convening and coordination; accountability; and community engagement.

2 The Western European and Other states group (WEOG) has its own rotation scheme. Terms in the list reflect the rotation scheme as at July 2025. Germany relinquished its seat effective 31 December 2023 and France was elected to complete its term (ending 31 December 2025). Australia relinquished its seat effective 31 December 2024 and Canada was elected to complete its term (ending 31 December 2026).

UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS)

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Social media: [www.unops.org/about/social-media-accounts](http://www.unops.org/about/social-media-accounts)

Website: [www.unops.org](http://www.unops.org)

Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director: Jorge Moreira da Silva, Portugal (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in March 2023)

Purpose

UNOPS helps the UN and its partners provide peace and security, humanitarian and development solutions. The organization is focused on implementation, and committed to UN values and private sector efficiency. Partners call on UNOPS to supplement their own capacities, improve speed, reduce risks, boost cost-effectiveness and increase quality. In 2024, UNOPS delivered $2.7 billion worth of support to partners.

The UNOPS S[trategic Plan](https://undocs.org/DP/OPS/2023/6) 2022–25 is focused on implementation for impact. It provides direction to support Member States and the Secretary-General in realizing sustainable development and more peaceful, just and equitable societies. The strategic plan is structured around three contribution goals: to enable partners through efficient management support services; to help people through effective specialized technical expertise; and to support countries in expanding the pool and effect of resources.

Structure

Established as part of the UN Development Programme (UNDP) in 1974, UNOPS became an independent self-financing organization in 1995. An updated governance structure was endorsed by GA res. [65/176](http://undocs.org/A/RES/65/176) of December 2010, confirming a series of decisions and policies developed by the Executive Board during the previous four years to make UNOPS more accountable and transparent.

In the same resolution, the General Assembly also decided to rename the Executive Board to include UNOPS in its title, making it the Executive Board of the UNDP, UN Population Fund (UNFPA) and UNOPS. It endorsed an earlier decision whereby the Executive Director reports directly to the UN Secretary-General and the Executive Board, and has the authority to sign host country agreements and appoint UNOPS representatives in the field. For more information about the Executive Board, see the [website](https://www.unops.org/about/governance/executive-board) under ‘About Us’, ‘Governance’ and ‘Executive Board’.

Other key decisions by the Executive Board that have helped transform the organization include the Financial Regulations and Rules, which govern the financial management of UNOPS, and the 2014–17 Strategic Plan, which defined UNOPS’ position in the UN and its goals. The full text of the legislative documents can be found in GA res. [65/176](http://undocs.org/A/RES/65/176) (2010), ECOSOC res. [2010/23](https://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/docs/2010/res%202010-23.pdf) and Executive Board [decisions](https://www.undp.org/executive-board/decisions-of-the-board) 2008/35, 2009/25, 2010/7 and 2010/21.

UNOPS operates on a full cost-recovery basis from fees earned for services rendered, with no assessed or voluntary budget funding. The management fees are determined on a case-by-case basis and take into account the level of effort, complexity and risk of the services delivered.

#### Research and Training Institutes

UN Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR)

##### Palais des Nations

##### 1211 Geneva 10

##### Switzerland

##### Telephone: +41 22 917 1141

##### Email: [unidir@un.org](mailto:unidir%40un.org?subject=)

##### Website: [www.unidir.org](http://www.unidir.org)

##### Director: Robin Geiss, Germany (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in consultation with the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters, effective April 2021)

Purpose

UNIDIR is an autonomous body of the UN established by the General Assembly to carry out independent research on disarmament and related international security issues. It was established in 1980 and its Statute approved by the General Assembly in res. [39/148H](http://undocs.org/A/RES/39/148) (1984). Member States have mandated the Institute to provide analysis on international security and disarmament; build the capacity of all states to participate in disarmament efforts; assist negotiations and efforts towards greater security at lower levels of armaments; and conduct forward-looking research on longer-term issues. UNIDIR’s programme of work covers weapons of mass destruction; conventional weapons and ammunition; security and technology (including artificial intelligence and cybersecurity); space security; gender and disarmament; exits from armed conflict; and regional security in the Middle East. UNIDIR offers research and analysis, expertise and advisory services on the full range of security issues of interest to Member States.

UNIDIR also supports UN agencies and multilateral processes through research, recommendations and the development of digital tools designed to foster mutual trust and improve programming and implementation (such as the [Cyber Policy Portal](https://cyberpolicyportal.org/), the [AI Policy Portal](https://aipolicyportal.org/), the [Space Security Portal](https://spacesecurityportal.org/), the [Space Security Lexicon](https://spacesecuritylexicon.org) and the [BWC National Implementation Measures Database](https://bwcimplementation.org/)). It organizes four flagship annual conferences on the key issues of [AI in the military domain](https://unidir.org/event/global-conference-on-ai-security-and-ethics-2025/), [cyber stability](https://unidir.org/event/cyber-stability-conference-2025/), [security-related tech innovations](https://unidir.org/event/2025-innovations-dialogue-neurotechnologies-and-their-implications-for-international-peace-and-security/) and [security in outer space](https://unidir.org/event/outer-space-security-conference-2025/).

The Institute is primarily funded by voluntary contributions from UN Member States and foundations and receives a small contribution from the UN budget.

Structure

The UN Secretary-General’s Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters functions as UNIDIR’s [Board of Trustees](https://unidir.org/who-we-are/about-unidir/). Members are listed on the [website](https://unidir.org/who-we-are/about-unidir/). The UNIDIR Director reports annually to the General Assembly on the Institute’s activities.

United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC)

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I–10127 Turin

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Website: [www.unssc.org](http://www.unssc.org)

Acting Director: Miguel Panadero, Spain (since February 2025)

Purpose

UNSSC is the inter-agency learning institution for the UN. It offers face-to-face courses; e-learning opportunities; knowledge-sharing activities; knowledge-management products; advisory services; tailor-made learning programmes; and academic partnerships. UNSSC’s common online learning platform serves over 60 percent of UN personnel, enhancing coherence, reducing duplication, and contributing to cost savings across the system. Learning areas include: leadership and management development; sustainable development; change management and innovation; sustaining peace; safety and security; and core professional skills such as writing skills, communications and project management.

The Staff College was established by the UN General Assembly in 2001 (GA res. [55/278](http://undocs.org/A/RES/55/278)) and began to operate as a distinct UN learning and training institution in January 2002.

Structure

The Staff College is headquartered in Turin, Italy, with an office in Bonn, Germany. It is headed by a Director and governed by a Board of Governors, chaired by the UN Secretary-General’s Chef de Cabinet. The Board is composed of nine UN representatives at the director level or above. Members are appointed by the UN Secretary-General, in consultation with the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB), for a two-year period with the possibility of a one-year extension. [Members](https://www.unssc.org/about/board-governors) are listed on the UNSSC website.

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X: [@UNITAR](http://www.twitter.com/UNITAR)

Website: <https://unitar.org>

Executive Director: Michelle Gyles-McDonnough, Jamaica (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in December 2024; assumed position in February 2025)

Purpose

UNITAR is a dedicated training arm of the UN, established in 1963 by General Assembly res. [1934](http://undocs.org/A/RES/1934(XVIII)) (XVIII) (1963) for the purpose of enhancing the effectiveness of the UN in achieving the major objectives of the Organization through training and research. The Institute’s mission is to develop the individual, institutional and organizational capacities of countries and other UN stakeholders through high-quality learning solutions and related knowledge products and services to enhance decision-making and to support country-level action for overcoming global challenges.

UNITAR delivers close to 1500 training and capacity development programmes annually, benefiting over half a million learners, on the topics related to the four pillars of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Peace, People, Planet and Prosperity). The Institute also supports countries in strengthening national institutions for building capacity at all levels and fostering the participation of Member States in global governance, and optimizes the use of technology and support coherence for the 2030 Agenda. Beneficiaries of UNITAR training programmes are mainly government officials from UN Member States, representatives from international organizations, non-governmental organizations, academia, private sector, and other UN agencies. The Institute is committed to ensuring that its activities reach the furthest first, and leave no one behind, with special attention to least developed countries (LDCs), small island developing states (SIDS) and other groups and communities that are most vulnerable, including those in conflict situations.

Parallel to its learning-specific services, the Institute also engages in training-related and advisory services to support governments and other actors in the achievement of broader social and economic outcomes, such as strengthened multi-stakeholder participation in environmental decision-making and the early ratification and implementation of environmental agreements.

The Institute also delivers research-related results and knowledge products. Through its UN Satellite Centre ([UNOSAT](https://unitar.org/sustainable-development-goals/united-nations-satellite-centre-UNOSAT)), UNITAR provides geospatial information to support the international humanitarian community in decision-making and operational coordination in the field. Its Sustainable Cycles ([SCYCLE](https://www.scycle.info/)) programme focuses on the development of sustainable production, consumption and disposal patterns for electrical and electronic equipment (EEE), as well as other ubiquitous goods.

Structure

UNITAR’s headquarters are in Geneva, with out-posted offices in New York, Hiroshima and Bonn. It also has UNITAR-UNOSAT offices in Bangkok and Nairobi, and a network of affiliated local authority training centres around the world.

The [Board of Trustees](https://unitar.org/about/unitar/governance/board-trustees) is the Institute’s governing body and meets at least once a year. It approves the work programme and budget, and formulates principles and policies that govern the Institute’s activities and operations. Board members are appointed by the UN Secretary-General in consultation with the General Assembly Presidents and ECOSOC. Members are listed on the UNITAR [website](https://unitar.org/about/unitar/governance/board-trustees).

UN Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI)

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/unicri.it/](http://www.facebook.com/unicri.it/)

X: [@UNICRI](http://www.twitter.com/UNICRI)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/unicri/](http://www.linkedin.com/company/unicri/)

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/user/UNICRIHQ](http://www.youtube.com/user/UNICRIHQ)

Flickr: [www.flickr.com/photos/unicri](http://www.flickr.com/photos/unicri)

Website: [www.unicri.org](http://www.unicri.org) and [www.onuitalia.it](http://www.onuitalia.it)

Acting Director: Leif Villadsen, Denmark (since February 2024)

Purpose

UNICRI is an autonomous research and training institute within the UN system, dedicated to advancing knowledge and capacity in both established and emerging areas of justice, crime prevention, security, and the rule of law, in support of peace, stability, and the protection of human rights. The Institute was established in 1968 pursuant to ECOSOC res. [1086 B](https://undocs.org/E/RES/1086(XXXIX)) (XXXIX) (1965), which urged an expansion of UN activities in crime prevention and criminal justice. UNICRI works in specialized niches and selected fields of crime prevention, justice, security governance, counter-terrorism, the risks and opportunities of technological advances, chemical, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) risk mitigation, environmental crime, prison reform, women’s empowerment and social cohesion. It serves as a platform for consultation and cooperation, bringing together partners such as Member States, local governments, academic and research institutions, regional and international organizations, private entities and civil society at large, in forging a common approach to addressing common challenges.

The Institute supports the design and implementation of holistic and innovative processes to confront traditional and emerging threats, at both national and cross-border levels through specialized, action-oriented research and capacity-building. Its work includes assessing countries’ threats and needs, generating and disseminating knowledge, delivering tailored training programmes and fostering international cooperation. UNICRI also provides expert advisory services, facilitates platforms for dialogue and coordination, and serves as a global hub for testing and promoting effective strategies and practical models.

The Institute’s current priority areas, as outlined in its [Strategic Programme Framework 2023–2026](https://unicri.it/institute/about_unicri/strategic_framework_2023_2026), are: preventing and countering transnational security threats, terrorism and points of nexus; countering criminal enterprises, illicit financial flows and corrupt practices; promoting the rule of law and safeguarding access to justice; and promoting responsible use of new and emerging technologies to address crime and exploitation. UNICRI’s priorities are particularly aligned with the Pact for the Future and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)16, which entails the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies, access to justice and building effective and accountable institutions, as well as with SDGs 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 14 and 15. Research and technical tools produced by the Institute are available on the website under ‘[Publications](https://unicri.it/index.php/publications)’.

Structure

UNICRI is governed by a Board of Trustees composed of eminent experts. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) selects seven members, on the principle of equitable geographical distribution, for five-year rotating terms. They are nominated by the UN Secretary-General and endorsed by ECOSOC, and serve in their personal capacity. The four ex officio members are: a representative of the UN Secretary-General; a representative of the UN Development Programme Administrator; a representative of the host country (Italy); and the Director of UNICRI. The elected members are listed on the [website](http://www.unicri.it/governing-body). The Board of Trustees [reports](https://docs.un.org/E/CN.15/2025/9) annually on UNICRI’s work to ECOSOC.

Headquartered in Turin, Italy, UNICRI works with an extended network of offices, including liaison offices in Rome, Brussels and New York; project offices in Geneva and The Hague; and the [EU Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Risk Mitigation Centres of Excellence](https://unicri.org/topics/EU/CBRN/CoE) Secretariats in Abu Dhabi, UAE; Algiers, Algeria; Amman, Jordan; Manila, Philippines; Nairobi, Kenya; Rabat, Morocco; Tashkent, Uzbekistan; and Tbilisi, Georgia.

UN Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD)

Palais des Nations

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Email: [info.unrisd@un.org](mailto:info.unrisd%40un.org?subject=)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/unrisd](http://www.facebook.com/unrisd)

X: [@UNRISD](http://www.twitter.com/UNRISD)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/unrisd](http://www.linkedin.com/company/unrisd)

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/unrisd](http://www.youtube.com/unrisd)

Instagram: [@UNRISD](https://www.instagram.com/unrisd/)

Bluesky: [@unrisd.org](https://web-cdn.bsky.app/profile/did:plc:7h54pfkalfhbukkekuuujisb)

Website: [www.unrisd.org](http://www.unrisd.org)

Director: Magdalena Sepúlveda Carmona, Chile (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in November 2024)

Purpose

UNRISD is an autonomous research institute within the UN system that undertakes cutting-edge interdisciplinary research and policy analysis on the social dimensions of contemporary development issues ([ST/SGB/126](http://undocs.org/ST/SGB/126)). Since 1963, UNRISD has addressed challenging questions on power, politics and distribution to inform UN agencies, Member States and development actors.

The Institute works with a global network of academic, policy, practitioner and activist communities in developed and developing countries, with the aim of positioning social equity, inclusion and justice at the forefront of development thinking, policy and practice.

A hallmark of UNRISD’s work is the understanding of social development as a process of transformative change – in social and power relations, policies, systems, structures and institutions, and in individuals themselves – that leads to the realization of economic and social well-being within the boundaries of planetary resources.

UNRISD makes evidence-based contributions to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, focusing on inclusion, institutions, intersections and innovations for transformative change. Under the 2021–25 institutional strategy, [Overcoming Inequalities: Towards a New Eco-Social Contract](https://www.unrisd.org/en/about/our-strategy), the Institute operates in five areas: transformative social policy; gender justice and development; alternative economies for transformation; environmental and climate justice; and translating research into policy and practice (Bonn Programme).

UNRISD flagship reports are recognized for catalysing development debates and shaping policies. The most recent edition, [Crises of Inequality: Shifting Power for a New Eco-Social Contract](https://www.unrisd.org/en/library/publications/crises-of-inequality), was published in October 2022.

Structure

UNRISD is funded entirely through voluntary contributions and is guided by a Board of independent academic advisors. The Board is composed of a chair appointed by the Secretary-General; up to 10 members nominated by the Commission for Social Development and confirmed by ECOSOC, who serve in their personal capacities for four-year terms with the possibility of extension for two years; and the Director of the Institute (ex officio). The appointed members are listed on the [website](https://www.unrisd.org/en/about/our-team).

UNRISD reports biennially to ECOSOC via the Commission for Social Development (its 2023–24 report is [E/CN.5/2025/9](https://undocs.org/E/CN.5/2025/9)).

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X: [@UNUniversity](http://www.twitter.com/ununiversity)

Instagram: [@un\_university](http://www.instagram.com/un_university)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/united-nations-university](http://www.linkedin.com/company/united-nations-university)

Website: <http://unu.edu>

Rector: Tshilidzi Marwala, South Africa (since March 2023; appointed by the UN Secretary-General, with the concurrence of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Director-General, in July 2022)

Purpose

UNU was established by GA res. [2951](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2951(XXVII)) (XXVII) (1972) as an autonomous organ of the UN General Assembly. UNU functions as a think tank for the UN system. It is a platform for new and creative ideas, as well as academic and policy dialogue, and informs UN policy processes through evidence-based research. The University acts as a bridge between the UN and the global academic community, translating science-based research findings into accessible, policy-relevant analyses and recommendations. Through its training and capacity development activities, UNU seeks to enhance the capacity for self-sustained learning by individuals, particularly in developing and transitional countries, and to strengthen global academic and scientific communities.

Structure

UNU operates as a [system](https://unu.edu/about/unu-system) of academic institutions rather than as an intergovernmental organization. It comprises a central programming and coordinating body, UNU Centre, headquartered in Tokyo, along with a decentralized network of 13 research and training institutes and programmes located in 12 UN Member States.

The governing [Council](http://unu.edu/about/unu-council) is composed of appointed members serving in their individual capacities, the UNU Rector and three ex officio members (the UN Secretary-General; UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Director-General; and UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Executive Director). The Council reports regularly, through the UN Secretary-General to the UN General Assembly and ECOSOC, and through the UNESCO Director-General to the UNESCO Executive Board.

UNU is financed by investment income derived from its endowment fund and by voluntary contributions from governments, international organizations, foundations, universities and other sources.

Meetings

The Council meets in a regular session twice a year.

Appointed Council members (12)

2022–28

Yamini Aiyar, India

Hilary Beckles, Barbados (Chair 2025–28)

Catherine Kyobutungi, Uganda

Kuni Sato, Japan

Vanessa Scherrer, France

Mónica Serrano, Mexico1

2025–31

Louise Fawcett, UK/Ireland

Francisco H G Ferreira, Brazil

Hauke Reiner Heekeren, Germany

Mu Rongping, China

Jane Catherine Ngila, Kenya

Shuvai Busuman Nyoni, Zimbabwe

Note

1 Appointed on 16 April 2024, to complete the term of Enrique Forero, Colombia, who passed away on 5 September 2023.

### TREATY AND RELATED BODIES

#### Human Rights Treaty Bodies

##### Further information on scope and process is available at [www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies](http://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies) and [www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/treaty-body-strengthening](https://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/treaty-body-strengthening).

Committee against Torture (CAT)

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

1211 Geneva 10

Switzerland

Telephone: +41 22 917 9220

Email: [ohchr-cat@un.org](mailto:ohchr-cat@un.org)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/cat](http://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/cat)

Chair: Claude Heller Rouassant, Mexico (since 19 April 2022)

Purpose

CAT is the body of independent experts that monitors implementation by States Parties to the [Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment](https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-against-torture-and-other-cruel-inhuman-or-degrading). The Convention was adopted by GA res. [39/46](https://undocs.org/A/RES/39/46) (1984) and entered into force on 26 June 1987. As at 1 July 2025, there were 175 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-9&chapter=4&clang=_en) to the Convention.

The Committee considers States Parties’ reports on the measures adopted and progress made in observance of the Convention. States Parties are obliged to submit a report within one year, then every four years (Article 19), and as requested by the Committee. In certain circumstances, the Committee may conduct a confidential inquiry if it receives reliable evidence of grave and systematic violations of the Convention being carried out by a State Party to the Convention (Article 20). A State Party may declare that it recognizes the Committee’s competence to receive and consider communications from a State Party claiming that another State Party is not fulfilling its obligations under the Convention (Article 21); and that it recognizes the Committee’s competence to receive and consider communications from, or on behalf of, individuals subject to its jurisdiction who claim to be victims of a violation of the provisions of the Convention by a State Party (Article 22).

The Optional Protocol to the Convention, which entered into force in June 2006, created the Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture (SPT – see next entry).

Meetings

The Committee meets three times a year in Geneva: in April/May (four weeks), July (three weeks) and October/November (four weeks).

Membership

CAT consists of 10 independent experts in the field of human rights, serving in their personal capacities (Article 17). Consideration is given to equitable geographical distribution and the legal experience of candidates. Members are elected by States Parties, generally for staggered four-year terms, and may be re-elected.

Members (10)

Term ends 31 Dec 2025

Todd Buchwald, USA

Liu Huawen, China

Naoko Maeda, Japan (Vice-Chair)

Abderrazak Rouwane, Morocco (Vice-Chair)

Bakhtiyar Tuzmukhamedov, Russian Federation

Term ends 31 Dec 2027

Jorge Contesse, Chile

Claude Heller Rouassant, Mexico (Chair)

Erdoğan İşcan, Türkiye (Vice-Chair)

Peter Vedel Kessing, Denmark (Rapporteur)

Ana Racu, Republic of Moldova

Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture (SPT)

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

1211 Geneva 10

Switzerland

Telephone: +41 22 917 9000/9744

Email: [ohchr-opcat@un.org](mailto:ohchr-opcat@un.org)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/spt](http://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/spt)

Chair: María Luisa Romero, Panama (since 2025)

Purpose

The SPT was created under the [Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment](https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/optional-protocol-convention-against-torture-and-other-cruel). Its mandate is to visit places where people are or may be deprived of their liberty, and make recommendations to States Parties concerning the protection of persons deprived of their liberty against torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including on the establishment of national preventive mechanisms.

The Optional Protocol requires each State Party to set up, designate or maintain at the domestic level one or several visiting bodies for the prevention of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. In addition to providing advice and assistance to States Parties in the establishment of these national preventive mechanisms, the SPT assists and advises the national preventive mechanisms in order to strengthen safeguards against ill-treatment of persons deprived of liberty. The SPT undertakes between 8 and 10 visits to States Parties each year.

The Optional Protocol was adopted by GA res. [57/199](http://undocs.org/A/RES/57/199) (2002) and entered into force on 22 June 2006. As at 1 July 2025, there were 94 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-9-b&chapter=4&clang=_en) to the Optional Protocol.

Meetings

The SPT usually convenes three times a year in Geneva, for a total of four weeks.

Membership

The SPT originally had 10 members, increasing to 25 in 2011 following the 50th ratification of, or accession to, the Optional Protocol. Members are experts in the field and serve in their personal capacities. Consideration is given to equitable geographical distribution, representation of different social and legal systems, and gender balance. Members are elected by States Parties, generally serve for staggered four-year terms and can be re-elected once.

Members (25)

Term ends 31 Dec 2026

Uju Agomoh, Nigeria

Vasiliki Artinopoulou, Greece

Carmen Comas-Mata Mira, Spain

Hameth Saloum Diakhate, Senegal (Vice-Chair)

Suzanne Jabbour, Lebanon

Julia Kozma, Austria

Nika Kvaratskhelia, Georgia

Andrew Christoffel Nissen, South Africa

María Luisa Romero, Panama (Chair)

Elīna Šteinerte, Latvia (Vice-Chair)

Anica Tomsic, Croatia

Juan Pablo Vegas, Peru

Victor Zaharia, Republic of Moldova

Term ends 31 Dec 2028

Djordje Alempijevic, Serbia

Massimiliano Bagaglini, Italy

Omar Battas, Morocco

Barbara Bernath, Switzerland

Marie Brasholt, Denmark (Vice-Chair)

Jakub Julian Czepek, Poland

Marco Feoli Villalobos, Costa Rica

Kalliopi Kambanella, Cyprus

Paul Lam Shang Leen, Mauritius

Luciano Mariz Maia, Brazil

Aisha Shujune Muhammad, Maldives (Vice-Chair–Rapporteur)

Martin Zinkler, Germany

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

1211 Geneva

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Fax: +41 22 917 9008

Email: [cedaw-ohchr@un.org](mailto:cedaw-ohchr@un.org)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/cedaw](https://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/cedaw)

Chair: Nahla Haidar, Lebanon

Purpose

CEDAW is the body of independent experts that monitors implementation by States Parties to the [Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women](https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-elimination-all-forms-discrimination-against-women). The Convention is often described as the international bill of rights for women. It defines discrimination against women and outlines a comprehensive range of measures to end it. The Convention was adopted by GA res. [34/180](http://undocs.org/A/RES/34/180) (1979) and entered into force on 3 September 1981.

The Committee considers States Parties’ reports on the measures adopted and progress made in implementing the Convention. States Parties are obliged to submit a report within one year of the Convention’s entry into force for the state concerned, then at least every four years (Article 18).

An Optional Protocol to the Convention was adopted by GA res. [54/4](http://undocs.org/A/RES/54/4) (1999) and entered into force on 22 December 2000. The Protocol contains two procedures:

* A communications procedure allows individuals or groups of individuals to submit claims of violations of rights protected under the Convention to CEDAW

A confidential inquiry procedure enables CEDAW to initiate inquiries into alleged grave or systematic violations of the rights enshrined in the Convention.

As at 1 July 2025, there were 189 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-8&chapter=4&clang=_en) to the Convention and 115 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-8-b&chapter=4&clang=_en) to the Optional Protocol.

Meetings

CEDAW usually meets three times a year in Geneva.

Membership

CEDAW consists of 23 experts in the fields covered by the Convention serving in their personal capacities (Article 17). Consideration is given to equitable geographical distribution and representation of different cultures, as well as the principal legal systems. Experts are elected by States Parties. Members usually serve staggered and renewable four-year terms.

Members (23)

Term ends 31 Dec 2026

Brenda Akia, Uganda (Rapporteur)

Hiroko Akizuki, Japan

Rangita De Silva De Alwis, Sri Lanka

Nada Moustafa Fathi Draz1

Esther Eghobamien-Mshelia, Nigeria

Yamila González Ferrer, Cuba

Daphna Hacker, Israel

Marianne Mikko, Estonia (Vice-Chair)

Ana Peláez Narváez, Spain

Rhoda Reddock, Trinidad and Tobago (Vice-Chair)

Elgun Safarov, Azerbaijan

Genoveva Tisheva, Bulgaria (Vice-Chair)

Term ends 31 Dec 2028

Hamida Al-Shukairi, Oman

Violet Eudine Barriteau, Barbados

Corinne Dettmeijer-Vermeulen, Netherlands (Vice-Chair)

Nahla Haidar, Lebanon (Chair)

Madina Jarbussynova, Kazakhstan

Mu Hong, China

Jelena Pia-Comella, Andorra

Bandana Rana, Nepal

Erika Schläppi, Switzerland

Natasha Stott Despoja, Australia

Patsili Toledo Vasquez, Chile

Note

1 Designated in October 2024 to complete the term of Maya Morsy, Egypt, who had resigned in September 2024.

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR)

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

1211 Geneva 10

Switzerland

Email: ohchr-[cescr@un.org](mailto:ohchr-cescr@un.org)

Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/cescr](http://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/cescr)

Chair: Laura-Maria Crăciunean-Tatu, Romania

Purpose

CESCR is the body of independent experts that monitors the implementation of the [International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights](https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/international-covenant-economic-social-and-cultural-rights) by its States Parties. The Covenant was adopted by GA res. [2200](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2200(XXI)) A (XXI) (1966) and entered into force on 3 January 1976. As at 1 July 2025, there were 173 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-3&chapter=4&clang=_en) to the Covenant.

The Committee considers States Parties’ reports, submitted pursuant to Article 16, on the measures adopted and progress made in observance of the Covenant. The initial report is due two years after acceding to the Covenant, with subsequent reports due, in principle, every five years. The Committee envisages the introduction of an eight-year predictable reporting cycle in the future, should resources be available.

While other core international human rights instruments designate treaty bodies to examine States Parties’ reports, the Covenant provides for States Parties to report to ECOSOC. The monitoring function was delegated to a subsidiary body – now CESCR – by ECOSOC decision [1978/10](http://undocs.org/E/1978/78) (see ‘Evolution’). The Committee, as a subsidiary body, reports annually to ECOSOC about its work, with a view to helping it fulfil its responsibilities under Articles 21 and 22 of the Covenant.

In addition to the reporting procedure, the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, which entered into force on 5 May 2013, provides the Committee with the competence to receive and consider communications from individuals claiming that their rights under the Covenant have been violated. The Committee may also, under certain circumstances, undertake inquiries on grave or systematic violations of any of the economic, social and cultural rights in the Covenant, and consider inter-state complaints with respect to states that have accepted those procedures. As at 1 July 2025, there were 31 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-3-a&chapter=4&clang=_en) to the Optional Protocol.

Evolution

The Committee was originally named the Sessional Working Group of Governmental Experts on the Implementation of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ECOSOC decision [1978/10](http://undocs.org/E/1978/78)). ECOSOC res. [1985/17](https://undocs.org/E/RES/1985/17) changed administrative arrangements and renamed it CESCR, with the Committee to be made up of independent experts.

Meetings

CESCR usually meets twice a year in Geneva.

Membership

CESCR comprises 18 experts of recognized competence in human rights serving in their personal capacities. Consideration is given to equitable geographical distribution and representation of different social and legal systems. Committee members are elected by ECOSOC secret ballot from a list of people nominated by States Parties to the Covenant. Members generally serve staggered four-year terms and may be re-elected.

Members (18)

Term ends 31 Dec 2026

Aslan Khuseinovich Abashidze, Russian Federation

Asraf Ally Caunhye, Mauritius

Peters Sunday Omologbe Emuze, Nigeria (Vice-Chair–Rapporteur)

Santiago Manuel Fiorio Vaesken, Paraguay

Ludovic Hennebel, Belgium (Vice-Chair)

Joo-Young Lee, ROK

Karla Vanessa Lemus de Vásquez, El Salvador (Vice-Chair)

Julieta Rossi, Argentina

Preeti Saran, India (Vice-Chair)

Term ends 31 Dec 2028

Nadir Adilov, Azerbaijan

Lazhari Bouzid, Algeria

Chen Peijie, China

Laura-Maria Crăciunean-Tatu, Romania (Chair)

Charafat El Yedri Afailal, Morocco

Seree Nonthasoot, Thailand

Giuseppe Palmisano, Italy

Laura Elisa Pérez, Mexico

Michael Windfuhr, Germany

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD)

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

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Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/cerd](https://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/cerd)

Chair: Michal Balcerzak, Poland

Purpose

CERD is the body of independent experts that monitors implementation of the [International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination](https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/international-convention-elimination-all-forms-racial) by its States Parties. The Convention entered into force on 4 January 1969 (GA res. [2106A](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2106(XX)) (1965)). As at 1 July 2025, there were 182 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-2&chapter=4&clang=_en) to the Convention.

The Committee considers States Parties’ reports on the measures adopted and progress made in observance of the Convention. States Parties are obliged to submit a report within one year of acceding to the Convention, then every two years.

Under Article 14, a State Party may declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to consider communications from individuals or groups of individuals within its jurisdiction who claim to be victims of a violation by that State Party of any of the rights set forth in the Convention. As at 1 July 2025, 59 States Parties had made a declaration under Article 14.

The Committee reports annually to the General Assembly and may make suggestions and recommendations based on its examination of the reports and information provided by States Parties.

GA res. [47/111](http://undocs.org/A/RES/47/111) (1992) made an amendment to the Convention’s fund provisions that will enter into force when it is accepted by two-thirds of States Parties to the Convention. As at 1 July 2025, 54 States [Parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-2-a&chapter=4&clang=_en) had accepted the amendment.

Meetings

CERD has usually convened three times a year in Geneva: in April/May (three weeks), July/August (four weeks) and November/December (three weeks).

Membership

CERD consists of 18 experts, elected by States Parties, who serve in their personal capacities (Article 8). Consideration is given to equitable geographical distribution and the representation of different cultures, as well as to the principal legal systems. Members generally serve staggered four-year terms and may be re-elected.

Members (18)\*

Term ends 19 Jan 2026

Noureddine Amir, Algeria

Michal Balcerzak, Poland (Chair)

Chinsung Chung, ROK (Rapporteur)

Bakari Sidiki Diaby, Côte d’Ivoire

Régine Esseneme, Cameroon (Vice-Chair)

Gün Kut, Türkiye

Gay McDougall, USA (Vice-Chair)

Mazalo Tebie, Togo

Yeung Kam John Yeung Sik Yuen, Mauritius

Term ends 19 Jan 2028

Pela Boker-Wilson, Liberia

Guan Jian, China

Ibrahima Guisse, Senegal

Vadili Rayess, Mauritania

Verene Albertha Shepherd, Jamaica (Vice-Chair)

Chrispine Gwalawala Sibande, Malawi

Stamatia Stavrinaki, Greece

Faith Dikeledi Pansy Tlakula, South Africa

Abderrahman Tlemçani, Morocco

Note

\* On 2 June 2025, the 31st meeting of States Parties elected nine members for a four-year term beginning 20 January 2026: Bakari Sidiki Diaby, Cote d’Ivoire (re-elected), Régine Esseneme, Cameroon (re-elected), and Mazalo Tebie, Togo (re-elected) (African states); Shaikha Abdulla Ali Al-Misnad, Qatar, and Chinsung Chung, ROK (re-elected) (Asia–Pacific states); Michal Balcerzak, Poland (re-elected) (Eastern European states); Carla Ivette Pousa Caride, Panama, and Saúl Vicente Vázquez, Mexico (Latin American and Caribbean states); and Gün Kut, Türkiye (re-elected) (Western European and Other states).

Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (CMW)

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

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Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/cmw](https://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/cmw)

Chair: Fatimata Diallo, Senegal

Purpose

CMW is the body of independent experts that monitors implementation of the [International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families](https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/international-convention-protection-rights-all-migrant-workers). The Convention gives specific form to general international human rights standards so that they are meaningful in the particular context of migration. The Convention was adopted by the General Assembly (GA res. [45/158](http://undocs.org/A/RES/45/158)) on 18 December 1990 and entered into force on 1 July 2003. As at 1 July 2025, there were 60 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-13&chapter=4&clang=_en) to the Convention.

The Committee considers States Parties’ reports on the measures adopted and progress made in observance of the Convention. States Parties accept the obligation to submit a report within one year of ratification of, or acceding to, the Convention, then every five years (Article 73).

A State Party may declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications to the effect that a State Party claims that another State Party is not fulfilling its obligations under the Convention (Article 76) and/or to receive and consider communications from or on behalf of individuals subject to that State’s jurisdiction who claim that their rights under the Convention have been violated by that State Party (Article 77). Each mechanism will come into force when 10 States Parties make the said declaration.

Meetings

The Committee has usually met in Geneva twice a year.

Membership

The CMW originally consisted of 10 experts, increasing to 14 on 1 January 2010, once the number of parties to the Convention had reached 40 (Article 72). Members are experts in the field and serve in their personal capacities. Consideration is given to equitable geographical distribution as well as representation of the principal legal systems. Members are usually elected for staggered four-year terms and may be re-elected.

Members (14)\*

Term ends 31 Dec 2025

Pablo Ceriani Cernadas, Argentina (Vice-Chair)

Fatimata Diallo, Senegal (Chair)

Jasminka Dzumhur, Bosnia and Herzegovina (Vice-Chair)

Ermal Frasheri, Albania

Mamane Oumaria, Niger

Azad Taghi-Zada, Azerbaijan (Vice-Chair)

Raymond G Zounmatoun, Benin

Term ends 31 Dec 2027

Khaled Cheikhna Babacar, Mauritania (Rapporteur)

Mohammed Charef, Morocco

Edgar Corzo Sosa, Mexico

Sabrina Gahar, Algeria

Prasad Kariyawasam, Sri Lanka

Myriam Poussi, Burkina Faso

Can Ünver, Türkiye

Note

\* On 24 June 2025, the 12th meeting of States Parties elected seven members for a four-year term beginning 1 January 2026: Mireille Constance Legba Adankon, Benin, Mamane Oumaria, Niger (re-elected) and Fabien Tombohavana, Madagascar (African states); Jasminka Dzumhur, Bosnia and Herzegovina (re-elected), Azad Taghi Zada, Azerbaijan (re-elected), and Ermal Frasheri, Albania (re-elected) (Eastern European states); and Francisco Carrión Mena, Ecuador (Latin American and Caribbean states).

Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC)

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Chair: Sopio Kiladze, Georgia

Purpose

The CRC is the body of independent experts that monitors implementation of the [Convention on the Rights of the Child](https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-rights-child). It also monitors implementation of three optional protocols to the Convention.

The Convention was adopted by the General Assembly (GA res. [44/25](http://undocs.org/A/RES/44/25)) on 20 November 1989 and entered into force on 2 September 1990. As at 1 July 2025, there were 196 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-11&chapter=4&clang=_en) to the Convention.

The CRC considers States Parties’ reports on the measures adopted and progress made in observance of the Convention. States Parties are obliged to submit a report within two years of acceding to the Convention, then every five years (Article 44).

Evolution

The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the involvement of children in armed conflict (OPAC) and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography (OPSC) were adopted by GA res. [54/263](http://undocs.org/A/RES/54/263) (2000) and opened for signature and ratification or accession in New York on 5 June 2000. They entered into force on 12 February and 18 January 2002 respectively. As at 1 July 2025, there were 178 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-11-c&chapter=4&clang=_en) to the Optional Protocol on the sale of children and 173 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-11-b&chapter=4&clang=_en) to the Optional Protocol on children in armed conflict.

The Optional Protocol to the Convention on a communications procedure (OPIC) was adopted by the General Assembly on 19 December 2011 (res. [66/138](http://undocs.org/A/RES/66/138)) and opened for signature on 28 February 2012. It entered into force on 14 April 2014, having been ratified three months earlier by the required number of 10 countries.

The OPIC establishes a communications procedure that allows individual children to submit complaints regarding specific violations of their rights under the Convention and its first two optional protocols. It also allows the Committee to carry out inquiries into allegations of grave or systematic violations of rights under the Convention and its first two optional protocols. As at 1 July 2025, there were 53 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-11-d&chapter=4&clang=_en).

Meetings

The CRC has usually convened three times a year for sessions of three weeks’ duration, normally in January, May and September in Geneva.

Membership

The CRC originally had 10 experts, increasing to 18 in 2002 (Article 43 and GA res. [50/155](http://undocs.org/A/RES/50/155) (1995)). Members are experts in the field and serve in their personal capacities. Consideration is given to equitable geographical distribution as well as representation of the principal legal systems. Members generally serve staggered four-year terms and may be re-elected.

Members (18)

Term ends Feb 2027

Suzanne Aho Assouma, Togo

Thuwayba Ahmed Al Barwani, Oman (Vice-Chair)

Hynd Ayoubi Idrissi, Morocco

Mary Beloff, Argentina (Vice-Chair)

Rosaria Correa, Panama

Bragi Gudbrandsson, Iceland

Philip D Jaffe, Switzerland (Vice-Chair)

Faith Marshall-Harris, Barbados

Aïssatou Alassane Moulaye Sidikou, Niger

Term ends Feb 2029

Rinchen Chophel, Bhutan

Timothy PT Ekesa, Kenya

Mariana Ianachevici, Republic of Moldova

Sopio Kiladze, Georgia (Chair)

Cephas Lumina, Zambia (Vice-Chair–Rapporteur)

Benyam Dawit Mezmur, Ethiopia

Zeinebou Taleb Moussa, Mauritania

Juliana Scerri Ferrante, Malta

Benoit Van Keirsbilck, Belgium

Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

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Chair: Gertrude Oforiwa Fefoame, Ghana

Purpose

The CRPD is the body of independent experts that monitors implementation by States Parties to the [Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/convention-rights-persons-disabilities). The Convention was adopted on 13 December 2006 (GA res. [61/106](http://undocs.org/A/RES/61/106)) and received its 20th ratification on 3 April 2008, triggering its entry into force on 3 May 2008. Its Optional Protocol entered into force on the same day, having received the necessary 10 ratifications.

The Committee considers States Parties’ reports on the measures adopted and progress made in observance of the Convention. States Parties are obliged to submit a report within two years of accepting the Convention, then every four years (Article 35).

The Committee is also mandated to receive and examine individual communications alleging violations of the Convention by States Parties that have become party to the Optional Protocol. In certain circumstances, the Committee may conduct an inquiry if it receives reliable evidence of grave or systematic violations of the Convention being carried out by a State Party to the Optional Protocol.

As at 1 July 2025, there were 193 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-15&chapter=4&clang=_en) to the Convention and 108 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-15-a&chapter=4&clang=_en) to the Optional Protocol.

Meetings

The Committee has usually convened for ordinary sessions twice a year in Geneva.

Membership

The CRPD originally had 12 members, increasing to 18 in 2010 following an additional 60 ratifications or accessions to the Convention (Article 34). Members are experts in the field and serve in their personal capacities. Consideration is given to equitable geographic distribution, representation of different social and legal systems, gender balance and participation of experts with disabilities. Members generally serve staggered four-year terms and can be re-elected once.

Members (18)

Term ends 31 Dec 2026

Muhannad Salah Al-Azzeh, Jordan

Rehab Mohammed Boresli, Kuwait

Amalia Eva Gamio Ríos, Mexico (Vice-Chair)

Laverne Jacobs, Canada

Rosemary Kayess, Australia (Vice-Chair)

Miyeon Kim, ROK

Alfred Kouadio Kouassi, Côte d’Ivoire

Gertrude Oforiwa Fefoame, Ghana (Chair)

Markus Schefer, Switzerland

Term ends 31 Dec 2028

Magino Corporán Lorenzo, Dominican Republic

Gerel Dondovdorj, Mongolia

Mara Cristina Gabrilli, Brazil

Natalia Guala Beathyate, Uruguay

Abdelmajid Makni, Morocco

Floyd Morris, Jamaica

Christopher Nwanoro, Nigeria

Inmaculada Placencia Porrero, European Union

Hiroshi Tamon, Japan

Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Secretariat for the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

Division for Social Policy and Development

Department of Economic and Social Affairs

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Fax: +1 917 367 5102

Email: [enable@un.org](mailto:enable@un.org)

Website: <https://social.desa.un.org/issues/disability/cosp>

Purpose

Under Article 40 of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the States Parties to the Convention meet regularly in a conference to consider any matter with regard to implementation of the Convention, including the election of members of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. The first session of the Conference was held in 2008, when the Convention entered into force.

Meetings

The Conference has met annually since 2008. Meetings can be convened by the Secretary-General biennially or by a decision of the Conference. Non-States Parties may participate as observers, in addition to accredited non-governmental and national human rights institutions. The Bureau consists of one president and four vice-presidents, elected for two years on a geographical and rotational basis.

Human Rights Committee

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

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Website: [www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/ccpr](https://www.ohchr.org/en/treaty-bodies/ccpr)

Chair: Changrok Soh, ROK

Purpose

The Committee is the body of independent experts that monitors implementation by its States Parties of the International [Covenant](https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/international-covenant-civil-and-political-rights) on Civil and Political Rights. The Covenant came into force on 23 March 1976 (GA res. [2200](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2200(XXI)) (XXI) A (1966)). As at 1 July 2025, there were 174 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-4&chapter=4&clang=_en) to the Covenant.

The Committee considers States Parties’ reports on the measures adopted and progress made in observance of the Covenant. States Parties should submit a report within one year of acceding to the Covenant, then when the Committee requests in accordance with the simplified reporting procedure.

The (First) Optional Protocol of the Covenant, which also came into effect on 23 March 1976, established the competence of the Committee to consider communications from individuals regarding alleged violations of their rights under the Covenant. As at 1 July 2025, there were 116 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-5&chapter=4&clang=_en) to the First Optional Protocol. The Second Optional Protocol, aimed at the abolition of the death penalty, entered into force on 11 July 1991 and, as at 1 July 2025, had 92 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-12&chapter=4&clang=_en).

Meetings

The Committee holds three sessions a year in Geneva.

Membership

The Committee has 18 members who have recognized competence in human rights and serve in their personal capacities (Article 28). Given the legal nature of the Committee’s work, many of its members are lawyers, judges or professors of law. Consideration is given to equitable geographical distribution and representation of different social and legal systems. Members are elected by States Parties, generally serve staggered four-year terms and may be re-elected.

Members (18)

Term ends 31 Dec 2026

Rodrigo A Carazo, Costa Rica

Yvonne Donders, Netherlands

Laurence R Helfer, USA

Dalia Leinartė, Lithuania1

Bacre Waly Ndiaye, Senegal

Hernán Quezada Cabrera, Chile (Vice-Chair)

Tijana Šurlan, Serbia

Koji Teraya, Japan

Hélène Tigroudja, France (Vice-Chair)

Term ends 31 Dec 2028

Tania María Abdo Rocholl, Paraguay

Wafaa Ashraf Moharram Bassim, Egypt (Vice-Chair)

Mahjoub El Haiba, Morocco

Carlos Ramón Fernández Liesa, Spain

Konstantin Korkelia, Georgia

Akmal Kholmatovich Saidov, Uzbekistan

Ivan Šimonović, Croatia (Rapporteur)

Changrok Soh, ROK (Chair)

Imeru Tamerat Yigezu, Ethiopia

Note

1 Elected by the 41st meeting of States Parties on 21 January 2025 to complete the term of Farid Ahmadov, Azerbaijan, who resigned on 4 March 2024.

Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED)

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Chair: Olivier de Frouville, France

Purpose

CED is the body of independent experts that monitors the implementation of the International [Convention](https://www.ohchr.org/en/instruments-mechanisms/instruments/international-convention-protection-all-persons-enforced) for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. All States Parties must submit a report to the Committee within two years of becoming parties to the Convention. Upon review of this report, the Committee adopts concluding observations, in which it may request the State Party to submit a report with additional information on the implementation of the adopted recommendations and of the Convention, and on the evolution of the situation of enforced disappearances in the country.

Under the Urgent Action procedure (Article 30 of the Convention), the Committee can request that a State Party take immediate measures to search for a disappeared person and investigate his or her alleged enforced disappearance. When the Committee receives reliable information indicating that a State Party is seriously violating the Convention, it can request to visit that State Party (Article 33). If the Committee receives well-founded information that enforced disappearance is practised on a widespread or systematic basis in a State Party, it may urgently bring the matter to the attention of the General Assembly (Article 34).

A State Party may declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and consider individual complaints (or communications) from or on behalf of individuals subject to its jurisdiction claiming to be victims of a violation of the Convention (Article 31). A State Party may also declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications in which a State Party claims that another State Party is not fulfilling its obligations under the Convention (Article 32).

The Convention was adopted on 20 December 2006 (GA res. [61/177](http://undocs.org/A/RES/61/177)) and entered into force on 23 December 2010, 30 days after 20 states had ratified or acceded to it (Article 39(1)). As at 1 July 2025, there were 98 signatories and 77 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=IV-16&chapter=4&clang=_en).

Meetings

The Committee usually holds two sessions a year in Geneva.

Membership

CED consists of 10 experts of recognized competence in the field of human rights, serving in their personal capacities (Article 26). Consideration is given to equitable geographical distribution, relevant legal experience and gender balance. Members are elected for four-year terms, and are eligible for re-election once.

Members (10)

Term ends 30 June 2027

Matar Diop, Senegal (Vice-Chair)

Olivier de Frouville, France (Chair)

Fidelis Edge Kanyongolo, Malawi

Barbara Lochbihler, Germany

Carmen Rosa Villa Quintana, Peru

Term ends 30 June 2029

Juan Pablo Alban Alencastro, Ecuador (Rapporteur)

Yakouma Jean de Dieu Bambara, Burkina Faso

Marija Definis, Croatia

Elías Ricardo Solís González, Panama

Paulo de Tarso Vannuchi, Brazil

#### Law of the Sea Treaty Bodies

##### Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS)

##### Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea

##### Office of Legal Affairs

##### United Nations

##### 2 United Nations Plaza, Room DC2–0450

##### New York, NY 10017

##### United States of America

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##### Email: [doalos@un.org](mailto:doalos@un.org)

##### Website: [www.un.org/depts/los/clcs\_new/clcs\_home.htm](http://www.un.org/depts/los/clcs_new/clcs_home.htm)

##### Chair: Aldino Manuel dos Santos de Campos, Portugal (since 5 July 2023)

Purpose

The Commission’s purpose is to facilitate the implementation of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea ([UNCLOS](https://www.un.org/depts/los/convention_agreements/convention_overview_convention.htm)) in respect of the establishment of the outer limits of the continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured. It was established in accordance with UNCLOS Part VI and Annex II.

Pursuant to Article 3, paragraph 1, of Annex II to UNCLOS, the Commission’s functions are to:

* Consider data and other material submitted by coastal states concerning the outer limits of the continental shelf in areas where those limits extend beyond 200 nautical miles, and to make recommendations to coastal states on matters related to the establishment of the outer limits of their continental shelf in accordance with Article 76 and the Statement of Understanding adopted on 29 August 1980 by the Third UN Conference on the Law of the Sea

Provide scientific and technical advice if requested by coastal states during preparation of such data.

The Convention opened for signature in 1982 and entered into force in 1994. A subsequent [Agreement](http://www.un.org/Depts/los/convention_agreements/convention_overview_part_xi.htm) relating to the implementation of Part XI of the Convention was adopted in 1994 and entered into force in 1996. As at 1 July 2025, there were 170 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetailsIII.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXI-6&chapter=21&Temp=mtdsg3&clang=_en) to the Convention and 153 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXI-6-a&chapter=21&clang=_en) to the Agreement.

Meetings

Under the current working arrangements, until the end of 2024, the Commission met for three sessions of seven weeks every year. From 2025 until the end of the current term of office in June 2028, the Commission will meet for three sessions of five weeks each year, with increased intersessional work.

Membership

The Commission consists of 21 [members](https://www.un.org/depts/los/clcs_new/commission_members.htm) who are experts in the fields of geology, geophysics or hydrography. They are elected by States Parties to the Convention from among their nationals and serve in their personal capacities. No fewer than three members are elected from each geographical region. Members are elected for five-year terms and may be re-elected.

The election for the current term was held during the 32nd Meeting of States Parties in June 2022, for which the allocation of seats was: five members from African states; five from Asia–Pacific states; three from Eastern European states; four from Latin American and Caribbean states; three from Western European and Other states; and one member from among African, Asia–Pacific or Western European and Other states (who, for the 2023–28 term, was elected from those nominated by African states). Those arrangements do not prejudice or affect future election arrangements.

Members (21) – June 2023 to June 2028

Adnan Rashid Nasser Al-Azri, Oman

Lawrence Asangongo Apaalse, Ghana

Efren Perez Carandang, Philippines

Aldino Manuel dos Santos de Campos, Portugal (Chair)

Ahmed Er Raji, Morocco1

Antonio Fernando Garcez Faria, Brazil (Vice-Chair)

Helena Inniss, Trinidad and Tobago

Artem Kireev, Russian Federation2

Stig-Morten Knutsen, Norway3

Estevao Stefane Mahanjane, Mozambique

Domingos de Carvalho Viana Moreira, Angola

David Cole Mosher, Canada (Vice-Chair)

Simon Njuguna, Kenya (Vice-Chair)

Tolojanahary Randriamiarantsoa, Madagascar

Rajan Sivaramakrishnan, India

Tang Yong, China (Vice-Chair)

Michal Tomczak, Poland (Vice-Chair)4

Ariel Hernán Troisi, Argentina

Toshitsugu Yamazaki, Japan

Gonzalo Alejandro Yáñez Carrizo, Chile

Vacant, Eastern European states

Notes

1 Elected on 27 November 2024, to complete the term of Miloud Loukili, Morocco, who resigned on 28 June 2024.

2 Elected on 12 June 2024, to complete the term of Ivan F Glumov, Russian Federation, who passed away on 20 December 2023.

3 Elected on 26 June 2025, to complete the term of Harald Brekke, Norway, who resigned on 24 January 2025.

4 Elected on 28 November 2023, to complete the term of Mateusz Damrat, Poland, who resigned on 2 June 2023.

International Seabed Authority (ISA)

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Secretary-General: Leticia Carvalho, Brazil (elected by the Assembly of the ISA in August 2024 for a four-year term 2025–28)

Purpose

ISA is the organization through which States Parties to the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea ([UNCLOS](https://www.un.org/depts/los/convention_agreements/convention_overview_convention.htm)) organize and control activities in ‘the Area’ – the seabed, ocean floor and subsoil thereof, beyond the limits of national jurisdiction. ISA was established under Part XI of UNCLOS and the 1994 Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI, which was adopted by GA res. [48/263](http://undocs.org/A/RES/48/263) (1994).

Structure

The principal organs of the Authority are the Assembly, Council and Secretariat. The [Enterprise](https://www.isa.org.jm/organs/the-enterprise/) is the organ of the Authority that carries out activities in the Area directly.

The [Assembly](https://www.isa.org.jm/organs/the-assembly/), as the sole organ consisting of all the members of the Authority, is considered the supreme organ to which other principal organs are accountable as specifically provided for in UNCLOS. As at 1 July 2025, the Authority had 170 members (169 states and the European Union), all parties to the Convention.

The [Council](https://www.isa.org.jm/organs/the-council/), the executive organ of the Authority, comprises 36 Member States, elected by the Assembly in the following order: countries with the greatest global consumption (Group A); those that have made significant investment in seabed activities (Group B); those that produce and export minerals sourced from the seabed (Group C); those with special interests (Group D); and others, with due regard to equitable geographical distribution (Group E). Members serve four-year terms, ending 31 December, with election of half of them taking place every two years.

The agreed geographical allocation of seats is 10 to the African group, nine to Asia–Pacific, eight to Western European and Other states, seven to Latin American and Caribbean states, and three to Eastern European states. Since the total number of seats allocated according to that formula is 37, it was understood that each regional group other than Eastern Europe would [relinquish](https://www.isa.org.jm/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Relinquishment-of-a-seat-in-the-Council-1996-2023.pdf) in rotation one seat for one year in order to conform to the requirement under the Convention of 36 Council members. The Council member whose seat is relinquished by its regional group will participate in Council meetings but will not be entitled to vote on any matters.

Organs of the Council include the [Legal and Technical Commission](https://www.isa.org.jm/organs/the-legal-and-technical-commission/) (LTC) and the Economic Planning Commission (whose functions are performed by the LTC; its operationalization is currently being discussed by the Council). The LTC consists of 41 members elected by the Council. The [Finance Committee](https://www.isa.org.jm/organs/the-finance-committee/) was established by the 1994 Part XI Agreement to oversee the financing and financial management of the Authority. The Committee consists of 15 members elected by the Assembly for a term of five years.

Meetings

Annual sessions are held in Kingston, Jamaica, the seat of the Authority.

Membership

The list of Council members shows current terms. For more detail about shared terms, see the [website](https://www.isa.org.jm/organs/the-council/).

Council members 2025 (36)\*

Group A (4)

China 2025–28

Italy1 2023–26

Japan 2025–28

Russian Federation 2023–26

Group B (4)

France2 2024–26

India 2025–28

Netherlands2 2023–26

ROK 2023–26

Group C (4)

Australia 2023–26

Canada 2025–28

Chile 2023–26

South Africa 2025–28

Group D (6)

Bangladesh3 2025–28

Brazil 2025–28

Nauru4 2023–26

Jamaica 2023–26

Lesotho 2023–26

Uganda 2025–28

Group E (18)

Argentina 2025–28

Belgium5 2025–28

Cameroon 2023–26

Costa Rica 2025–28

Ghana 2023–26

Indonesia4 2024–26

Ireland6 2025–28

Mauritius 2025–28

Mexico 2023–26

Morocco 2025–28

Nigeria 2023–26

Poland 2025–28

Portugal7 2025–28

Sierra Leone 2023–26

Singapore 2023–26

Tonga 2023–26

Trinidad and Tobago 2025–28

UR of Tanzania 2025–28

Finance Committee members 2023–27 (15)

Elected by the Assembly in 20228

Medard Ainomuhisha, Uganda

Anastasia Francilia Akubor, Nauru

Khurshed Alam, Bangladesh

Jens Benninghofen, Germany

Kajal Bhat, India

Shoko Fujimoto, Japan

Pavel Kavina, Czechia

Solomon Korbieh, Ghana

Sergey Litvinov, Russian Federation

Didier Ortolland, France

Thiago Poggio Padua, Brazil

Viola Walton, Jamaica

Kenneth Wong, Canada

Xing Chaohong, China8

Lee-Anne Yarr, UK8

Legal and Technical Commission members 2023–27 (41)

Elected by the Council in 20229

Mark B Alcock, Australia

Noorah Algethami, Saudi Arabia

Niki Aloupi, France

Mario Juan A Aurelio, Philippines

María Gómez Ballesteros, Spain9

Adoté Blim Blivi, Togo

Moreno Andrés Camaño, Chile

Georgy A Cherkashov, Russian Federation

Malcolm Clark, New Zealand

Richard Addo Darko, Ghana

Edwin Egede, Nigeria

Sissel Eriksen, Norway

Malakai Finau, Fiji

Tomohiko Fukushima, Japan

Marzone Affonso Rêgo Gavino, Brazil

Michael Gikuhi, Kenya

Juan Luis Minaya González, Dominican Republic

Dao Viet Ha, Viet Nam

Kahlil Hassanali, Trinidad and Tobago

Becky Hitchin, UK9

Se-Jong Ju, ROK

Paulus Kainge, Namibia

Michael Imran Kanu, Sierra Leone

Erasmo Alonso Lara Cabrera, Mexico

Théophile Ndougsa Mbarga, Cameroon

Gamal Abdelrehim Mohamed Metwally, Egypt

Vicent Bartholomew Mtavangu, UR of Tanzania

Piotr Nowak, Poland

Haryo Nugroho, Indonesia

Roman Opimakh, Ukraine

Juan Pablo Paniego, Argentina9

Ellen Pape, Belgium

Luísa Ribeiro, Portugal

Mariamalia Chaves Rodríguez, Costa Rica

Carsten Michael Ruhlemann, Germany

Ramesh Sethuraman, India

Joshua Tiwangye Tuhumwire, Uganda

Siosiua Utoikamanu, Tonga

Nguyen Hong Vu, Czechia

Michelle Walker, Jamaica

Yang Shengxiong, China

Observers

The UN, its specialized agencies, the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and other international organizations invited by the ISA Assembly as well as non-governmental organizations that have been granted the observer status are [observers](https://www.isa.org.jm/observers/), in addition to the following states:

Afghanistan

Andorra

Bhutan

Burundi

Cambodia

Central African Republic

Colombia

DPRK

El Salvador

Eritrea

Ethiopia

Holy See

Iran

Israel

Kazakhstan

Kyrgyzstan

Libya

Liechtenstein

Peru

South Sudan

Syrian AR

Tajikistan

Türkiye

Turkmenistan

UAE

USA

Uzbekistan

Venezuela

Notes

\* For 2025, a member of the Asia–Pacific states group will relinquish its seat on the ISA Council, reducing the 37 members listed here to the required total of 36.

1 Italy would relinquish its seat in Group A in favour of the USA, if the USA were to become a member of the Authority; this does not prejudice the position of any country with respect to the intervening election to the Council.

2 France, Germany and the Netherlands are sharing two seats in Group B over the 2023–26 term. France relinquished its seat to the Netherlands for 2023, and Germany has relinquished its seat to the Netherlands for 2025.

3 Bangladesh and the Philippines are sharing one seat in Group D over the 2025–28 term. Bangladesh will relinquish its seat to the Philippines for the year 2027.

4 Fiji, Indonesia, Nauru and Tonga are sharing one seat in Group D and two in Group E over the 2023–26 term. Indonesia relinquished its seat in Group E to Nauru for the year 2023, Tonga relinquished its seat in Group E to Nauru for the year 2024, and Fiji has relinquished its seat in Group D to Nauru for 2025 and 2026.

5 Belgium, the Netherlands and Norway are sharing one seat in Group E over the 2025–28 term. The Netherlands has relinquished its seat to Belgium for 2025 and will relinquish its seat to Norway for 2026 and 2028.

6 Ireland and the UK are sharing one seat in Group E over the 2025–28 term. The UK has relinquished its seat to Ireland for 2025.

7 Portugal and Spain are sharing one seat in Group E over the 2025–28 term. Spain has relinquished its seat to Portugal for 2025.

8 Xing Chaohong, China, was elected on 24 July 2023 to fill a vacancy arising from the resignation of Fan Kejun, China. Lee-Anne Yarr, UK, was elected on 21 July 2025 to fill a vacancy arising from the resignation of Christopher Hilton, UK.

9 María Gómez Ballesteros, Spain, was elected on 18 March 2024 to fill a vacancy arising from the resignation of Adolfo Maestro González, Spain; Becky Hitchin, UK, was elected on 10 July 2023 to fill a vacancy arising from the resignation of Jon Copley, UK; Juan Pablo Paniego, Argentina, was elected on 30 October 2023 to fill a vacancy arising from the resignation of Federico Gabriel Hirsch, Argentina.

International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS)

Am Internationalen Seegerichtshof 1

22609 Hamburg

Germany

Telephone: +49 40 35 607 0

Fax: +49 40 35 607 275

Email: [itlos@itlos.org](mailto:itlos@itlos.org)

X: [@ITLOS\_TIDM](http://www.twitter.com/ITLOS_TIDM)

Website: [www.itlos.org](http://www.itlos.org)

Registrar: Ximena Hinrichs Oyarce, Chile (since September 2019; re-elected by the Tribunal in September 2024 for a second five-year term)

Purpose

The Tribunal is an independent judicial body established by the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea ([UNCLOS](https://www.un.org/depts/los/convention_agreements/convention_overview_convention.htm)) to adjudicate disputes arising out of the interpretation and application of the Convention. It was constituted in 1996 and functions in accordance with the relevant provisions of UNCLOS, including its Part XV and its [Statute](https://www.itlos.org/fileadmin/itlos/documents/basic_texts/statute_en.pdf), contained in Annex VI to the Convention.

The Convention opened for signature in 1982 and entered into force in 1994. Three subsequent agreements were concluded: one relating to the implementation of Part XI of the Convention, which was adopted in 1994 and entered into force in 1996; one relating to the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks, which was adopted in 1995 and entered into force in 2001; and one relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ), which was adopted in 2023. As at 1 July 2025, there were 170 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetailsIII.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXI-6&chapter=21&Temp=mtdsg3&clang=_en) to the Convention, 153 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXI-6-a&chapter=21&clang=_en) to the Part XI Agreement and 94 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXI-7&chapter=21&clang=_en) to the UN Fish Stocks Agreement.

The jurisdiction of the Tribunal comprises all disputes and all applications submitted to it in accordance with the Convention and all matters specifically provided for in any other international agreement that confers jurisdiction on the Tribunal. The Tribunal has jurisdiction to deal with disputes (contentious jurisdiction) and legal questions (advisory jurisdiction) submitted to it.

The Tribunal also has compulsory jurisdiction to deal with requests for the prompt release of vessels and crews upon the posting of a reasonable bond or other financial security. It can also prescribe provisional measures (interim injunctions) to preserve the respective rights of the parties to a dispute or to prevent serious harm to the marine environment.

The Seabed Disputes Chamber, composed of 11 elected members of the Tribunal, has certain compulsory jurisdiction with respect to disputes arising out of the exploitation and exploration of ‘the Area’ (the seabed and ocean floor beyond the limits of national jurisdiction). The Chamber can also give advisory opinions on legal questions arising within the scope of its activities, at the request of the International Seabed Authority (ISA) Assembly or Council.

The Meeting of the States Parties to the Convention decides the Tribunal’s budget, as well as contributions by States Parties and the ISA (see Statute, Article 19, para. 1).

Membership

The Tribunal comprises 21 independent [members](https://www.itlos.org/en/main/the-tribunal/members/) (judges), elected from among persons of recognized competence in the field of the law of the sea. The Statute of the Tribunal requires equitable geographical distribution and representation of the world’s principal legal systems. There must be no fewer than three members from each UN regional group and no two judges may be of the same nationality. Members are elected for nine years and may be re-elected. The terms of one-third of the 21 members expire every three years.

Tribunal members (21)

Tomas Heidar, Iceland (term ends 30 Sept 2032) (President)

Neeru Chadha, India (term ends 30 Sept 2026) (Vice-President)

José Luis Jesus, Cabo Verde (term ends 30 Sept 2026)

Boualem Bouguetaia, Algeria (term ends 30 Sept 2026)

David Joseph Attard, Malta (term ends 30 Sept 2029)

Markiyan Z Kulyk, Ukraine (term ends 30 Sept 2029)

Óscar Cabello Sarubbi, Paraguay (term ends 30 Sept 2026)

Kriangsak Kittichaisaree, Thailand (term ends 30 Sept 2026)

Roman Kolodkin, Russian Federation (term ends 30 Sept 2026)

Liesbeth Lijnzaad, Netherlands (term ends 30 Sept 2026)

María Teresa Infante Caffi, Chile (term ends 30 Sept 2029)

Jielong Duan, China (term ends 30 Sept 2029)

Kathy-Ann Brown, Jamaica (term ends 30 Sept 2029)

Ida Caracciolo, Italy (term ends 30 Sept 2029)

Maurice K Kamga, Cameroon (term ends 30 Sept 2029)

Frida María Armas Pfirter, Argentina (term ends 30 Sept 2032)

Hidehisa Horinouchi, Japan (term ends 30 Sept 2032)

Thembile Elphus Joyini, South Africa (term ends 30 Sept 2032)

Zha Hyoung Rhee, ROK (term ends 30 Sept 2032)

Osman Keh Kamara, Sierra Leone (term ends 30 Sept 2032)

Konrad Jan Marciniak, Poland (term ends 30 Sept 2032)

#### Environmental Bodies

##### Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

##### C/O World Meteorological Organization

##### 7 bis Avenue de la Paix

##### Code Postale 2300

##### 1211 Geneva 2

##### Switzerland

##### Telephone: +41 22 730 8208/8254/8284

##### Fax: +41 22 730 8025/8013

##### Email: [ipcc-sec@wmo.int](mailto:ipcc-sec@wmo.int)

##### Facebook: [www.facebook.com/IPCC](https://www.facebook.com/IPCC)

##### X: [@IPCC\_ch](https://twitter.com/IPCC_ch)

##### Website: [www.ipcc.ch](http://www.ipcc.ch)

##### Secretary: Abdalah Mokssit, Morocco (appointed by the WMO Secretary-General, in consultation with the Executive Director of UNEP, in 2016)

Purpose

The IPCC is a scientific body established in 1988 by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). Its role is to assess on a comprehensive, objective, open and transparent basis the scientific, technical and socio-economic information relevant to understanding the scientific basis of risk of human-induced climate change, its potential impacts and options for adaptation and mitigation.

Thousands of scientists from all over the world contribute voluntarily to the IPCC’s work. The IPCC does not conduct research, nor does it monitor climate-related data or parameters. Its work is policy relevant but policy neutral.

Since its inception, the IPCC has produced six multi-volume [Assessment Reports](https://www.ipcc.ch/reports/). The [First](https://www.ipcc.ch/reports/?rp=ar1) Assessment Report, in 1990, confirmed the scientific basis for concern about climate change and played a decisive role in the creation of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The [Second](https://www.ipcc.ch/reports/?rp=ar2), in 1995, concluded that the balance of evidence suggested a discernible human influence on the global climate and provided information for negotiators to draw on in the run-up to the adoption of the Kyoto Protocol in 1997. The [Third](https://www.ipcc.ch/reports/?rp=ar3), in 2001, concluded that there was new evidence that most of the warming observed over the previous 50 years was attributable to human activities and helped to focus attention on the impacts of climate change and the need for adaptation. The [Fourth](https://www.ipcc.ch/reports/?rp=ar4), in 2007, led to the IPCC, jointly with former USA Vice-President Al Gore, being awarded the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize. The [Fifth](https://www.ipcc.ch/reports/?rp=ar5), in 2014, puts greater emphasis on assessing the socio-economic aspects of climate change and its implications for sustainable development and formed the scientific basis of the Paris Agreement of the UNFCCC. The [Sixth](https://www.ipcc.ch/reports/?rp=ar6) was finalized in March 2023, in time to inform the 2023 [Global Stocktake](https://unfccc.int/topics/global-stocktake) by the UNFCCC, as mandated by [Decision 1/CP.21](http://undocs.org/FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1). The IPCC’s Seventh Assessment Cycle began in July 2023.

The IPCC also publishes Special Reports in response to requests from governments, the UNFCCC or other international organizations and conventions; and Methodology Reports in response to requests from the UNFCCC. At the request of the UNFCCC, IPCC produced a [Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C](http://www.ipcc.ch/report/sr15/) in October 2018 and a [Special Report on Climate Change and Land](https://www.ipcc.ch/srccl/) in August 2019. The most recent Special Report, on [The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate](https://www.ipcc.ch/srocc/), was finalized in September 2019. Information about IPCC reports is available on the [website](https://www.ipcc.ch/reports/).

Structure

The IPCC Secretariat coordinates work and liaises with governments. It is supported by the WMO and UNEP, and hosted at WMO headquarters in Geneva.

The Panel has three working groups:

* Working Group I ([WG I](https://www.ipcc.ch/working-group/wg1/)) assesses the physical scientific aspects of the climate system and climate change
* Working Group II ([WG II](https://www.ipcc.ch/working-group/wg2/)) assesses the vulnerability of natural and socio-economic systems to climate change and its observed and projected effects on them, along with adaptation options

Working Group III ([WG III](https://www.ipcc.ch/working-group/wg3/)) assesses options for mitigating climate change through limiting or preventing greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing activities that remove them from the atmosphere.

The Task Force on National Greenhouse Gas Inventories ([TFI](https://www.ipcc.ch/working-group/tfi/)) develops methodology and software for the calculation and reporting of national greenhouse gas emissions and removals through sinks. The Panel, comprising 195 member governments, makes decisions at its plenary sessions and is assisted by a 34-member bureau. The Bureau members are elected for the duration of the preparation of an IPCC assessment report (five to six years). They are chosen on the basis of their scientific qualifications, while reflecting balanced geographical representation.

Membership

The IPCC has 195 member countries, including all UN and WMO Member States. The IPCC [Bureau](https://www.ipcc.ch/bureau/) comprises the IPCC Chair and Vice-Chairs; the Co-Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the three Working Groups; and the TFI Co-Chairs. The Bureau is chaired by the IPCC Chair. Members are elected by the Panel for the duration of an assessment cycle, and reflect balanced geographical representation with due consideration for scientific and technical requirements. The current Bureau was elected at the Panel’s 59th session in July 2023. The TFI has its own bureau composed of 12 members and two co-chairs. Members are normally elected at the same session as the IPCC Bureau and the term is the same.

IPCC Bureau (Seventh Assessment Cycle)

Chair

Jim Skea, UK

Vice-Chairs

Ladislaus Chang’a, UR of Tanzania

Ramón Pichs-Madruga, Cuba

Diana Ürge-Vorsatz, Hungary

Working Group I Co-Chairs

Robert Vautard, France

Zhang Xiaoye, China

Working Group II Co-Chairs

Winston Chow, Singapore

Bart van den Hurk, Netherlands

Working Group III Co-Chairs

Katherine Calvin, USA

Joy Jacqueline Pereira, Malaysia

TFI Co-Chairs

Takeshi Enoki, Japan

Mazhar Hayat, Pakistan

Working Group I Vice-Chairs

Edvin Aldrian, Indonesia

Nana Ama Browne Klutse, Ghana

Inés Camilloni, Argentina

Aida Diongue, Senegal

Sherilee Harper, Canada

Maheshwar Rupakheti, Nepal

Sonia Seneviratne, Switzerland

Working Group II Vice-Chairs

Fatima Denton, Gambia

Laura Gallardo, Chile

Mark Howden, Australia

Cromwel Lukorito, Kenya

Carlos Méndez, Venezuela

Raman Sukumar, India

Adelle Thomas, Bahamas

Zinta Zommers, Latvia

Working Group III Vice-Chairs

Malak Al Nory, Saudi Arabia

Eduardo Calvo Buendía, Peru

Jan Sigurd Fuglestvedt, Norway

Oliver Geden, Germany

Gervais Itsoua Madzous, Congo

Siir Kilkis, Türkiye

Noureddine Yassaa, Algeria

TFI Bureau (Sixth Assessment Cycle)

Co-Chairs

Takeshi Enoki, Japan

Mazhar Hayat, Pakistan

Members

Amjad Abdulla, Maldives

Laura Elena Dawidowski, Argentina

Giacomo Grassi, Italy

Joni Jupesta, Indonesia

Mohd Talib Latif, Malaysia

Mohammad Rahimi, Iran

Irma Fabiola Ramirez Hernandez, Mexico

Yasna Rojas, Chile

Maria Jose Sanz Sanchez, Spain

Hamid Abakar Souleymane, Chad

Samir Tantawi, Egypt

Melissa Weitz, USA

Secretariat for the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (Ozone Secretariat)

United Nations Avenue, Gigiri

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X: [@UNEPOzone](http://www.twitter.com/UNEPOzone)

Instagram: [@UNEPOzone](http://www.instagram.com/UNEPOzone)

Website: <http://ozone.unep.org>

Executive Secretary: Megumi Seki Nakamura, Japan (appointed by the UN Secretary-General, in consultation with the UNEP Executive Director, in May 2021)

Purpose

The Ozone Secretariat services the Vienna [Convention](https://ozone.unep.org/treaties/vienna-convention) and Montreal [Protocol](https://ozone.unep.org/treaties/montreal-protocol), and their governing and subsidiary bodies. The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) was designated as the Secretariat of the two treaties in 1989. Its duties are defined under Article 7 of the Vienna Convention and Article 12 of the Montreal Protocol.

The objectives of the Convention and Protocol include safeguarding human health and the environment from the harmful effects of ozone depletion and the elimination of substances that deplete the ozone layer, as listed under the Protocol, on the basis of developments in scientific knowledge, taking into account technical and economic considerations and bearing in mind the developmental needs of developing countries.

Over the past 35 years, implementation of the Convention and Protocol has led to the phasing out of the production and consumption of 99 percent of historic levels of ozone-depleting substances (ODSs). The remaining 1 percent is scheduled to be phased out by 2030. Because most ODSs are potent global warming gasses, the Montreal Protocol has achieved important climate co-benefits. From 1990 to 2010, implementation of the Montreal Protocol avoided greenhouse gas emissions by an estimated carbon dioxide-equivalent of a net 135 gigatons. With the full and sustained implementation of the Montreal Protocol, the ozone layer is projected to recover by the middle of this century, and reduce global warming by about 1°C.

In 2009, the Convention and Protocol became the first environmental protection treaties to achieve universal ratification, currently with 198 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXVII-2-a&chapter=27&clang=_en), including the European Union.

The Montreal Protocol has been amended five times, in London (1990), Copenhagen (1992), Montreal (1997), Beijing (1999) and Kigali (2016), with each amendment requiring separate ratification by parties. As at 1 July 2025, all Montreal Protocol Amendments except the Kigali Amendment had been ratified by 197 [parties](https://ozone.unep.org/all-ratifications), while the Kigali Amendment had been ratified by 163 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=XXVII-2-f&chapter=27&clang=_en).

The Kigali Amendment to the Protocol entered into force on 1 January 2019. Under the Amendment, all parties will gradually phase down production and consumption of hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs) by more than 80 percent by the mid-2040s and replace them with more planet-friendly alternatives. HFCs are powerful greenhouse gases that do not deplete the ozone layer. Their phase-down following the Kigali Amendment schedule will avoid up to 0.5°C of global temperature rise by the end of the century, in addition to the climate benefits of reducing ODSs. Improving the energy efficiency of cooling technologies can double the benefits of the Amendment.

The implementation of the Montreal Protocol in developing countries is assisted by the Protocol’s [Multilateral Fund](https://www.multilateralfund.org/), regularly replenished through contributions from 49 developed countries, including countries with economies in transition. Since 1991, over $4.7 billion in grant funding has been pledged, and over $4.3 billion approved. In addition, the Global Environment Facility (GEF, see page 320) supports implementation of the Montreal Protocol in countries with economies in transition, although it is not linked formally to the Protocol.

Meetings

The Conference of the Parties to the Vienna Convention (COP) usually meets every three years, and the Meeting of the Parties to the Montreal Protocol (MOP) usually takes place annually. [COP13 and MOP36](https://ozone.unep.org/meetings/thirty-sixth-meeting-parties) took place concurrently from 28 October to 1 November 2024 in Bangkok, Thailand, and MOP37 is scheduled to be held from 3 to 7 November 2025 in Nairobi. More information, including Bureau details, is available on the [website](http://ozone.unep.org/meetings). The Executive Committee of the Multilateral Fund meets twice a year.

Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions

UN Environment Programme (UNEP)

International Environment House

11–13 Chemin des Anémones

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Switzerland

Telephone: +41 22 917 8271

Postal address:

Avenue de la Paix 8–14

1211 Genève 10

Switzerland

Email: [brs@un.org](mailto:brs%40un.org?subject=)

UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla

00153 Rome

Italy

Telephone: +39 06 5703 3765

Fax: +39 06 5703 3224

Email: [pic@fao.org](mailto:pic@fao.org)

Website: [www.brsmeas.org](https://www.brsmeas.org) (synergies between Conventions), [www.basel.int](http://www.basel.int) (Basel Convention), [www.pic.int](http://www.pic.int) (Rotterdam Convention), [www.pops.int](http://www.pops.int) (Stockholm Convention)

Executive Secretary: Rolph Payet, Seychelles (since October 2014; appointed by the UN Secretary-General in August 2014)

Acting Executive Secretary of the Rotterdam Convention (FAO): Christine Fuell, Germany (since 2023)

Purpose

As mandated by the Conventions, the principal functions of the Secretariat are to assist or facilitate assistance to parties to the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions to implement their obligations under the Conventions; to receive and circulate information; to prepare for and service meetings of the governing and subsidiary bodies to the Conventions. A joint head of the UNEP-administered part of the three Convention Secretariats has been in place since 2011, with the aim of increasing cooperation, coordination and cost-effective services.

Basel Convention

The Basel [Convention](https://www.basel.int/TheConvention/Overview/tabid/1271/Default.aspx) on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal was adopted at Basel, Switzerland, in March 1989 and entered into force in May 1992. As at 1 July 2025, there were 191 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXVII-3&chapter=27&clang=_en) (190 States Parties and the European Union) to the Convention.

The Convention aims to protect human health and the environment against the adverse effects that may result from the generation and management of hazardous and other wastes. To achieve this, the Convention centres around three principal aims:

* Reducing transboundary movements of hazardous wastes to a minimum consistent with their environmentally sound management
* Regulating the transboundary movements of hazardous and other wastes by applying the ‘Prior Informed Consent’ procedure

Reducing the generation of hazardous wastes to a minimum and promoting the environmentally sound management of hazardous wastes, wherever the place of disposal.

A decision amending the Basel Convention ([Ban Amendment](http://www.basel.int/Implementation/LegalMatters/BanAmendment/tabid/1484/Default.aspx)) was adopted during the third meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP3) in Geneva in September 1995. The objective of this Amendment is that each party listed in the new Annex VII (Parties and other states that are members of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), European Union and Liechtenstein) prohibits all transboundary movements of hazardous wastes within the scope of the Convention to states not included in that Annex. The Amendment entered into force on 5 December 2019. As at 1 July 2025, 104 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXVII-3-a&chapter=27&clang=_en) had deposited their instruments of ratification or acceptance of the Ban Amendment.

In 2019, COP14 adopted various amendments related to [plastic waste](https://www.basel.int/Implementation/Plasticwaste/Amendments/Overview/tabid/8426/Default.aspx) within Annexes II, VIII and IX to the Convention, which became effective on 1 January 2021. In 2022, COP15 adopted amendments for the control of transboundary movements of [electronic and electrical waste](https://www.basel.int/Implementation/Ewaste/EwasteAmendments/Overview/tabid/9266/Default.aspx), which entered into force on 1 January 2025.

The Basel [Protocol](http://www.basel.int/TheConvention/Overview/LiabilityProtocol/tabid/2399/Default.aspx) on Liability and Compensation for Damage Resulting from the Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (Basel Protocol) was adopted at COP5 in Basel in December 1999. The Protocol is to provide for a comprehensive liability and compensation regime for damage resulting from the transboundary movement of hazardous wastes and other wastes, including incidents occurring because of illegal traffic in those wastes. As at 1 July 2025, 13 parties had [signed](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXVII-3-b&chapter=27&clang=_en) and 12 had ratified the Protocol. It will enter into force on the 90th day after the deposit of instruments of consent to be bound by 20 parties.

Rotterdam Convention

The Rotterdam [Convention](https://www.pic.int/TheConvention/Overview/tabid/1044/language/en-US/Default.aspx) on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade covers pesticides and industrial chemicals that have been banned or severely restricted in order to protect human health or the environment.

The Convention was adopted on 10 September 1998 and entered into force on 24 February 2004. As at 1 July 2025, there were 167 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXVII-14&chapter=27&clang=_en) to the Convention.

The Convention’s objectives are to:

* Promote shared responsibility and cooperative efforts among parties in the international trade of certain hazardous chemicals in order to protect human health and the environment from potential harm

Contribute to the environmentally sound use of those hazardous chemicals by facilitating information exchange about their characteristics, providing for a national decision-making process on their import and export, and by disseminating these decisions to parties.

Chemicals that parties agree to list in [Annex III](https://www.pic.int/TheConvention/Chemicals/AnnexIIIChemicals) to the Convention become subject to the Prior Informed Consent (PIC) procedure, which was originally a voluntary process initiated by UNEP and the FAO in 1989. The PIC procedure empowers parties to take informed decisions on the import and export of hazardous chemicals.

As at 1 July 2025, there are 55 chemicals listed in Annex III to the Convention and subject to the PIC procedure, of which 36 are pesticides (including three severely hazardous pesticide formulations), 18 industrial chemicals and one chemical in both the pesticide and industrial chemical categories. The latest amendments, adopted in May 2025 to list an additional two chemicals, carbosulfan and fenthion (ultra-low formulations at or above 640g active ingredient/L), will enter into force in October 2025.

The Convention was also amended in 2019 at COP9, to add a new Annex VII on procedures and mechanisms on [compliance](https://www.pic.int/TheConvention/ComplianceCommittee/Overview/tabid/8446/language/en-US/Default.aspx) with the Rotterdam Convention. This Annex entered into force on 6 November 2020 for all parties, except those that had submitted notifications of non-acceptance within one year from the date of communication by the depositary of adoption of the Annex. Further information is available on the [website](http://www.pic.int/Countries/Statusofratification/AnnexVIItotheRotterdamConvention/tabid/8671/language/en-US/Default.aspx) under ‘Countries’, then ‘Status of ratification’ and ‘Annex VII’.

Stockholm Convention

The Stockholm [Convention](https://chm.pops.int/TheConvention/Overview/tabid/3351/Default.aspx) on Persistent Organic Pollutants is a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from persistent organic pollutants ([POPs](https://chm.pops.int/TheConvention/ThePOPs/tabid/673/Default.aspx)) – chemicals that are highly toxic, remain intact in the environment for long periods, become widely distributed throughout the environment, accumulate in the fatty tissue of living organisms including humans and are found at higher concentrations at higher levels in the food chain.

The Convention was adopted on 22 May 2001 and entered into force on 17 May 2004. It requires parties to take measures to prohibit, eliminate or restrict the production and use of specific POPs listed in Annexes A, B and C to the Convention. As at 1 July 2025, there were 186 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXVII-15&chapter=27&clang=_en) to the Convention.

The Convention was [amended](http://chm.pops.int/TheConvention/ThePOPs/TheNewPOPs/tabid/2511/Default.aspx) at the first COP meeting to add a new Annex G on arbitration and conciliation procedures. The Annexes to the Convention have also been regularly amended as new POPs are identified and added to Annexes A, B and C to the Convention in addition to the [original 12](https://chm.pops.int/TheConvention/ThePOPs/The12InitialPOPs/tabid/296/Default.aspx). Full information on the POPs listed in Annexes A, B and C is available on the website. The latest amendments, to list chlorpyrifos, medium-chain chlorinated paraffins and long-chain perfluorocarboxylic acids, their salts and related compounds in Annex A to the Convention, will enter into force one year from when they are communicated by the depositary, except for parties that notified they are unable to accept them (opt-out parties) or that made a declaration that any such amendments only enter into force for them on deposit of instruments consenting to be bound (opt-in parties).

In May 2023, parties also adopted a decision on procedures and mechanisms on compliance with the Stockholm Convention, establishing a [Compliance Committee](https://chm.pops.int/TheConvention/ComplianceCommittee/Overview/tabid/61/Default.aspx).

The Global Environment Facility (GEF, see page 320) serves as the principal entity entrusted with the operations of the financial mechanism of the Convention.

Meetings

COP meetings for each of the Conventions take place at regular intervals, as decided by the COP to each respective Convention. Meetings are usually held every two years, in a coordinated manner, most recently from 28 April to 9 May 2025 in Geneva. Details about meetings are on the [synergies website](http://www.brsmeas.org/Decisionmaking/COPsandExCOPs/Overview/tabid/2617/language/en-US/Default.aspx) under ‘Decision-making’, as well as under ‘The Convention’ on each Convention-specific website.

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

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LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/unbiodiversity](http://www.linkedin.com/company/unbiodiversity)

Website: [www.cbd.int](http://www.cbd.int)

Executive Secretary: Astrid Schomaker, Germany (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in April 2024)

Purpose

The Secretariat services the [Convention](http://www.cbd.int/convention/), which provides a global legal framework for action on biodiversity. The Convention opened for signature at the Earth Summit (UN Conference on Environment and Development) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 5 June 1992 and entered into force on 29 December 1993. As at 1 July 2025, there were 196 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXVII-8&chapter=27&clang=_en) to the Convention.

The Convention has three objectives:

* Conserving biological diversity
* Ensuring the sustainable use of the components of biological diversity

Ensuring the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources.

On 29 January 2000, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention (COP) adopted the Cartagena [Protocol](http://bch.cbd.int/protocol/) on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity. The objective of the Protocol, which entered into force on 11 September 2003, is to protect biological diversity from the potential risks posed by living modified organisms resulting from modern biotechnology. As at 1 July 2025, there were 173 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXVII-8-a&chapter=27&clang=_en) to the Cartagena Protocol.

On 29 October 2010, the COP adopted the Nagoya [Protocol](https://www.cbd.int/abs/text/default.shtml) on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilization to the Convention on Biological Diversity. The Protocol entered into force on 12 October 2014. As at 1 July 2025, there were 142 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXVII-8-b&chapter=27&clang=_en) to the Protocol.

On 15 October 2010, the COP serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, at its fifth meeting (COP–MOP 5), adopted the Nagoya–Kuala Lumpur [Supplementary Protocol](https://bch.cbd.int/protocol/supplementary/about/) on Liability and Redress to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety. The Supplementary Protocol entered into force on 5 March 2018. It aims to contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity by providing international rules and procedures in the field of liability and redress relating to living modified organisms, and entered into force on 5 March 2018. As at 1 July 2025, there were 55 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXVII-8-c&chapter=27&clang=_en) to the Supplementary Protocol.

Structure

The Secretariat was established under Article 24 of the Convention and is administered by the UN Environment Programme (UNEP). It also serves as the Secretariat of the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols and the Nagoya–Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol.

The Convention’s governing body is the [COP](https://www.cbd.int/cop/). The COP also serves as the Meeting of the Parties (MOP) to the Cartagena and Nagoya Protocols, respectively (COP-MOPs). The COP-MOPs are the governing bodies to the two Protocols.

The Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice ([SBSTTA](https://www.cbd.int/sbstta/)) and the Subsidiary Body on Implementation ([SBI](https://www.cbd.int/sbi/)) provide recommendations, within their respective mandates, to the COP and COP-MOPs. They are made up of government representatives with expertise in relevant fields as well as observers from non-party governments, the scientific community and relevant organizations. In October 2024, at COP 16, Parties adopted a decision establishing a new subsidiary body on Article 8(j) and other provisions of the CBD related to Indigenous peoples and local communities (SB 8j).

The Bureau of the COP serves as the Bureau of the COP-MOPs and SBI. SBSTTA has its own Bureau. The modalities for the Bureau of SB 8j will be considered at its first meeting, scheduled for October 2025 in Panama.

Ad hoc open-ended working groups, which are open to all parties and observers, have been established to make recommendations to the COP on specific issues. The COP and the subsidiary bodies may also establish expert groups or direct the Secretariat to convene meetings of liaison or other groups and workshops. The [Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework](https://www.cbd.int/gbf/) (KMGBF, known as the Global Biodiversity Framework), to halt and reverse biodiversity loss, was adopted at [COP15/CP-MOP10/NP-MOP4](https://www.cbd.int/conferences/2021-2022) in December 2022.

COP and COP-MOP [decisions](http://www.cbd.int/decisions/) are available on the website. More information on governance, including on the COP [Bureau](https://www.cbd.int/cop-bureau/default.shtml), is also available on the website under ‘Biodiversity Convention’, then ‘[Convention Bodies](https://www.cbd.int/convention/bodies/intro.shtml)’.

A [clearing-house mechanism](https://www.cbd.int/chm/) was established pursuant to Article 18 para. 3 of the Convention to promote and facilitate technical and scientific cooperation, and a mechanism for providing financial resources to developing countries for the purposes of the Convention was established pursuant to Article 21. The Global Environment Facility (GEF, see page 320) acts as that financial mechanism.

Meetings

Both the COP and the MOPs usually meet every two years at the UN Biodiversity Conference. [COP16/CP-MOP11/NP-MOP5](https://www.cbd.int/conferences/2024) commenced in Cali, Colombia, on 21 October 2024 before being suspended on 2 November 2024. A first resumed session was held online from 3 to 6 December 2024, and a second resumed session was held in Rome from 25 to 27 February 2025.

Secretariat of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification in Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa (UNCCD)

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YouTube: [www.youtube.com/THEUNCCD](http://www.youtube.com/THEUNCCD)

Website: [www.unccd.int](http://www.unccd.int)

Executive Secretary: Yasmine Fouad, Egypt (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in May 2025 for a three-year term beginning in August 2025)

Purpose

The Secretariat services the [Convention](https://www.unccd.int/convention/overview), which is an international agreement linking the environment and development to sustainable land management. The Convention was established by GA res. [47/188](http://undocs.org/A/RES/47/188) (1992), adopted on 17 June 1994 and entered into force in December 1996. In recognition of this, 17 June is observed as Desertification and Drought Day (formerly World Day to Combat Desertification). As at 1 July 2025, there were 197 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXVII-10&chapter=27&clang=_en) to the Convention (196 countries and the European Union). The Convention is implemented on the basis of five regional implementation annexes for Africa, Asia, Central and Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Northern Mediterranean.

The Convention plays a key role in efforts to reach the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly with regard to Target 15.3. The UNCCD Permanent Secretariat was established in Article 23 of the Convention.

The UNCCD [2018–2030 Strategic Framework](https://www.unccd.int/convention/governance/strategic-framework-2018-2030) was adopted in 2017 (see [ICCP/COP(13)3](https://www.unccd.int/official-documents/cop-13-ordos-china-2017/iccdcop133)). In 2024, Parties established an Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG) on the Future Strategic Framework (FSF) to identify key elements for a post-2030 strategic framework of the Convention.

Structure

The [Conference of the Parties](https://www.unccd.int/convention/conference-parties-cop) (COP) is the supreme governing body. Information about its Bureau is on the [website](https://www.unccd.int/convention/governance/process-management-bodies/cop-bureau) under ‘The Convention’, then ‘Governance’ and ‘Process Management Bodies’. The following bodies are accountable to the COP:

* [Permanent Secretariat](https://www.unccd.int/convention/secretariat) – established in 1999 and in conformity with decision five of the first COP. Its headquarters are in Bonn, Germany. The Secretariat services the COP and subsidiary bodies, and facilitates implementation of national, regional and sub-regional programmes.
* [Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention](https://www.unccd.int/convention/governance/cric) (CRIC) – established in 2001, the CRIC reviews and analyses national reports submitted to the COP that describe the status of the Convention’s implementation by parties.
* [Committee on Science and Technology](https://www.unccd.int/convention/governance/cst) (CST) – provides the COP with information and advice on scientific and technological matters relating to combating desertification and mitigating the effects of drought.

[Global Mechanism](https://www.unccd.int/convention/global-mechanism) (GM) – established under Article 21 of the Convention. The GM assists countries in the mobilization of financial resources to implement the Convention by providing advisory services to developing countries, the private sector and donors.

Since 2003, the Global Environment Facility (GEF, see page 320) has served as a financial mechanism to the Convention.

Meetings

Since 2001, the COP has usually met every two years. The [16th session](https://www.unccd.int/events/governing-bodies-meetings/unccd-conference-parties-16th-session-cop16) was held in December 2024 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and the 17th is scheduled to be held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, from 17 to 28 August 2026.

Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)

International Environment House

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Website: [www.cites.org](http://www.cites.org)

Secretary-General: Ivonne Higuero, Panama (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in October 2018)

Purpose

The Secretariat services the [Convention](http://www.cites.org/eng/disc/text.php), which is an international agreement between governments that seeks to ensure international trade in specimens of wild animals and plants is legal, sustainable and traceable, and does not threaten the survival of the species in the wild.

CITES provides a three-tier licensing framework to control the trade in specimens of selected species covered by the Convention and to which signatory Parties to the Convention voluntarily adhere. CITES Parties must adopt their own domestic legislation to ensure that CITES is implemented at the national level.

More than 40,900 animal and plant [species](http://www.cites.org/eng/disc/species.php) are covered by CITES, listed in the three CITES Appendices according to the degree or type of protection from over-exploitation. Appendix I includes species most threatened with extinction. International trade in these species is permitted only in exceptional circumstances. Appendix II includes species not necessarily threatened with extinction but in which trade must be controlled in order to avoid utilization incompatible with the survival of the species in the wild. Appendix III contains species included at the request of a CITES Party that already regulates trade in the species and that needs the cooperation of other countries to prevent unsustainable or illegal exploitation.

The Convention was adopted in March 1973 and entered into force in July 1975. As at 1 July 2025, there were 185 [parties](http://www.cites.org/eng/disc/parties/index.php) to the Convention (184 countries and the European Union).

Structure

The Convention is governed by the Conference of the Parties ([CoP](https://cites.org/eng/disc/cop.php)) and serviced by the Secretariat. The [Standing Committee](https://cites.org/eng/disc/sc.php) makes recommendations on policy-related matters. Two scientific committees, the [Animals and Plants committees](https://cites.org/eng/disc/ac_pc.php), comprise scientists and provide technical support to decision-making about species that are, or might become, subject to CITES trade controls. More governance information is available on the website under ‘[About CITES](https://cites.org/eng/disc/org.php)’.

Meetings

Known as the World Wildlife Conference, the CoP usually meets every three years. [CoP20](https://cites.org/eng/cop20) is scheduled to be held from 24 November to 5 December 2025 in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. The Standing Committee, Animals Committee and Plants Committee meet annually, usually in Geneva. In 2013, GA res. [68/205](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/68/205) designated the CITES Secretariat as the official facilitator of [UN World Wildlife Day](https://wildlifeday.org/en), which is celebrated annually on 3 March.

Secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

UNFCCC Secretariat

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YouTube: [www.youtube.com/user/climateconference](https://www.youtube.com/user/climateconference)

Website: [www.unfccc.int](http://www.unfccc.int)

Executive Secretary: Simon Stiell, Grenada (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in August 2022)

Purpose

The Secretariat supports all institutions involved in international climate change negotiations under the [Convention](https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/what-is-the-united-nations-framework-convention-on-climate-change) and its [Kyoto Protocol](https://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol) and [Paris Agreement](https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement). The ultimate objectives of the Convention and related legal instruments are to:

* Stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere at a level that will prevent dangerous human interference with the climate system and within a timeframe sufficient to allow ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change
* Ensure that food production is not threatened

Enable economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner.

The Convention opened for signature at the Earth Summit (UN Conference on Environment and Development) in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992 and entered into force in March 1994. As at 1 July 2025, there were 198 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetailsIII.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXVII-7&chapter=27&Temp=mtdsg3&clang=_en) to the Convention.

Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement

The first Conference of the Parties (COP1) agreed that the Convention commitments were inadequate and launched the Berlin Mandate talks on additional commitments. The result of these negotiations, the [Kyoto Protocol,](https://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol) was adopted by consensus at COP 3 in Kyoto in December 1997. As at 1 July 2025, there were 192 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXVII-7-a&chapter=27&clang=_en) to the Kyoto Protocol.1

The Protocol includes legally binding emission targets for developed country (Annex I) parties for the six major greenhouse gases. It entered into force on 16 February 2005, 90 days after Annex I parties, accounting for at least 55 percent of the total carbon dioxide emissions for 1990, had deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession. Its first commitment period ended on 31 December 2012.

At COP 13, held in conjunction with the third Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 3) in Bali in December 2007, parties agreed to launch negotiations towards an agreed outcome that would strengthen the international climate change regime.

The [Doha Amendment](https://unfccc.int/process/the-kyoto-protocol/the-doha-amendment) to the Kyoto Protocol was adopted at COP 18/CMP 8, held in November–December 2012 in Doha, Qatar, and is subject to acceptance by parties to the Kyoto Protocol. The amendment entered into force on 31 December 2020, 90 days after three- quarters of the parties to the Kyoto Protocol had deposited their instruments of acceptance. As at 1 July 2025, there were 148 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXVII-7-c&chapter=27&clang=_en) to the Doha Amendment. Ratification of the Doha Amendment relates to a second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol, for global climate action for the years leading up to 2020.

At COP 21/CMP 11, held in Paris, France, in December 2015, Parties to the UNFCCC reached an agreement to combat climate change and to accelerate and intensify the actions and investments needed for a sustainable low-carbon future. The [Paris Agreement](https://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9485.php) requires all Parties to put forward their best efforts through ‘nationally determined contributions’ (NDCs) and to strengthen these efforts in the years ahead.

On 5 October 2016, the threshold for entry into force of the Paris Agreement was achieved. The Paris Agreement entered into force on 4 November 2016. The first session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 1) took place in Marrakech, Morocco from 15–18 November 2016. As at 1 July 2025, there were 195 signatories and 195 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXVII-7-d&chapter=27&clang=_en) to the Paris Agreement.

More detailed information is available on the [website](https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement).

Structure

The UNFCCC [COP](https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/supreme-bodies/conference-of-the-parties-cop) is the supreme body of the Convention and the [CMP](https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/supreme-bodies/conference-of-the-parties-serving-as-the-meeting-of-the-parties-to-the-kyoto-protocol-cmp) is the supreme body of the Kyoto Protocol. The Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement ([CMA](https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/supreme-bodies/conference-of-the-parties-serving-as-the-meeting-of-the-parties-to-the-paris-agreement-cma)) oversees the implementation of the Paris Agreement and takes decisions to promote its effective implementation. The Secretariat supports the COP, CMP and CMA; their subsidiary bodies – the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice ([SBSTA](https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/subsidiary-bodies/sbsta)) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation ([SBI](https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/subsidiary-bodies/sbi)); and the [Bureau](https://unfccc.int/process/bodies/supreme-bodies/bureau-of-the-cop-cmp-and-cma) of the COP, CMP and CMA. The Bureau provides advice and guidance for ongoing work under the Convention and its Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement, the organization of their sessions and the operation of the Secretariat.

At the COP 1 session, held in Berlin in April 1995, it was decided that the Secretariat would service all bodies established by the COP, and be based in Bonn. The Secretariat is institutionally linked to the UN but not fully integrated in any department or programme. More governance information, including Bureau members, is available on the [website](https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/bodies/governing-and-subsidiary-bodies).

The Global Environment Facility (GEF, see page 320) is one of the entities entrusted with the operation of the financial mechanism to the Convention.

Meetings

The UNFCCC, COP, CMP and CMA meet annually. [COP 29/CMP 18/CMA 6](https://unfccc.int/cop29) took place in November 2024 in Baku, Azerbaijan, and [COP 30/CMP 19/CMA 7](https://unfccc.int/cop30) are scheduled to be held from 10 to 21 November 2025 in Belém, Brazil.

Note

1 In accordance with Article 27 (1) of the Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Government of Canada notified the Secretary-General of the UN that it had decided to withdraw from the Kyoto Protocol. The action became effective for Canada on 15 December 2012, in accordance with Article 27 (2).

Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS or Bonn Convention)

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Website: [www.cms.int](http://www.cms.int)

Executive Secretary: Amy Fraenkel, USA (appointed in February 2020)

Purpose

The Secretariat provides administrative support to the [Convention](http://www.cms.int/en/node/3916), which is an intergovernmental treaty concerned with the conservation of migratory species and their habitats globally (see <https://elearning.informea.org/course/view.php?id=86>). The Convention originated in Recommendation 32 of the 1972 UN Conference on the Human Environment, was concluded in 1979 and entered into force on 1 November 1983. As at 1 July 2025, there were 133 [parties](https://www.cms.int/en/parties-range-states) to the Convention.

The objective of the Convention is to conserve migratory species and their habitats by:

* Providing strict protection measures for migratory species listed as endangered in [Appendix I](https://www.cms.int/en/species/appendix-i-ii-cms)
* Concluding multilateral agreements for the conservation and management of migratory species listed in [Appendix II](https://www.cms.int/en/species/appendix-i-ii-cms) (such as water birds, terrestrial and marine mammals, reptiles and bats) that have an unfavourable conservation status or would benefit significantly from international cooperation

Undertaking research and monitoring activities.

Structure

The Convention is governed by the [Conference of the Parties](https://www.cms.int/meetings/conference-of-parties) (COP). A [Standing Committee](https://www.cms.int/meetings/standing-committee) provides policy and administrative guidance between regular meetings of the COP, and a [Scientific Council](https://www.cms.int/meetings/scientific-council) gives advice on technical matters. More governance information is available on the website under ‘About’, then ‘[Organizational Structure](https://www.cms.int/en/convention-bodies/cms-organizational-structure)’.

Meetings

The COP usually meets every three years. [COP14](https://www.cms.int/en/meeting/fourteenth-meeting-conference-parties-cms) took place from 12 to 17 February 2024 in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, and [COP15](https://www.cms.int/en/cop15) is scheduled to be held from 23 to 29 March 2026 in Campo Grande, Brazil. The Standing Committee meets at least annually, and the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council usually meets twice every three years.

Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention)

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Website: [www.ramsar.org](http://www.ramsar.org)

Secretary General: Musonda Mumba, Zambia (appointed by the Ramsar Convention Standing Committee in August 2022)

Purpose

The Secretariat services the Convention on Wetlands (also known as the [Ramsar Convention](https://www.ramsar.org/about/the-convention-on-wetlands-and-its-mission)), which is an intergovernmental treaty that provides a framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands and their resources. It was adopted in Ramsar, Iran, in February 1971, and entered into force on 21 December 1975.

To accede to the Convention, Contracting [Parties](https://www.ramsar.org/country-profiles) (Member States) must have designated at least one wetland for inclusion in the List of Wetlands of International Importance (the ‘[Ramsar List](https://www.ramsar.org/document/the-list-of-wetlands-of-international-importance-the-ramsar-list)’). Contracting Parties are also expected to manage all wetlands within their territories in accordance with the principles of wise use and to engage in international cooperation to further the Convention’s objectives.

As at 1 July 2025, the Convention’s 172 Contracting Parties had designated over 2500 Ramsar Sites for inclusion in the Ramsar List. These Ramsar Sites cover more than 2.5 million square kilometres.

Structure

The Convention is not part of the UN system of environmental treaties but has established collaborative agreements. It is governed by the [Conference of the Contracting Parties](https://www.ramsar.org/about/bodies/conference-contracting-parties) (COP). The [Standing Committee](http://www.ramsar.org/about/the-standing-committee) is the intersessional executive body that supervises implementation of the Convention and the Secretariat’s work. The Secretariat carries out the day-to-day coordination of the Convention’s activities, including preparing for and servicing meetings of the COP, Standing Committee and subsidiary bodies.

The [Scientific and Technical Review Panel](https://www.ramsar.org/about/bodies/scientific-technical-review-panel) (STRP) advises the Standing Committee and COP on technical issues. STRP members include a representative of each of Ramsar’s six international organization partners: BirdLife International, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), International Water Management Institute (IWMI), Wetlands International, the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust and WWF-International (World Wildlife Fund).

Meetings

The COP usually meets every three years. Most recently, [COP15](https://www.ramsar.org/meeting/15th-meeting-conference-contracting-parties) took place from 23 to 31 July 2025 in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. The Standing Committee meets annually.

Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury

International Environment House 1

11–13 Chemin des Anémones

1219 Châtelaine, Geneva

Switzerland

Email: [MEA-MinamataSecretariat@un.org](mailto:MEA-MinamataSecretariat@un.org)

X: [@MinamataMEA](http://www.twitter.com/MinamataMEA)

LinkedIn: [@minamataconvention](https://ch.linkedin.com/company/minamataconvention)

Instagram: [@minamataconvention](http://www.instagram.com/minamataconvention)

Website: [www.minamataconvention.org](http://www.minamataconvention.org/)

Executive Secretary: Monika Stankiewicz, Poland (since January 2020)

Purpose

The Secretariat services the Minamata [Convention](https://www.mercuryconvention.org/en/about) on Mercury, a global treaty to protect human health and the environment from anthropogenic (human-caused) emissions and releases of mercury and mercury compounds. The Convention was adopted and opened for signature on 10 October 2013 at the Conference of Plenipotentiaries held in Kumamoto, Japan. It entered into force on 16 August 2017. As at 1 July 2025, there were 128 signatories and 152 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XXVII-17&chapter=27&clang=_en) to the Convention. Parties [report](https://mercuryconvention.org/en/parties/reporting) on their implementation of the Convention through the Secretariat.

The Convention follows a life-cycle approach to mercury: from mine, to supply and use, to final disposal. It contains provisions that relate to mercury’s different life stages, including its primary extraction; uses in products, processes or activities such as artisanal and small-scale gold mining; emissions and releases through various processes; and treatment as waste. The Convention is named after a city in Japan where serious health and environmental damage occurred as a result of mercury pollution in the mid-20th century.

In 2022, at [COP-4](https://minamataconvention.org/en/meetings/cop4), the Convention was amended to ban eight additional mercury-added products, reducing mercury demand, exposure and waste. In 2023, at [COP-5](https://minamataconvention.org/en/meetings/cop5), Annexes A and B were [amended](https://minamataconvention.org/en/documents/amendments-annexes-and-b-and-feasibility-mercury-free-alternatives-manufacturing) to phase out mercury-added products, including certain fluorescent lamps, button batteries, switches and relays, as well as mercury-added manufacturing processes. Controls on mercury-added cosmetics were also strengthened with a complete ban as of 2025.

Structure

The Convention, under the auspices of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP), is governed by the [Conference of the Parties](https://www.mercuryconvention.org/en/about/conference-parties) (COP). The [Implementation and Compliance Committee](https://www.mercuryconvention.org/en/implementation/implementation-and-compliance-committee) is a subsidiary body to the COP, set up to promote the implementation of, and review compliance with, all provisions of the Convention.

The Global Environment Facility (GEF, see following entry) is one of the entities entrusted with the operation of the [financial mechanism](https://www.mercuryconvention.org/en/about/financial-mechanism) to the Convention.

Meetings

The Conference of the Parties has held four meetings in Geneva: [COP1](https://www.mercuryconvention.org/en/meetings/cop1) in September 2017, [COP2](https://www.mercuryconvention.org/en/meetings/cop2) in November 2018, [COP3](http://www.mercuryconvention.org/Meetings/COP3/tabid/7854/language/en-US/Default.aspx) in November 2019, and [COP5](https://mercuryconvention.org/en/meetings/cop5) in November 2023. [COP4](https://www.mercuryconvention.org/en/meetings/cop4) was held in two segments: the first online from 1 to 5 November 2021 and the second from 21 to 25 March 2022 in Bali, Indonesia. [COP6](https://minamataconvention.org/en/meetings/cop6) is scheduled to take place in November 2025.

Global Environment Facility (GEF)

1899 Pennsylvania Avenue

Washington, DC 20006

United States of America

Telephone: +1 202 473 0508

Fax: +1 202 522 3240

Email: [gef@thegef.org](mailto:gef@thegef.org)

X: [@theGEF](http://www.twitter.com/theGEF)

Website: [www.thegef.org](http://www.thegef.org)

Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson: Carlos Manuel Rodríguez, Costa Rica (elected by the GEF Council in June 2020)

Purpose

The GEF provides grants and concessional funding to eligible countries for projects and programmes that protect the global environment and promote sustainable development. It is a designated financial mechanism for six conventions, the:

* UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
* Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
* Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants
* UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
* Minamata Convention on Mercury

Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdictions (BBNJ) Agreement.

The GEF also supports implementation of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer in countries with economies in transition, although it is not linked formally to the Protocol. As well as the GEF trust fund, the GEF administers several dedicated [financing entities](https://www.thegef.org/who-we-are/funding) with specific focuses: two climate adaptation funds, the Least Developed Countries Fund ([LDCF](https://www.thegef.org/what-we-do/topics/least-developed-countries-fund-ldcf)) and the Special Climate Change Fund ([SCCF](https://www.thegef.org/what-we-do/topics/special-climate-change-fund-sccf)), and trust funds for the [Nagoya Protocol](https://www.cbd.int/abs/) and the Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency ([CBIT](https://www.thegef.org/what-we-do/topics/capacity-building-initiative-transparency-cbit)). In 2022, the CBD selected the GEF to host a new [Global Biodiversity Framework Fund](https://www.thegef.org/what-we-do/topics/global-biodiversity-framework-fund), launched in August 2023 to support the implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework ([KMGBF](https://www.cbd.int/gbf/)).

The GEF funds the agreed incremental costs of activities that benefit the global environment in a number of focal areas: biodiversity, climate change (mitigation and adaptation), chemicals and waste, international waters and land degradation (primarily desertification and deforestation). The [Instrument](https://www.thegef.org/documents/instrument-establishment-restructured-gef) establishing the GEF (para. 9) states that countries may be eligible for GEF funds if they:

* Have ratified the [conventions the GEF serves](https://www.thegef.org/partners/conventions) and conform with the eligibility criteria decided by the Conference of the Parties of each convention

Are eligible to borrow from the World Bank (International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and/or International Development Association) or receive technical assistance grants from the UN Development Programme (UNDP) through a country programme.

Originally set up as a pilot programme in 1991, the GEF has since been restructured and undergone several ‘replenishment’ rounds. Resources for the GEF are replenished every four years by contributing countries. Negotiations for the [eighth replenishment period](https://www.thegef.org/who-we-are/funding/gef-8-replenishment) resulted in a record replenishment of $5.3 billion for the four years of GEF-8, running to June 2026, and many additional countries became donors for the first time. Co-financing provides, on average, an additional five or six times the amount of resources to support GEF for particular projects and comes from bilateral agreements, governments hosting projects, implementing partners, non-governmental organizations and the private sector.

Structure

* [Assembly](https://www.thegef.org/events/seventh-gef-assembly): comprises representatives of all participating countries and is responsible for reviewing the GEF’s general policies, the operation of the GEF and its membership, and considering proposed amendments to the GEF Instrument
* [Council](https://www.thegef.org/who-we-are/gef-council/members-alternates): the main governing body, which comprises 32 members (of which 16 represent developing countries, 14 developed countries and two economies in transition) and is primarily responsible for developing, adopting and evaluating GEF programmes
* Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel ([STAP](https://www.stapgef.org/)): provides expert advice to the GEF

Independent Evaluation Office ([IEO](https://www.gefieo.org/)): reports to Council, and carries out independent evaluations of the GEF’s work consistent with Council decisions.

The GEF has 18 implementing [agencies](https://www.thegef.org/partners/gef-agencies). As well as the three original implementing agencies – UNDP, UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Bank – seven other specialized UN agencies and regional development banks also administer GEF projects: the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), African Development Bank (AfDB), Asian Development Bank (ADB), European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). Since 2012, eight international non-governmental organizations have been accredited as project agencies: Conservation International (CI), Development Bank of Latin America (CAF), Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), Foreign Economic Cooperation Office, Ministry of Environmental Protection of China (FECO), Fundo Brasileiro para a Biodiversidade (FUNBIO), International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), West African Development Bank (BOAD) and World Wildlife Fund (WWF-US).

The GEF Secretariat is independent of the 18 implementing agencies and reports to and serves the GEF Council and Assembly. Among other duties, the Secretariat coordinates the formulation and oversees implementation of activities under the work programme and implements Assembly and Council decisions. More governance information is on the website under ‘Who We Are’, then ‘[Organization](https://www.thegef.org/who-we-are/organization)’.

Meetings

The Assembly meets every three or four years. Most recently, the [Seventh GEF Assembly](https://www.thegef.org/events/seventh-gef-assembly) was held from 22 to 26 August 2023 in Vancouver, Canada. The Council usually meets twice a year for three days.

Membership

As at 1 July 2025, the GEF had 186 participating countries. The full list is available on the [website](http://www.thegef.org/partners/participant-countries).

### SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER RELATED BODIES

#### Specialized Agencies

##### International Labour Organization (ILO)

##### 4 Route des Morillons

##### 1211 Geneva 22

##### Switzerland

##### Telephone: +41 22 799 6111

##### Email: [ilo@ilo.org](mailto:ilo@ilo.org)

##### Website: [www.ilo.org](http://www.ilo.org)

##### Director-General: Gilbert F Houngbo, Togo (elected by the Governing Body in March 2022 for a five-year term beginning 1 October 2022)

Purpose

The ILO is devoted to promoting social justice and internationally recognized human and labour rights, pursuing its founding mission that social justice is essential to universal and lasting peace. The only tripartite UN agency, it brings together government, employer and worker representatives to set labour standards, develop policies and devise programmes promoting decent work for all women and men.

The ILO’s [Decent Work Agenda](https://www.ilo.org/topics-and-sectors/decent-work) is composed of four strategic objectives:

* Set and promote standards and fundamental principles and rights at work
* Create greater opportunities for women and men to decent employment and income
* Enhance the coverage and effectiveness of social protection for all

Strengthen tripartism and social dialogue.

The ILO was founded in 1919, its constitution forming part of the Treaty of Versailles (Part XIII). In 1946, it became the first specialized agency of the UN.

Structure

ILO Member States meet at the annual [International Labour Conference](https://www.ilo.org/meetings-and-events/international-labour-conference) in June. Each Member State is represented by a tripartite delegation consisting of two government delegates, an employer delegate, worker delegate and their respective advisers. Employer and worker delegates are nominated by the most representative national organizations of employers and workers. All delegates have the same rights and can express themselves freely and vote as they wish. Many of the government representatives are Cabinet ministers responsible for labour affairs in their own countries. Heads of State and prime ministers also take the floor at the Conference. International organizations, both governmental and others, attend as observers.

The Conference, which is often called an international parliament of labour, has several main tasks:

* Crafting, adopting and supervising the application of international labour standards in the form of conventions and/or recommendations
* Providing a forum where social and labour questions of importance to the world are discussed freely
* Adopting conclusions and resolutions that provide guidelines for the ILO’s general policy and future activities
* Adopting the biennial work programme and budget, which is financed by Member States

Electing the Governing Body members every three years.

The [Governing Body](https://www.ilo.org/meetings-and-events/ilo-governing-body) is the ILO’s executive body. It takes decisions on ILO policy, decides the Conference agenda, adopts the Organization’s draft programme and budget for submission to the Conference and elects the Director-General. The Governing Body has 56 titular members (28 governments, 14 employers and 14 workers) and 66 deputy members (28 governments, 19 employers and 19 workers). Its members are elected respectively by the government, employer and workers’ groups of the International Labour Conference for periods of office of three years, most recently in June 2024. Ten of the titular government seats are non-elective and are held by states of chief industrial importance, as determined from time to time by the Governing Body. At present, these states are Brazil, China, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Russian Federation, UK and USA. More governance information is available on the [website](https://www.ilo.org/about-ilo/how-ilo-works).

Meetings

The International Labour Conference is held annually in Geneva, Switzerland, usually in June. The Governing Body meets three times a year, in March, June and November.

Membership

The ILO has 187 [Member States](https://www.ilo.org/about-ilo/how-ilo-works/member-states) (as at July 2025). The UN Member States that are not members are Andorra, Bhutan, DPRK, Liechtenstein, Micronesia, Monaco and Nauru.

Governing Body members (June 2024 to June 2027)1

Government group

Previous terms include both regular and deputy members, with (D) indicating deputy members for the terms indicated. ILO members that have not served on the Governing Body are not listed.

Previous1, 2 Current

Albania 2014–17(D)

Algeria 1969–72 81–87 1996–2002 11–14(D) 14–17 21–24(D)

Angola 1978–87 2011–14(D) 14–17

Antigua and Barbuda 1987–90

Argentina 1969–99 2002–181 21–24(D)

Australia 1972–96 2005–14 14–21(D) 21–24 2024–27 (Deputy)

Austria 1975–78 84–87 96–99 2008–11 2024–27 (Deputy)

Azerbaijan 2017–21

Bahamas 2002–05

Bahrain 1981–84 2014–17(D) 17–21

Bangladesh 1978–84 87–93 1996–2011 14–17(D) 17–21 21–24(D) 2024–27 (Regular)

Barbados 1981–84 2002–11 17–24 2024–27 (Regular)

Belarus 1987–93 2002–08

Belgium 1969–72 81–84 90–93 2002–11 14–17(D) 21–24(D)

Benin 1972–75 84–90 1999–2011 2024–27 (Deputy)

Bolivia 1972–75 84–87 90–93 2024–27 (Deputy)

Botswana 1984–90 2011–17(D)

Brazil3 2011–24 2024–27 (Regular)

Brunei Darussalam 2014–24(D) 2024–27 (Regular)

Bulgaria 1969–75 81–84 90–93 1999–2005 08–11 11–14(D) 14–17 17–21(D)

Burkina Faso 1969–72 84–87 1999–2002 14–17(D)

Burundi 1975–78 84–90 2002–11

Cambodia 2005–11 11–14(D) 14–17

Cameroon 1975–81 87–93 2002–08 17–21(D) 21–24

Canada 1969–81 1984–2014 14–17(D) 17–21 21–24(D) 2024–27 (Regular)

Central African Republic 1969–72 96–99

Chad 1999–2002 14–17(D) 17–21

Chile 1969–72 1993–2002 05–08 19–211 21–24

China3 2011–24 2024–27 (Regular)

Colombia 1969–84 87–90 1996–2002 11–14 14–17(D) 21–24 2024–27 (Deputy)

Congo 1969–72 90–99 2008–14 2024–27 (Deputy)

Costa Rica 1990–93 96–99 2011–14(D)

Côte d’Ivoire 1978–81 96–99 2005–08 17–21

Croatia 1996–2002 21–24(D) 2024–27 (Deputy)

Cuba 1975–78 81–90 1993–2002 05–11 11–24(D) 2024–27 (Deputy)

Cyprus 1984–87 1999–2002 11–14(D) 2024–27 (Deputy)

Czechia 1993–96 2005–11 17–21(D) 21–24

DR Congo 1975–78

Denmark 1969–72 82–84 90–93 1999–2002 11–14 2024–27 (Deputy)

Djibouti 1984–87

Dominican Republic 1999–2002 02–05 14–17(D) 21–24(D) 2024–27 (Regular)

Ecuador 1969–75 81–84 87–90 2002–05 17–24(D)

Egypt 1978–84 93–99 2008–14

El Salvador 1999–14

Eswatini 1993–99 2017–21(D) 21–24

Ethiopia 1981–87 1996–2008 14–17(D) 17–21 2024–27 (Deputy)

Finland 1972–75 84–87 96–99 2005–08 17–21(D)

France3 2011–24 2024–27 (Regular)

Gabon 1972–75 78–81 93–96 1999–2005 21–24(D) 2024–27 (Regular)

Germany3 2011–24 2024–27 (Regular)

Ghana 1972–75 81–87 93–96 1999–2005 08–11 11–14(D) 14–17

Greece 1975–78 87–90 2005–08 17–21(D)

Guatemala 1999–2002 17–21(D) 21–24

Guinea 1975–78 87–90 96–99 2008–11

Guyana 1978–81

Honduras 1975–81 90–93 2005–08 2024–27 (Deputy)

Hungary 1975–78 81–87 93–99 2005–14 2024–27 (Deputy)

India3 2011–24 2024–27 (Regular)

Indonesia 1969–78 81–87 1990–2005 11–21(D) 21–24

Iran 1969–81 84–90 1993–21 21–24(D) 2024–27 (Deputy)

Iraq 1984–87 2017–24(D) 2024–27 (Deputy)

Iceland 2021–24(D)

Ireland 1972–75 90–93 2005–08 17–21

Italy3 2011–24 2024–27 (Regular)

Jamaica 1972–75 84–87

Japan3 2011–24 2024–27 (Regular)

Jordan 1972–75 96–99 2002–11 14–17(D)

Kazakhstan 2011–14(D)

Kenya 1969–72 78–84 90–96 2002–11 11–14(D) 14–17

Kuwait 1975–78 87–90 2005–08

Lao PDR 2021–24(D) 2024–27 (Deputy)

Lebanon 1978–81 2008–11 11–14(D)

Lesotho 1988–93 2014–17(D) 17–21

Liberia 1975–78

Libya 1984–90 1999–2005 21–24(D) 2024–27 (Regular)

Lithuania 1999–2005 08–14 14–17(D) 21–24(D) 2024–27 (Regular)

Luxembourg 2002–05

Madagascar 1972–75 81–84 90–93

Malawi 1990–93 2002–08 21–24(D) 2024–27 (Regular)

Malaysia 1987–90 1996–2002 21–24(D) 2024–27 (Deputy)

Mali 1981–84 93–96 2002–05 14–17(D)

Malta 1978–81 90–93 2011–14(D)

Mauritania 1972–75 2014–17(D) 17–21

Mauritius 1975–78 93–99

Mexico 1972–87 1990–2011 11–14(D) 14–17 17–21(D) 21–24 2024–27 (Deputy)

Mongolia 1981–87 96–99

Morocco 1972–75 87–93 2002–08 17–21(D) 21–24

Mozambique 1978–84 2005–11 2024–27 (Deputy)

Myanmar 1981–84 2017–21(D)

Namibia 1996–2002 17–24(D)

Nepal 2017–21(D) 2024–27 (Deputy)

Netherlands 1981–84 93–96 1999–2002 05–08 2024–27 (Deputy) 11–17(D)

New Zealand 1990–96 1999–2005

Nicaragua 1978–81 84–90 93–96

Niger 1978–81 90–96 2002–05 11–14 21–24(D) 2024–27 (Regular)

Nigeria 1969–72 78–84 90–93 1996–2011 17–21(D) 21–24

North Macedonia 1975–81 84–90

Norway 1975–78 84–87 93–96 2002–05 14–17(D)

Oman 2002–05 21–24(D) 2024–27 (Regular)

Pakistan 1969–72 75–81 84–87 1990–2011 11–17(D) 21–24

Panama 1972–78 81–84 93–99 2008–11 11–14(D) 14–21

Paraguay 2017–21(D) 2024–27 (Deputy)

Peru 1978–81 90–93 1996–2002 05–11 17–21 2024–27 (Regular)

Philippines 1978–84 1990–2008 2024–27 (Deputy)

Poland 1972–78 93–99 2005–11 14–17(D) 17–21 2024–27 (Regular)

Portugal 1981–84 93–96 1999–2002 08–11 21–24(D)

Qatar 1993–96 2008–14 2024–27 (Deputy)

ROK 1996–2011 11–14(D) 14–21 21–24(D) 2024–27 (Regular)

Romania 1969–72 75–81 90–96 2002–08 11–14(D) 14–17 17–21(D) 21–24

Russian Federation3 2011–14(D) 14–24 2024–27 (Regular)

Rwanda 1972–75 17–21(D) 21–24

São Tomé and Príncipe 1984–87

Saudi Arabia 1996–2008 17–21(D) 21–24

Senegal 1981–84 96–99 2005–08 17–21 21–24(D) 2024–27 (Regular)

Sierra Leone 1975–81

Singapore 2002–11

Slovakia 1996–2002

Slovenia 2002–05 21–24(D)

Somalia 1969–72 75–78 87–90

South Africa 1996–2011 2024–27 (Deputy)

Spain 1972–75 78–81 84–87 93–99 2008–11 14–17(D) 21–24(D) 2024–27 (Regular)

Sri Lanka 1972–78 87–90 2005–08 11–14(D)

Sudan 1969–72 75–78 93–96 1999–2005 08–11 11–14(D) 14–17 21–24(D) 2024–27 (Regular)

Suriname 1996–99

Sweden 1978–81 87–90 96–99 2008–11 21–24

Switzerland 1978–81 87–90 1999–2002 11–14(D) 17–21(D)

Syrian AR 1969–72 96–99

Thailand 1975–81 84–90 1996–2002 08–11 11–17(D) 17–21

Togo 1975–78 90–93 2011–14

Trinidad and Tobago 1975–78 1999–2002 05–08 11–17

Tunisia 1975–81 90–96 2005–11 2024–27 (Deputy)

Türkiye 1975–78 87–90 96–99 2002–05 14–17 17–21(D)

Uganda 1969–75 87–90 96–99 2005–08 17–21(D) 21–24

Ukraine 1972–75 81–87 1996–2002

UAE 1990–93 1999–2002 11–14(D) 14–17

UK3 2011–24 2024–27 (Regular)

UR of Tanzania 1975–78 87–90 1999–2002 08–14 14–17(D) 2024–27 (Deputy)

USA3 2011–24 2024–27 (Regular)

Uruguay 1969–72 78–84 87–96 2002–05 08–11 11–21(D) 2024–27 (Regular)

Uzbekistan 2024–27 (Deputy)

Venezuela 1969–72 75–96 1999–2011 11–14(D) 14–17

Viet Nam 1969–72 2002–14

Yemen 1999–2002

Zambia 1972–75 78–81 2008–14

Zimbabwe 1981–87 93–96 2011–14(D) 14–17

Employers’ group (June 2024 to June 2027)

Regular members

N Beckman, Sweden

H Diop, Senegal

A Furlan, Brazil

S Janahi, Bahrain

T Mackall, USA

B Matthey, Switzerland

J Mugo, Kenya

E Nagasawa, Japan

A Sobti, India

M Thorns, Germany

J Tinsley, Australia

A Vauchez, France

F Yllanes, Mexico

H Zouanat, Morocco

Deputy members

F Ahmed, Bangladesh

A Alsayegh, Saudi Arabia

J Andriamamonjiarison, Madagascar

N Chenard, Congo

A Franke, Germany

K Ghariani, Tunisia

L Giménez, Argentina

D Hynes, Canada

H Liu, China

S Mayers-Granville, Barbados

M Moskvina, Russian Federation

K Moyane, South Africa

D Opio, Uganda

A Oyerinde, Nigeria

M Pinto Lomeña, Spain

G Ricci, Guatemala

T Schoenmaeckers, Netherlands

S H Syed Husman, Malaysia

M Téran, Ecuador

Workers’ group (June 2024 to June 2027)

Regular members

H Arfaoui, Tunisia

F Atwoli, Kenya

A Brown, UK

L Chang, Canada

W Dichun, China

S R Gongalla, India

A Gono, Japan

M Guiro, Senegal

B Lestic, France

G Martínez, Argentina

M Norddahl, Iceland

M O’Neil, Australia

C Passchier, Netherlands

J Vogt, USA

Deputy members

A Amancio Vale, Brazil

K F Amenu, Ethiopia

Z Awan, Pakistan

A Baah, Ghana

S Choo, Singapore

P Dimitrov, Bulgaria

E Familia, Dominican Republic

R Lamas, Belgium

L M Léon Molina, Venezuela

Z Losi, South Africa

D Mongo, Congo

T Moore, Barbados

L Ocmin, Italy

J E Oñate Vera, Mexico

S A F Saed, State of Palestine4

P S Soe, Myanmar

M J Veiga de Almeida, Cabo Verde

A Wünsche, Germany

A Zharkov, Russian Federation

Notes

1 The 2017–20 term was extended a year, until the deferred 109th session of the International Labour Conference in June 2021. Argentina and Chile agreed to share a seat for the 2017–20 term (extended to June 2021), with Argentina serving from June 2017 to December 2018 and Chile serving from January 2019 to June 2021.

2 Czechoslovakia served on the Governing Body 1969–72, 1978–81 and 1984–92. The former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia served on the ILO Governing Body in 1975–81 and 1984–90. It was not automatically succeeded by any of the new states created following its dissolution.

3 Members holding non-elective seats as ‘states of chief industrial importance’.

4 The ILO uses the expression ‘Occupied Palestinian Territory’. This does not imply any opinion whatsoever on the part of the ILO concerning the legal status of that territory.

Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO)

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Website: [www.fao.org](http://www.fao.org) and [www.fao.org/unfao/govbodies](https://www.fao.org/unfao/govbodies)

Director-General: Qu Dongyu, China (since August 2019; re-elected in July 2023 to serve a second four-year term from 1 August 2023 until 31 July 2027)

Purpose

The FAO’s mandate is to raise levels of nutrition, improve agricultural productivity, better the lives of rural populations and contribute to the growth of the world economy. It was established in 1945, when 44 governments accepted the Constitution as drafted by an interim commission. The functions and assets of the former International Institute of Agriculture in Rome were transferred to the new body. By GA res. [50/227](http://undocs.org/A/RES/50/227) (1996), the FAO and the World Food Programme absorbed the functions of the World Food Council, which was discontinued.

Structure

The [Conference](http://www.fao.org/unfao/govbodies/gsbhome/conference/en/) is the FAO’s sovereign governing body and comprises all members and associate members. Representatives of members meet biennially to review global governance policy issues and international frameworks, as well as to evaluate work carried out and approve the budget for the next biennium. The Director-General is elected at the Conference for a four-year term, renewable once. The Council’s Independent Chair is appointed by the Conference for a two-year term, renewable once. The Conference elects 49 [Council](http://www.fao.org/unfao/govbodies/gsbhome/council/en/) members to serve three-year staggered terms to carry out executive oversight of programme and budgetary activities. The other governing bodies are three Council Committees (Programme Committee, Finance Committee, Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters), four Technical Committees (Committee on Agriculture, Committee on Commodity Problems, Committee on Fisheries, Committee on Forestry), the Committee on World Food Security and Regional Conferences. More governance information is on the Governing and Statutory Bodies [website](http://www.fao.org/unfao/govbodies/en/).

Meetings

The FAO Conference meets in regular session every two years, most recently from 28 June to 4 July 2025. The Council normally meets at least five times between the two-yearly Conference sessions. All sessions are held in Rome.

Membership

The FAO has 194 member nations, two associate members (the Faroe Islands and Tokelau)1 and one member organization (the European Union).2 For the purpose of Council elections, FAO membership is divided into seven regional groups, each with a fixed number of seats, as shown in the following list. Terms in the following list are usually for three years, beginning on 1 July or at the end of a regular session of the Conference. Details of shared terms are on the Governing and Statutory Bodies [website](https://www.fao.org/unfao/govbodies/gsbhome/council/en/). Members that have not served on the Council are not listed.

FAO Council Members as at July 2025 (49)\*

Previous Current

Africa (49 members, 12 seats)

Algeria 1969–71 1977–80 87–89 95–98 2017–20

Angola 1981–83 89–94 2003–06 13–16 19–25

Benin 1973–75 83–85 2016–19

Botswana 1979–81

Burkina Faso\* 1969–72 81–84 93–96 1999–2004 19–22

Burundi 1975–77 2021–22 2024–27

Cabo Verde 1981–84 91–96 2005–07 11–13 17–20

Cameroon 1961–63 79–82 85–93 1995–2003 11–20 21–23 2023–26

Central African Republic 1967–70

Chad 1965–67 77–80

Congo 1973–76 77–80 81–86 89–92 93–98 2003–06 07–10 12–24 2024–27

Côte d’Ivoire 1965–68 1979–82 91–93 2003–08 11–13 16–19 22–25

DR Congo 1971–73 77–80 87–89 2005–07

Equatorial Guinea 2011–13 15–24

Eritrea 1997–2000 05–07 12–15 20–23

Eswatini 1993–96 2003–05

Ethiopia 1965–70 73–75 81–84 89–91 1999–2002 07–09 15–18 21–24

Gabon 1973–77 1987–2004 07–15

Gambia 1975–77 85–89

Ghana 1959–62 77–81 89–92 95–98 2001–04 09–11 2025–28

Guinea 1973–76 87–91 2011–14 19–25

Guinea-Bissau 1977–79

Kenya 1965–68 71–74 81–83 87–93 2001–03 07–10 16–19 22–25 2025–28

Lesotho 1973–75 81–84 87–90 1999–2002 16–19 2023–26

Liberia 1953–56 77–80 85–87 2013–16

Madagascar 1961–64 79–81 87–95 1999–2001 05–08 13–16

Malawi 1975–78 83–85

Mali 1967–69 2005–07 14–17

Mauritania 1997–2002 22–25

Mauritius 1975–78 95–98 2003–05 09–12

Morocco 1959–65 71–74 81–83 89–92 1999–2001 07–10 13–16 2023–26

Mozambique 2009–12

Namibia 1997–2000

Niger 1975–78 85–88 2007–10 2025–28\*

Nigeria 1963–65 69–71 81–83 87–90 93–95 2003–08

Rwanda 1977–79 83–85 91–94

São Tomé and Príncipe 1983–86

Senegal 1963–66 79–81 85–87 1997–2002 07–10 2025–28

Sierra Leone 1971–74 83–86

South Africa 1947–53 57–59 97–99 2007–09 13–16 17–23 2025–28

South Sudan 2018–21

Togo 1971–73 2011–14

Tunisia 1965–68 75–77 83–86 93–95 2001–04 11–13 20–23

Uganda 1965–69 77–79 83–86 93–99 2003–06 11–13 19–22 2023–26

UR of Tanzania 1969–72 77–80 85–87 91–97 2001–04 09–11 2024–27

Zambia 1969–71 79–82 85–88 91–93 2005–08 16–19

Zimbabwe 1985–87 95–97 2001–03 09–11 14–17 19–22

Asia (25 members, 9 seats)

Bangladesh 1977–88 1991–2000 03–09 12–15 21–24 2024–27

China 1947–49 1973–2024 2024–27

India 1947–2008 09–23 2023–26

Indonesia 1955–64 1967–2000 03–14 15–18 20–24 2024–27

Japan 1953–61 1965–2024 2024–27

Malaysia 1965–67 79–91 93–97 1999–2002 07–09 14–17 19–20 22–23 2025–263

Myanmar 1949–52 2020–21

Nepal 1967–70

Pakistan 1949–55 57–93 1997–2023 2023–26

Philippines 1947–49 53–58 61–64 67–79 81–93 2001–06 09–19 21–24 2024–27

ROK 1965–67 1989–2024 2024–27

Sri Lanka 1961–64 71–81 93–96 2001–03 09–12 15–21

Thailand 1953–57 59–61 1973–2015 17–18 20–22 23–243

Viet Nam 2018–19

Europe (48 members, 10 seats)

Andorra 2019–21

Armenia 2003–06

Austria 1961–64 83–86 1999–2001 18–20

Azerbaijan 2019–21

Belarus 2021–24

Belgium 1949–52 55–58 61–64 69–71 77–80 93–95 2007–10 19–22

Bosnia and Herzegovina 2021–23

Bulgaria 1973–80 83–86 2001–04 17–19

Croatia 2023–254

Cyprus 1983–85 91–94 2001–03 15–16

Czechia 2001–03 14–17

Denmark 1947–51 61–63 73–75 85–87 97–99 2011–14

Estonia 1995–97 2016–19

Finland 1951–54 63–66 75–78 87–90 2003–05 17–20

France 1947–2008 09–11 14–17 18–20 21–23 24–25 2025–28\*

Georgia  2023–255

Germany 1959–61 1965–2015 16–17 19–20 22–24 2025–266

Greece 1965–67 77–79 89–91 1997–2000 11–13

Hungary 1971–74 77–80 87–89 91–94 1999–2001 13–16

Iceland 1999–2002 14–17 2024–27\*

Ireland 1961–64 81–83 1995–98 2011–13 2025–274

Israel 1967–68 20–236

Italy\* 1947–65 1971–2016 17–18 20–22 23–256

Lithuania 2023–25

Luxembourg 2021–23

Malta 1977–80 2005–07

Monaco 2019–21

Montenegro 2016–18

Netherlands 1947–49 53–55 59–61 75–77 89–92 2005–07 24–254

North Macedonia 2017–18

Norway 1957–60 69–72 81–84 93–96 2009–11 2023–26

Poland 1965–67 69–71 81–83 89–92 1997–2000 11–14 2025–274

Portugal 1959–61 79–82 89–92 95–98 2001–04 12–15

Republic of Moldova 2007–09

Romania 1967–73 81–83 95–98 2003–06 16–19

Russian Federation 2007–17 18–23

San Marino 2015–17

Slovakia 1993–95 2009–12

Slovenia 2005–07 22–24

Spain\* 1953–58 75–77 83–85 87–89 93–95 1999–2001 09–12 15–16 17–18 21–22 23–255

Sweden 1953–57 67–69 79–81 91–93 2005–08 20–23

Switzerland 1953–57 71–74 87–90 2001–04 2025–265

Türkiye 1955–58 67–70 86–88 95–97 2007–10 13–16 2025–28

Ukraine 2007–09 24–25 2025–28\*

UK 1947 1947–55 1957–2011 12–15 16–18 19–20 22–24 2025–265

Latin America and Caribbean (33 members, 9 seats)

Argentina\* 1953–58 61–67 1971–2003 11–22 2022–25

Bahamas 2019–22 2022–25

Barbados 1981–83 1995–2004

Bolivia 2001–10

Brazil 1947–53 1957–2025 2025–28

Chile 1947–56 59–64 67–75 1991–2019 21–24 2024–27

Colombia 1953–61 65–95 2003–04 2025–28

Costa Rica 1955–57 63–71 91–93 2019–22 2022–25

Cuba 1947–49 51–54 57–63 1977–2016

Dominican Republic 2019–21

Ecuador 1975–78 81–87 2011–20 2024–27\*

El Salvador 1979–81 2005–08 09–11 12–15

Guatemala 1999–2005 21–23 2024–27

Honduras 1993–99 2025–28\*

Jamaica 1977–80 2025–28

Mexico 1947–51 57–62 1973–2025 2025–28

Nicaragua 1985–91 2015–24

Panama 73–85 2003–09 2023–26

Paraguay 1999–2001

Peru\* 1965–76 87–90 2001–06 21–24

Trinidad and Tobago 1975–77 83–95 2005–19

Uruguay 1953–56 67–70 95–98 2007–12 16–19

Venezuela 1949–52 63 65–66 71–75 1977–2000 09–21

Near East (21 members, 6 seats)

Afghanistan 1965–71 77–83 85–87 2009–257

Egypt 1947–63 1967–2008 09–23 2023–26

Iran 1957–65 71–74 1987–2009 11–16

Iraq 1953–56 69–71 77–80 83–91 2013–16 22–239

Jordan 1963–66 75–77 2009–15 18–21

Kuwait 1973–75 79–81 1995–2001 07–10 15–19 21–24 2024–27

Lebanon 1953–56 59–65 75–79 81–98 2005–08

Libya 1975–78 87–95 2001–04

Oman 2005–07 2025–267

Qatar 1999–2004 16–25 2025–28

Saudi Arabia 1969–72 1979–2008 09–23 2023–26

Somalia 1967–69

Sudan 1965–68 73–78 81–84 91–93 2007–10 16–19 20–22 23–25 2025–28

Syrian AR 1957–58 71–74 79–82 1993–2005 11–13

UAE 2005–07

Yemen 1983–86

North America (2 members, 2 seats)

Canada 1947–2025 2025–28

USA 1947–2025 2025–28

South-West Pacific (16 members, 1 seat)

Australia 1947–57 61–63 67–69 73–75 79–81 1985–2008 09–23 2023–26

New Zealand 1957–60 63–66 69–72 75–78 81–84

Notes

\* Peru will replace Ecuador from 1 January 2026 to the end of the 45th Session of the Conference (2027). Argentina will replace Honduras from 1 January 2026 to 30 June 2028. Spain will replace Iceland from 1 July 2026 to the end of the 45th Session of the Conference (2027). Italy and Serbia will replace France and Ukraine, respectively, from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2028. Burkina Faso will replace Niger from 1 January 2027 to 30 June 2028.

1 Associate members have the right to participate in the deliberations of the FAO Conference, commissions of the Conference, committees of such commissions and other committees established by the Conference for the duration of the Conference and in any discussions at meetings of the Council, but shall not hold office nor have the right to vote. They cannot participate in the Credentials Committee or General Committee.

2 The European Union (EU) has the right to participate in matters within its competence in any meeting of the Organization, other than those bodies with restricted membership, in which any of its Member States are entitled to participate. It exercises membership rights in those meetings on an alternative basis with those of its Member States that are members of the Council, or other bodies concerned in the areas of their respective competencies. The EU is not eligible for election or designation to any such body in its own right, nor is it entitled to participate in voting for elective places or to hold office itself. The EU is not entitled to participate in the Programme Committee, Finance Committee or Committee on Constitutional and Legal Matters.

3 Malaysia replaced Thailand from 1 January 2025 to 30 June 2026.

4 Poland and Ireland replaced Croatia and the Netherlands, respectively, from the end of the 44th Session of the Conference (2025) to the end of the 45th Session of the Conference (2027).

5 Switzerland and the UK replaced Georgia and Spain, respectively, from the end of the 44th Session of the Conference (2025) to 30 June 2026.

6 Germany replaced Italy from the end of the 44th Session of the Conference (2025) to 30 June 2026.

7 Oman replaced Afghanistan for the remainder of its term, from the end of the 44th Session of the Conference (2025) to 30 June 2026, as Afghanistan was deemed to have resigned in accordance with Rule XXII.7 GRO.

FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC)

Secretariat

Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme

Joint FAO/WHO Centre (CODEX Food Standards and Zoonotic Diseases) (CJW)

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla

00153 Rome

Italy

Telephone: +39 06 57051

Email: [Codex@fao.org](mailto:Codex@fao.org)

Website: [www.codexalimentarius.org](http://www.codexalimentarius.org)

Secretary: Sarah Cahill, Ireland (since June 2024)

Purpose

The Commission’s mandate is to protect the health of consumers and ensure fair practices in the food trade by preparing, publishing and revising international food standards and by promoting the coordination of all food standards work undertaken by international organizations. The Commission was established jointly by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in 1963 in the framework of the Joint FAO/WHO Food Standards Programme.

To date, the Commission has adopted hundreds of standards (for single commodities, groups of commodities or horizontal subjects such as labelling or food additives), codes of practice and guidelines. It has adopted thousands of maximum limits for food additives and contaminants, as well as pesticide and veterinary drug residues in foods. Together, these texts form the [Codex Alimentarius](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/about-codex/jp/). Details, including [standards](https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/codex-texts/list-standards/tr/), [guidelines](https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/codex-texts/guidelines/en/) and [codes of practice](https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/codex-texts/codes-of-practice/tr/), as well as [online databases](https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/codex-texts/dbs/en/) for quantitative standards, are on the Commission’s website under the ‘[Codex Texts](https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/codex-texts/en/)’ menu.

The Codex Alimentarius promotes the harmonization of food standards at the international level. Codex food safety-related standards, guidelines and codes of practice serve as a reference in the World Trade Organization (WTO) Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures.

The Agreement recognizes the Commission as one of three international standard-setting organizations known as the ‘three sisters’, the other two being the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) and the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC). Codex texts also have relevance as international standards in the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade.

Structure

The [Executive Committee](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/executive-committee/about/en/) provides advice to the Commission on general orientation, strategic planning and work programming. The technical work is done by Codex specialist [committees and task forces](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/committees/en/), which prepare draft standards and related texts for adoption by the Commission. Currently there are 10 active general subject committees and five active commodity committees, which can change according to work priorities. The committees rely on independent scientific advice provided by FAO and WHO expert groups – the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA), Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meetings on Microbiological Risk Assessment (JEMRA), Joint FAO/WHO Meetings on Pesticide Residues (JMPR), Joint FAO/WHO Expert Meetings on Nutrition (JEMNU) – and ad hoc consultations. Six regional coordinating committees address regional food safety issues, including standards development, and in some regions also prepare standards of regional relevance. The Secretariat is based in the Joint FAO/WHO Centre (CODEX Food Standards and Zoonotic Diseases) (CJW) at the FAO Headquarters in Rome.

Membership

Membership of the Commission is open to FAO and WHO members and associate members. As at 1 July 2025, there were 188 member countries and the European Union (listed on the [website](http://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/about-codex/members/en/) under ‘About Codex’ and ‘Members’). There are currently 242 international [observer organizations](https://www.fao.org/fao-who-codexalimentarius/about-codex/observers/observers/about/en/) accredited to participate in meetings of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies, including 59 intergovernmental organizations, 167 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and 16 UN organizations.

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

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France

Telephone: +33 1 4568 1000

Email: [info@unesco.org](mailto:info@unesco.org)

Website: [www.unesco.org](http://www.unesco.org)

Director-General: Audrey Azoulay, France (since 15 November 2017; re-elected by the General Conference, on the recommendation of the Executive Board, for a second four-year term from November 2021 until the end of the General Conference in November 2025)\*

Purpose

UNESCO was established in 1945 to contribute to peace and security by promoting collaboration among countries through education, science and culture. Its aims are set out in Article 1, para. 3 of the UN [Charter](https://www.un.org/en/about-us/un-charter), and its purpose is stated in Article 1 of its [Constitution](https://www.unesco.org/en/legal-affairs/constitution).

The Organization has two global priorities – Africa and gender equality – and has the overarching objectives of contributing to lasting peace, sustainable development and the eradication of poverty.

Structure

* The [General Conference](https://www.unesco.org/en/general-conference) determines the policies and the main lines of work of the Organization. Its duty is to set UNESCO’s programmes and budget.

The [Executive Board](https://www.unesco.org/en/executive-board) comprises 58 Member States elected by the General Conference to serve four-year terms (half are elected every two years). It ensures the overall management of UNESCO, oversees the implementation of the programme and budget and prepares the work of the General Conference. Each Member State appoints a representative with competence in fields related to UNESCO and qualified to fulfil the administrative and executive duties of the Board. Alternates may also be appointed. The Board Chair for 2023–25 is Vera El Khoury Lacoeuilhe, Saint Lucia.

UNESCO is host to a number of intergovernmental bodies in charge of specific activities within the Organization’s mandate, including the: World Heritage Committee (WHC, see following entry), Intergovernmental Council of the International Hydrological Programme ([IHP](https://www.unesco.org/en/ihp)), International Coordinating Council of the Programme on Man and the Biosphere ([MAB](https://www.unesco.org/en/mab)), International Geoscience Programme ([IGCP](https://www.unesco.org/en/iggp/igcp)), Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission ([IOC](https://www.ioc.unesco.org/en)), Intergovernmental Council for the Information for All Programme ([IFAP](https://www.unesco.org/en/ifap)), Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication ([IPDC](https://www.unesco.org/en/international-programme-development-communication)), Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport ([CIGEPS](https://www.unesco.org/en/sport-and-anti-doping/cigeps)), Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its Countries of Origin or its Restitution in the Case of Illicit Appropriation ([ICPRCP](https://www.unesco.org/en/fight-illicit-trafficking/return-and-restitution)), Intergovernmental Council of the Management of Social Transformations Programme ([MOST](https://www.unesco.org/en/management-social-transformations-most-programme/igc)) and Intergovernmental Bioethics Committee ([IGBC](https://www.unesco.org/en/ethics-science-technology/igbc)). More governance information is on the [website](https://www.unesco.org/) under ‘Quick links’, ‘Who We Are’ and ‘Governance’.

Meetings

The General Conference meets every two years. The 43rd session is scheduled to be held from 30 October to 14 November 2025 in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. The Executive Board meets in regular sessions at least four times in any two-year period. As a general rule, there are at least two regular sessions a year, normally in April and October.

Membership

UNESCO has 194 [Member States](https://www.unesco.org/en/countries)1 and 12 associate members. The electoral grouping system allocates each region a specific number of Executive Board seats. The four-year terms run from the close of the General Conference session where members were elected until the close of the second ordinary General Conference session following their election.

Executive Board members1 (58)

Previous Current

Group I (25 Western European and North American states, 9 seats)1

Austria 1972–76 95–99 2011–15 2021–25

Belgium 1946–51 56–64 74–78 80–89 95–99 2009–13

Canada 1946–51 68–74 83–87 89–93 1997–2001 03–07

Cyprus 1987–91

Denmark 1952–58 78–83 91–95 2009–13

Finland 1966–74 87–91 1997–2001 17–21

France 1946–2023 2023–27

Germany 1954–68 1970–2005 07–11 13–17 19–23 2023–27

Greece 1946–51 56–64 83–87 1999–2003 07–11 15–19

Iceland 1983–87 2001–05 2021–25

Italy 1948–58 62–70 72–89 93–97 1999–2023 2023–27

Luxembourg 2005–09

Malta 1995–99

Monaco 2009–13

Netherlands 1946–47 51–56 66–74 91–95 1999–2003 13–17 19–23

Norway 1946–52 74–78 89–93 2005–09

Portugal 1976–80 91–95 2005–09 17–21

Spain 1954–60 70–76 80–85 87–91 93–97 1999–2003 07–23 2023–27

Sweden 1958–66 85–89 95–99 2013–17

Switzerland 1950–54 64–72 76–80 87–91 93–97 2003–07 19–23

Türkiye 1946–52 58–66 78–83 91–95 2001–05 17–21 2021–25

UK 1946–85 1997–2005 05–07 11–19 2023–27

USA1 1946–84 2003–18 2023–27

Group II (25 Eastern European states, 7 seats)2

Albania3 2007–09 13–21 2023–27

Armenia 2021–25

Azerbaijan 2005–09 2021–25

Belarus 1989–93 1999–2005 09–13 17–21

Bulgaria3 1972–76 85–89 93–97 2007–09 17–21

Czechia 1995–99 2003–07 11–15 2023–27

Estonia 2013–17

Georgia 1999–2003

Hungary3 1964–72 78–83 95–99 2003–07 07–09 19–23

Latvia 2009–11

Lithuania 1997–2001 05–09 15–19 2021–25

Montenegro 2011–15

North Macedonia 2013–15

Poland 1946–50 56–64 76–80 87–91 93–97 1999–2003 09–11 19–23

Romania 1962–68 76–80 91–95 1999–2003 09–11

Russian Federation 1954–2023

Serbia 2005–09 15–23 2023–27

Slovakia 1995–99 2001–05 09–13 2023–27

Slovenia 2003–07 15–19

Ukraine 1980–85 95–99 2001–05 13–17

Uzbekistan 2009–13

Group III (33 Latin America and the Caribbean states, 10 seats)

Antigua and Barbuda 1985–89

Argentina 1962–70 72–76 78–83 85–93 95–99 2007–11 13–17 19–23 2023–27

Bahamas 2001–07

Barbados 1976–80 1997–2001 09–13

Belize 2013–15

Bolivia 1995–99

Brazil 1946–52 54–62 64–72 74–78 80–89 91–95 2001–09 11–23 2023–27

Chile 1962–70 72–76 93–97 1999–2003 07–11 2021–25

Colombia 1948–54 70–76 80–89 91–95 1997–2001 05–09

Costa Rica 1966–74 80–85 89–97

Cuba 1974–78 80–85 87–91 95–99 2001–05 07–15 17–21 2023–27

Dominica 2001–05

Dominican Republic 1999–2003 13–17 19–23 2023–27

Ecuador 1947–48 54–62 76–80 2003–07 11–15

El Salvador 1956–64 93–97 2007–11 13–17

Grenada 2009–13 17–21 2021–25

Guatemala 1978–83 89–93 2003–07

Guyana 1983–87 93–97

Haiti 1980–85 1997–2001 09–13 15–17 2021–25

Honduras 1997–2001

Jamaica3 1970–76 80–85 91–95 2001–05 07–09 17–21

Mexico 1946–54 58–66 68–74 76–80 83–87 89–97 1999–2003 05–09 11–19 2021–25

Nicaragua 1989–93 2015–19

Panama 1962–68 76–80

Paraguay 2015–19 2021–25

Peru 1952–54 64–72 76–80 85–89 1999–2003 09–13

Saint Kitts and Nevis 2005–09 13–17

Saint Lucia 1997–2001 09–13 17–21 2021–25

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 2005–09 17–21

Suriname 1987–91 2001–05

Trinidad and Tobago 1985–89 93–97 2013–17

Uruguay 1952–58 72–76 89–93 1997–2001 03–07 19–23

Venezuela 1946–52 56–64 76–80 83–91 2003–07 09–13   
 17–21

Group IV (44 Asia and Pacific states, 12 seats)

Afghanistan 1968–74 2003–07 11–15 19–23

Australia 1946–50 56–60 74–78 85–89 91–95   
 1999–2005 2023–27

Bangladesh 1983–87 1995–2007 09–21 2023–27

Cambodia 2003–07

China 1946–50 1972–2021 2021–25

Cook Islands 2021–25

Fiji 2005–09

India 1946–2021 2021–25

Indonesia 1954–62 76–80 85–89 95–99 2003–07 11–15 17–21 2023–27

Iran 1952–58 64–68 74–78 1999–2003 15–19

Japan 1952–95 1997–2021 2021–25

Kazakhstan 1997–2001 09–13

Kyrgyzstan 2019–23

Malaysia 1978–83 87–91 93–97 1999–2003 07–11 15–19

Mongolia 1983–87 2007–11

Myanmar 2019–23

Nepal 1974–78 95–99 2005–09 13–17

New Zealand 1960–64 78–83 95–99

Pakistan 1951–66 68–74 1978–2023 2023–27

Papua New Guinea 1989–93 2011–15

Philippines 1950–54 58–62 74–78 83–87 91–95 1999–2003 07–11 17–21 2021–25

ROK 1987–2003 07–23 2023–27

Samoa 1997–2001 2023–27

Sri Lanka 1968–74 87–91 2003–11 15–19

Thailand 1952–56 80–85 89–93 95–99 2005–09 11–15 19–23

Tonga 1993–97

Turkmenistan 2013–17

Vanuatu 2001–05

Viet Nam 1978–83 2001–05 09–13 15–19 2021–25

Group V (66 African and Arab states, 13 African seats and 7 Arab seats)

Algeria 1968–74 80–89 91–95 2001–17

Angola 1993–97 2011–15 2021–25

Bahrain 1991–95 2003–07

Benin 1972–76 85–89 93–97 1999–2003 05–09 19–23

Botswana 1991–95 2021–25

Burkina Faso 1974–78 89–93 2001–05 09–13 2023–27

Burundi 1978–83 89–93 2017–21

Cabo Verde 1989–93 2003–07

Cameroon 1962–68 80–89 95–99 2003–07 15–19

Central African Republic 1983–87

Chad 1962–70 76–80 89–93 1999–2003 13–17

Congo 1968–74 85–89 2003–07 09–13 2021–25

Côte d’Ivoire 1964–72 76–80 85–89 91–95 1997–2001 07–11 15–19 2023–27

DR Congo 1970–76 80–85 2005–11 19–23

Djibouti 2009–13 2021–25

Egypt 1946–51 54–80 1985–2021 2021–25

Equatorial Guinea 1987–91 2017–21

Eswatini 1983–87 2001–05

Ethiopia 1968–74 85–89 93–97 1999–2003 05–09 11–15 17–21

Gabon 1974–78 83–87 1997–2001 11–15 2023–27

Gambia 1989–93 2011–15

Ghana 1970–76 80–85 91–95 1997–2001 03–07 09–13 15–23

Guinea 1980–85 89–93 1997–2001 13–17 19–23

Guinea-Bissau 1980–85

Iraq 1978–83 89–93 2023–27

Jordan 1976–80 85–89 93–97 2001–05 17–21 2021–25

Kenya 1972–76 87–91 95–99 2001–05 09–13 15–23

Kuwait 1983–87 1999–2003 07–11 13–15 2021–25

Lebanon 1950–58 66–74 83–87 1997–2001 05–09 15–19

Lesotho 1978–83 95–99

Liberia 1953–56 76–80 2023–27

Libya 1976–80 1997–2001

Madagascar 1960–64 83–87 91–95 1999–2003 07–11 17–21

Malawi 1987–91 1999–2003 11–15

Mali 1962–70 85–89 93–97 2003–07 11–15

Mauritania 1974–78 87–91

Mauritius 1976–80 95–99 2003–07 13–17 2023–27

Morocco 1958–66 78–83 93–97 1999–2011 13–21

Mozambique 1987–91 2001–05 13–17 2023–27

Namibia 1993–97 2003–07 11–15 19–23

Niger 1983–87 93–97 2007–11

Nigeria 1962–70 76–85 87–91 93–97 1999–2003 05–09 11–19 2023–27

Oman 1991–95 1999–2003 15–19 2023–27

Qatar 1987–91 2015–19 2023–27

Rwanda 1976–80 2001–05

Saudi Arabia 1972–76 95–99 2007–15 19–23 2023–27

Senegal 1966–74 78–83 85–89 95–99 2001–05 07–11 15–23

Seychelles 1991–95

Sierra Leone 1976–80

Somalia 1987–91

South Africa 1997–2001 05–09 15–19 2021–25

Sudan 1962–66 78–87 2015–19

Syrian AR 1951–54 74–78 83–87 2009–13

Togo 1972–76 87–91 1997–2001 05–09 13–17 19–23

Tunisia 1974–78 80–85 91–95 1999–2003 07–15 19–23

Uganda 1974–78 87–91 1997–2001 05–09 13–17

UAE 1980–85 95–99 2011–15 19–23

UR of Tanzania 1964–72 80–85 89–93 95–99 2001–05 07–11 2021–25

Yemen 1989–93 95–99 2003–07

Zambia 1966–74 91–95 2007–11 17–21

Zimbabwe 1983–87 95–99 2009–13 17–21

Members that have not served on the Board

Group I (Western European and North American states)

Andorra

Ireland

San Marino

Group II (Eastern European states)

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Croatia

Republic of Moldova

Tajikistan

Group IV (Asia and Pacific states)

Bhutan

Brunei Darussalam

DPRK

Kiribati

Lao PDR

Maldives

Marshall Islands

Micronesia

Nauru

Niue

Palau

Singapore

Solomon Islands

Timor-Leste

Tuvalu

Group V (African and Arab states)

Comoros

Eritrea

São Tomé and Príncipe

South Sudan

State of Palestine4

Associate members5

Åland Islands

Anguilla

Aruba

British Virgin Islands

Cayman Islands

Curaçao

Faroe Islands

Macau, China

Montserrat

New Caledonia

Sint Maarten

Tokelau

Observer status6

Holy See Sovereign Military Order of Malta

Notes

\* Elections for the next Director-General are due to be held at the General Conference in November 2025.

1 Israel withdrew from the Organization effective 31 December 2018. It served on the Executive Board as a member of Group I in 1962–70. The USA withdrew from the Organization effective 31 December 2018; it officially rejoined UNESCO on 10 July 2023.

2 Czechoslovakia served on the Executive Board as a member of Group II in 1946–48, 1968–74 and 1980–85. The former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia served on the Executive Board as a member of Group II in 1951–53, 1972–76, 1983–87, 1989–91 and 1991–92.

3 Four members: Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Jamaica – whose mandate was to expire in 2011 – volunteered to leave the Executive Board in 2009 to facilitate the rotation among countries.

4 The UNESCO General Conference voted in October 2011 to admit the State of Palestine as a Member State of the Organization. The State of Palestine had previously been an observer.

5 Netherlands Antilles, as a territory, has ceased to exist. It was previously an associate member.

6 Other intergovernmental organizations also participate as observers.

World Heritage Committee

World Heritage Centre

UNESCO

7 Place de Fontenoy

75352 Paris 07–SP

France

Telephone: +33 1 4568 1104

Email: Please use the contact form at <http://whc.unesco.org/en/world-heritage-centre/>

Website: <https://whc.unesco.org/en/committee/>

World Heritage Centre Director: Lazare Eloundou Assomo, Cameroon (appointed by the UNESCO Director-General in December 2021)

Purpose

The General Conference of the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) adopted the World Heritage Convention in 1972 to ensure the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of natural and cultural heritage of outstanding universal value. The Convention stipulated the establishment of a World Heritage Committee and a World Heritage List.

Established in 1976, the Committee is an intergovernmental body that is responsible for the implementation of the [World Heritage Convention](https://whc.unesco.org/en/convention/). It has the final say, in response to Tentative Lists and nominations submitted by States Parties, as to which natural, cultural or mixed sites can be inscribed on the [World Heritage List](https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/).

The Committee determines the use of the World Heritage Fund and allocates international assistance upon requests from States Parties. It examines reports on the state of conservation of inscribed properties, requests expert monitoring, assessments and advice, decides upon the inscription of properties on the List of World Heritage in Danger and requests States Parties to take action when inscribed properties are under threat. It also decides which properties should be deleted from the World Heritage List and which properties on this List should be inscribed on or removed from the List of World Heritage in Danger.

The Committee reports on its activities to the [General Assembly of States Parties to the 1972 Convention](https://whc.unesco.org/en/ga) and to the UNESCO General Conference, reviews the implementation of the Convention and revises the operational guidelines for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention.

As at 16 July 2025, 1248 properties in 170 States Parties were inscribed on the World Heritage [List](http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/) – 972 cultural, 235 natural, 41 mixed and 51 transboundary properties. The Convention has 196 [States Parties](https://whc.unesco.org/pg.cfm?cid=246) (as at 1 July 2025).

Structure

The General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention elects the 21 countries that sit on the Committee, part of which is replaced every second year. Members’ terms of office are six years, but in practice most States Parties voluntarily choose to serve four years to allow for rotation. The Bureau of the Committee is composed of a chair, five vice-chairs and a rapporteur, elected at the end of each ordinary session. The Bureau coordinates the Committee’s work. More governance information is on the website under ‘Our Expertise’ and ‘[Governing Bodies](https://whc.unesco.org/en/governingbodies/)’.

The UNESCO World Heritage Centre ([WHC](https://whc.unesco.org/)) is the Secretariat of the World Heritage Convention. It was established in 1992 to assist the World Heritage Committee and to collaborate with States Parties and advisory bodies.

Meetings

The General Assembly of States Parties to the Convention meets every two years immediately after ordinary sessions of UNESCO’s General Conference to elect Committee members, examine the accounts of the World Heritage Fund and decide on major policy issues. The [25th session](https://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/25ga/) is scheduled to be held in November 2025, opening in Samarkand, Uzbekistan, and resuming two weeks later at UNESCO Headquarters, Paris. The Committee meets at least once a year. Most recently, the [47th session](https://whc.unesco.org/en/sessions/47COM) took place from 6 to 16 July 2025. The Bureau meets during Committee sessions as frequently as deemed necessary.

Membership

The following list shows the current members of the Committee and the year in which their terms end (at the end of the ordinary session of the UNESCO General Conference). The members whose terms end in 2027 were elected in November 2023.

Members

Term ends 2025

Argentina

Belgium

Bulgaria

Greece

India

Italy

Japan

Mexico

Qatar

Rwanda

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Zambia

Term ends 2027

Jamaica

Kazakhstan

Kenya

Lebanon

ROK

Senegal

Türkiye

Ukraine

Viet Nam

World Health Organization (WHO)

20 Avenue Appia

1211 Geneva 27

Switzerland

Telephone: +41 22 791 2111

Email: [info@who.int](mailto:info@who.int)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/WHO](http://www.facebook.com/WHO)

X: [@WHO](http://www.twitter.com/WHO)

Website: [www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

Director-General: Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Ethiopia (appointed by the World Health Assembly in May 2017 for a five-year term beginning 1 July 2017; reappointed by the World Health Assembly in May 2022 for a second five-year term, beginning 16 August 2022)

Purpose

WHO is the UN system’s directing and coordinating authority for health. It is responsible for providing leadership on global health matters, shaping the health research agenda, setting norms and standards, articulating evidence-based policy options, providing technical support to countries and monitoring and assessing health trends.

Representatives of 61 states adopted the WHO [Constitution](http://apps.who.int/gb/bd/PDF/bd47/EN/constitution-en.pdf?ua=1) in 1946. The Organization formally came into existence in April 1948 and became a UN specialized agency in July 1948. Article 1 of the Constitution defines the WHO’s objective as “the attainment by all peoples of the highest possible level of health”. The detailed functions are set out in Article 2 of the Constitution.

Structure

The [World Health Assembly](https://www.who.int/about/governance/world-health-assembly) is the WHO’s supreme decision-making body, with the main function of determining policy. The [Executive Board](https://www.who.int/about/governance/executive-board) comprises 34 members technically qualified in the health field, each one designated by a Member State elected by the World Health Assembly to do so. Members serve three-year terms. The [Chair](https://apps.who.int/gb/gov/en/chair-and-officers-of-the-executive-board_en.html) from May 2025 to May 2026 is Blair Comley, Australia. See <https://apps.who.int/gb/gov/> for more information.

Meetings

The Assembly meets annually, usually in Geneva in May. The Board meets in Geneva at least twice a year, usually in January/February and May.

Membership

The WHO has 194 [Member States](https://www.who.int/countries). The three-year Executive Board member terms end with the election of new members at the World Health Assembly.

Executive Board members

Previous Current

Africa (47 members, 7 seats)

Algeria 1969–72 95–98 2016–19

Angola 1977–80 96–99

Benin 1966–69 96–99 2017–20

Botswana 1977–80 96–99 2020–23

Burkina Faso 1969–72 96–99 2019–22

Burundi 1978–81 1997–2000 09–12 16–19

Cabo Verde 1978–81 1998–2001 2025–28

Cameroon 1964–67 92–95 2011–14 2023–26

Central African Republic 1969–72 1998–2001 2025–28

Chad 1978–81 1999–2002 12–15

Comoros 1978–81 1999–2002 2023–26

Congo 1979–82 1999–2002 15–18

Côte d’Ivoire 1967–70 84–87 1999–2002

DR Congo 1972–75 93–96 14–17

Equatorial Guinea 1984–87 2000–03

Eritrea 1983–86 2001–04 14–17

Eswatini 1975–78 92–95 2017–20

Ethiopia 1969–73 2001–04 22–25

Gabon 1980–83 2002–05 18–21

Gambia 1980–83 2002–05 14–17

Ghana 1960–63 83–86 2002–05 20–23

Guinea 1965–68 84–87 2002–05

Guinea-Bissau 1981–84 2003–06 20–23

Kenya 1970–73 84–87 2004–07 19–22

Lesotho 1971–74 85–88 2004–07 2023–26

Liberia 1951–54 57–60 86–89 2005–08 14–17

Madagascar 1961–64 86–89 2005–08 20–23

Malawi 1973–76 87–90 2007–10

Mali 1963–66 87–90 2006–09

Mauritania 1975–78 87–90 2008–11

Mauritius 1974–77 87–90 2008–11

Mozambique 1981–84 88–91 2010–13

Namibia 2005–08 13–16

Niger 1972–75 89–92 2008–11

Nigeria 1961–62 66–69 89–92 2011–14

Rwanda 1975–78 90–93 2005–08 21–24

São Tomé and Príncipe 1981–84 90–93 2007–10

Senegal 1961–64 90–93 2011–14 22–25

Seychelles 1981–84 90–93 2010–13

Sierra Leone 1963–66 91–94 2011–14

South Africa 1948–51 54–57 2013–16

Togo 1975–77 93–96 2023–26

Uganda 1968–71 93–96 2008–11

UR of Tanzania 1975–78 93–96 2017–20

Zambia 1976–79 94–97 2017–20

Zimbabwe 1982–85 95–98 2024–27

The Americas (35 members, 6 seats)

Argentina 1955–58 60–62 66–69 74–77 83–86 88–91 95–98 2013–16 19–22

Bahamas 1989–92 2007–10

Barbados 1995–98 2010–13 2023–26

Bolivia 1977–80 91–94 2004–07

Brazil 1948–51 52–55 58–61 63–66 80–83 87–90 95–98 2004–07 08–11 13–16 17–20 22–25

Canada 1952–59 62–65 68–71 75–78 80–83 85–88 92–95 1997–2000 03–06 09–12 15–18 22–25

Chile 1950–53 54–57 61–62 68–72 82–85 89–92 1998–2001 09–12 18–21 2024–27

Colombia 1962–65 72–75 79–82 89–92 2001–04 16–19 20–23

Costa Rica 1953–56 93–96 2024–27

Cuba 1951–54 77–80 85–88 94–97 2001–04 12–15

Dominican Republic 2015–18

Ecuador 1955–58 71–74 85–87 2003–06 10–13

El Salvador 1950–53 2006–09 2025–28

Grenada 2001–04 19–22

Guatemala 1958–61 74–77 80–83 1999–2002

Guyana 1975–76 86–89 2019–22

Haiti 1962–65 2025–28

Honduras 1976–79 96–99

Jamaica 1968–71 79–82 92–95 2004–07 16–19

Mexico 1948–50 56–59 65–68 78–81 86–89 92–95 2005–08 11–14 16–19

Nicaragua 1970–73 88–91

Panama 1967–70 83–86 2012–15 2025–28

Paraguay 1964–67 2007–10 21–24

Peru 1959–62 65–68 76–79 1997–2000 07–10 21–24

Suriname 2013–16

Trinidad and Tobago 1971–74 82–85 1998–2001

USA 1949–52 54–56 58–60 62–64 66–68 70–72 74–76 78–80 82–85 87–89 91–93 95–97 1999–2001 03–09 10–13 14–17 18–21 22–25

Uruguay 1971–74 91–94

Venezuela 1949–52 59–62 74–77 83–86 2000–03

Eastern Mediterranean (21 members, 5 seats)

Afghanistan 1972–75 91–94 2006–09 21–24

Bahrain 1978–81 95–98 2004–07 16–19

Djibouti 1983–86 2006–09 18–21

Egypt 1949–51 57–60 67–70 84–87 95–98 2001–04 13–16 2025–28

Iran 1948–49 52–55 58–61 63–66 73–76 79–82 88–91 2000–03 12–15

Iraq 1953–56 61–64 82–85 87–93 2005–08 17–20

Jordan 1960–63 74–77 87–90 2000–03 15–18

Kuwait 1964–67 80–83 94–97 2002–05 14–17

Lebanon 1951–54 68–71 86–89 1999–2002 12–15 2024–27

Libya 1964–67 77–80 88–91 2004–07 16–19

Morocco 1965–68 82–85 93–96 2010–13 22–25

Oman 1979–82 1997–2000 08–11 20–23

Pakistan 1950–53 55–58 61–63 67–70 76–79 82–85 94–97 2003–06 15–18

Qatar 1976–79 92–95 1998–2001 11–14 2023–26

Saudi Arabia 1954–57 70–73 86–89 2001–04 13–16 2025–28

Somalia 1966–69 75–78 2009–12 2024–27

Sudan 1959–62 75–77 89–92 2003–06 18–21

Syrian AR 1956–58 71–74 83–86 92–95 2009–12 21–24

Tunisia 1958–59 62–65 77–80 91–94 2007–10 19–22

UAE 1981–84 96–99 2007–10 19–22

Yemen 1965–68 73–76 80–83 85–88 90–92 1998–2001 10–13 22–25

Europe (53 members, 8 seats)1

Albania 2013–16

Andorra 2013–16

Armenia 2010–13

Austria 1953–56 70–73 88–91 2019–22

Azerbaijan 2005–08 12–15

Belarus 1948–50 2021–24

Belgium 1951–54 68–71 83–86 1999–2002 12–15

Bulgaria 1969–72 81–84 91–94 2024–27

Croatia 1995–98 2012–15

Cyprus 1969–72 85–88 1997–2000

Czechia 2003–06

Denmark 1952–55 71–74 91–94 2006–09 21–24

Estonia 2009–12

Finland 1955–58 75–78 94–97 2018–21

France 1948–2001 03–06 09–12 15–18 21–24

Georgia 2017–20

Germany 1957–60 67–70 73–80 85–88 1997–2000 09–12 18–21

Greece 1951–54 76–79 91–94

Hungary 1972–75 84–87 2008–11

Iceland 1961–63 83–86 2003–06

Ireland 1959–62 95–98

Israel 1961–64 93–96 2018–21 2024–27

Italy 1950–53 56–59 61–64 71–74 2000–03 17–20

Kazakhstan 2001–04 15–18

Latvia 2006–09

Lithuania 2000–03 12–15

Luxembourg 1959–62 2004–07

Malta 1985–88 2015–18

Netherlands 1948–51 63–66 79–82 1997–2000 16–19

Norway 1948–49 63–66 79–82 1997–2000 10–13 2024–27

Poland 1948–51 61–64 73–76 85–88 1996–2000 2024–27

Portugal 1955–58 77–80 92–95 2005–08

Republic of Moldova 2007–10 22–25

Romania 1967–70 80–83 2004–07 18–21

Russian Federation 1948–50 1958–2005 08–11 14–17 20–23

Serbia 1948–51 64–67 75–78 89–92 2009–12 2025–28

Slovakia 2022–25

Slovenia 2006–09 21–24

Spain 1961–64 81–84 89–92 2002–05 2025–28

Sweden 1949–52 67–70 87–90 2000–03 15–18

Switzerland 1953–56 73–76 1999–2002 11–14 2023–26

Tajikistan 2019–22

Türkiye 1949–52 64–67 79–82 93–96 2006–09 16–19

UK 1948–99 2001–04 07–10 14–17 20–23

Uzbekistan 2011–14

Ukraine 2023–26

South-East Asia (11 members, 3 seats)

Bangladesh 1975–78 87–90 1998–2001 08–11 19–22

Bhutan 1995–98 2005–08 16–19

DPRK 1990–93 2000–03 13–16 2023–26

India 1948–51 56–59 65–68 77–80 88–91 1999–2002 09–12 20–23

Maldives 1981–84 91–94 2002–05 12–15 22–25

Myanmar 1954–57 66–69 78–81 90–93 2001–04 11–14

Nepal 1959–62 69–72 83–86 93–96 2003–06 14–17 2025–28

Sri Lanka 1948–49 51–54 62–65 74–77 86–89 1997–2000 06–09 17–20

Thailand 1950–53 60–63 71–74 84–87 94–97 2004–07 15–18 2024–27

Timor-Leste 2010–13 21–24

Western Pacific (27 members, 5 seats)

Australia 1948–49 57–60 67–70 75–78 85–88 95–98 2004–07 12–15 18–21 2023–26

Brunei Darussalam 2009–12 2024–27

China 1948–50 73–76 78–85 1990–2009 10–13 14–17 18–21 22–25

Cook Islands 1997–2000

Fiji 1976–79 2016–19

Indonesia 1953–56 63–66 72–75 84–88 96–99 2007–10 18–21

Japan 1954–57 61–64 69–72 75–76 81–84 87–90 1992–2003 05–08 09–16 17–20 21–24 2025–28

Lao PDR 1970–73 1998–2001

Malaysia 1964–67 82–85 2012–15 21–24

Micronesia 2022–25

Mongolia 1968–71 80–83 92–95 2010–13

New Zealand 1952–55 63–66 72–75 79–82 2007–10 15–18

Papua New Guinea 1989–92 2011–14

Philippines 1949–52 55–58 66–69 76–79 91–94 2001–04 15–18

ROK 1960–63 84–87 95–98 2001–04 07–10 13–16 20–23 2024–27

Samoa 1979–82 2008–11

Singapore 2006–09 19–22

Solomon Islands 2025–28

Tonga 1985–86 88–91 2004–07 19–22

Vanuatu 1999–2002

Viet Nam 1958–61 93–96 2003–06 16–19

Members that have not served on the Executive Board

Africa

South Sudan

The Americas

Antigua and Barbuda

Belize

Dominica

Saint Kitts and Nevis

Saint Lucia

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Europe

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Kyrgyzstan

Monaco

Montenegro

North Macedonia

San Marino

Turkmenistan

Western Pacific

Cambodia

Kiribati

Marshall Islands

Nauru

Niue

Palau

Tuvalu

Associate members

Faroe Islands

Puerto Rico

Tokelau

Note

1 The former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia served on the Executive Board in 1948–51, 1964–67, 1975–78 and 1989–92. Czechoslovakia served on the Executive Board in 1965–68, 1976–79 and 1988–91.

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)

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LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/icao/](http://www.linkedin.com/company/icao/)

Website: [www.icao.int](http://www.icao.int)

Secretary-General: Juan Carlos Salazar, Colombia (since 1 August 2021; appointment renewed by the ICAO Council in March 2024 for a second three-year term beginning 1 August 2024)

Purpose

The ICAO was created under the 1944 [Convention](https://www.icao.int/convention-international-civil-aviation-doc-7300) on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention) “to develop the principles and techniques of international air navigation and to foster the planning and development of international air transport so as to insure the safe and orderly growth of international civil aviation throughout the world″ (Article 44). ICAO’s long-term [Strategic Plan](https://www.icao.int/about-icao/Council/strategic-plan-2026-2050) through to 2050 aspires to the achievement of zero fatalities and net-zero carbon emissions as part of its vision for a “safe, secure and sustainable international civil aviation system that connects the world for the benefit of all nations and people”.

Under ICAO’s leadership, the Convention’s 193 Member States agree on the international civil aviation Standards and Recommended Practices (SARPs), policies and strategic plans this vision requires. These are developed with technical expertise provided by industry, non-governmental and academic organizations.

The Organization, a specialized agency of the UN, came into existence on 4 April 1947 after 26 states had ratified the Convention. It celebrated its [80th anniversary](https://www.icao.int/events/icaos-80th-anniversary-0) on 7 December 2024.

Structure

The [Assembly](https://www.icao.int/icao-assembly) is the ICAO’s sovereign body. It meets to review the Organization’s work and establish guidelines for future activities.

The [Council](https://www.icao.int/icao-council-0) is the executive body, comprising 36 contracting states elected by the ordinary session of the Assembly for three-year terms. The Assembly gives adequate representation to states of chief importance to air transport, states not otherwise included that make the largest contribution to the provision of facilities for international civil air navigation, and states whose designation will ensure that all major geographical areas of the world are represented.

The Council [President](https://www.icao.int/council-president) is Salvatore Sciacchitano, Italy, who was re-elected in October 2022 for a second three-year term beginning 1 January 2023.

The Council submits annual reports to the Assembly, carries out the directions of the Assembly and discharges the duties and obligations laid on it by the Convention. One of its major duties is to adopt SARPs and amend existing Annexes as necessary. The Council may investigate and act as an arbiter between Member States on matters concerning aviation and the implementation of the provisions of the Convention.

Environmental protection and aviation security SARPs are considered and recommended by the ICAO Council’s technical Committee on Aviation Environmental Protection ([CAEP](https://www.icao.int/committee-aviation-environmental-protection-caep)) and Aviation Security Committee, respectively. All other SARPs, along with Procedures for Air Navigation Services (PANS), are developed and recommended by the Air Navigation Commission ([ANC](https://www.icao.int/air-navigation-commission)) which is composed of 19 independent technical experts appointed by the Council to act in the interest of the entire international civil aviation community.

More governance information is on the website under ‘[About ICAO](https://www.icao.int/about-icao)’.

Meetings

The Assembly meets at least every three years. The [42nd session](https://www.icao.int/events/assembly-42nd-session) is scheduled to take place in September/October 2025 in Montréal, Canada.

Membership

The ICAO has 193 [members](https://www.icao.int/about-icao/member-states). The three-year Council terms listed below began at the 2022 Assembly session. Members that have not served on the Council are not listed.

Council members (36)

Previous Current

Algeria 1980–86 1998–2004 16–19

Angola 1995–98

Argentina 1947–2022 2022–25

Australia 1947–2022 2022–25

Austria 2004–07 2022–25

Belgium 1947–59 62–74 83–86 92–95 2010–13

Bolivia 1995–98 2013–16 2022–25

Botswana 1998–2001

Brazil 1947–2022 2022–25

Burkina Faso 2010–16

Cabo Verde 2016–19

Cameroon 1980–83 1992–2016

Canada 1947–2022 2022–25

Chile 1947–50 89–92 2002–07 13–16 2022–25

China 1974–2022 2022–25

Colombia 1962–86 1992–2001 04–07 10–13 16–22

Congo 1962–73 2016–19

Costa Rica 1965–68 74–77 2001–04 19–22

Côte d’Ivoire 2019–22

Cuba 1986–89 1998–2004 10–13 16–19

Czechia 1947–48 65–95 2001–04

Denmark 1950–53 59–62 68–71 80–83 95–98 2010–13

Dominican Republic 2007–10 13–16 19–22

Ecuador 1992–95 2007–10 16–19

Egypt 1947–2022 2022–25

El Salvador 1980–83 95–98 2007–10 2022–25

Equatorial Guinea 2019–22 2022–25

Eswatini 2010–13

Ethiopia 2001–07 2022–25

Finland 1977–80 89–92 2004–07 19–22

France 1948–2022 2022–25

Germany 1959–2022 2022–25

Ghana 1986–92 2004–10 2022–25

Greece 2019–22

Guatemala 1959–62 68–71 83–86 2010–13

Honduras 1977–80 89–92 2004–07

Hungary 2004–07

Iceland 1992–2001 07–10 2022–25

India 1947–2022 2022–25

Indonesia 1968–2001

Iraq 1980–92

Ireland 1947–59 2001–04 16–19

Italy 1950–2022 2022–25

Jamaica 1977–86 2022–25

Japan 1956–2022 2022–25

Kenya 1965–68 74–77 83–89 1992–2001 13–19

Lebanon 1953–86 1992–2007

Libya 2013–16

Madagascar 1974–86 89–92

Malaysia 2007–10 13–22 2022–25

Mauritania 2022–25

Mauritius 2001–04

Mexico 1962–2022 2022–25

Morocco 1947–59 74–80 92–98 2010–13

Mozambique 2004–07

Namibia 2007–10

Netherlands 1947–71 73–74 80–83 89–92 1998–2001 19–22

Nicaragua 1962–65 71–74 92–95 2013–16

Nigeria 1962–2022 2022–25

Norway 1953–56 62–65 71–74 83–86 1998–2001 13–16

Pakistan 1973–2007

Panama 1986–2001 16–19

Paraguay 2001–04 10–13 19–22

Peru 1947–49 50 86–89 2004–07 10–13 19–22

Philippines 1950–51 53–55 59–68

Poland 2013–16

Portugal 1947–62 2013–16

Qatar 2022–25

ROK 2001–22 2022–25

Romania 1995–98 2005–10 2022–25

Russian Federation 1971–2022

Saint Lucia 2004–07

Saudi Arabia 1986–2022 2022–25

Senegal 1968–2004

Singapore 2003–22 2022–25

Slovakia 1998–2001

Slovenia 2010–13

South Africa 1950–65 2003–22 2022–25

Spain 1951–2022 2022–25

Sudan 2019–22

Sweden 1947–50 56–59 65–68 74–77 86–89 2001–04 16–19

Switzerland 1986–89 95–98 2002–10

Trinidad and Tobago 1973–77 89–98

Tunisia 1962–74 86–92 2004–10 19–22

Türkiye 1947–48 2016–19

Uganda 1971–74 80–83 2007–13

UAE 2007–22 2022–25

UK 1947–2022 2022–25

UR of Tanzania 1968–71 77–80 83–95 2013–19

USA 1947–2022 2022–25

Uruguay 1998–2001 07–10 16–19

Venezuela 1980–92 95–98 2001–04 07–10 13–16 2022–25

Zambia 2019–22

Zimbabwe 2022–25

Universal Postal Union (UPU)

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YouTube: [www.youtube.com/universalpostalunion](http://www.youtube.com/universalpostalunion)

Website: [www.upu.int/en.html](http://www.upu.int/en.html)

Director-General: Masahiko Metoki, Japan (elected by the UPU Congress in 2021, took office January 2022 for a four-year term)\*

Purpose

Created in 1874, the UPU is an intergovernmental organization and the primary forum for cooperation between governments, postal entities and other stakeholders in the worldwide postal sector. In addition to maintaining a universal network, the UPU establishes the rules for international mail exchanges among its 192 members and makes recommendations to stimulate mail volume growth and to improve the quality of service for customers.

Every four years, UPU member countries adopt a global [strategy](https://www.upu.int/en/Universal-Postal-Union/About-UPU/Strategy) for the postal sector. The most recent is the Abidjan Postal Strategy, which was adopted in 2021 during the 27th Universal Postal Congress. The Abidjan Strategy is structured around three main strategic pillars: being the main forum, the provider of innovative and affordable technical solutions, and the prime information and knowledge centre of the postal sector. The Strategy is aligned with [Postal Vision 2030](https://www.upu.int/en/universal-postal-union/about-upu/strategy#postal-vision-2030-), the UPU’s advocacy message for the postal sector, designed to support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Dubai Postal Strategy 2026–29 was due to be adopted in September 2025 at the 28th Universal Postal Congress.

As a specialized agency of the UN since 1948, the UPU collaborates with many UN programmes and agencies to promote the role of the postal sector in areas such as development and technical cooperation, trade facilitation, financial inclusion, security, e-commerce, disaster-risk reduction and climate change.

World Post Day is celebrated annually on 9 October.

Structure

The [Universal Postal Congress](https://www.upu.int/en/Universal-Postal-Union/About-UPU/Bodies/Congress) is the four-yearly conference at which Acts of the Union, including the Constitution, are revised and members of the [Council of Administration](https://www.upu.int/en/Universal-Postal-Union/About-UPU/Bodies/Council-of-Administration) (CA) and [Postal Operations Council](https://www.upu.int/en/Universal-Postal-Union/About-UPU/Bodies/Postal-Operations-Council) (POC) are elected.

The CA supervises the UPU’s work between congresses. Forty member countries are elected at the Congress on the basis of equitable geographical distribution. They may not hold office for more than two consecutive terms. The 41st member is the Congress host country, which usually becomes the Chair. The Chair for 2022–25 is Côte d’Ivoire.

The POC is responsible for operational, commercial, technical and economic postal matters. Forty-eight member countries are elected at Congress on the basis of equitable geographical distribution. The POC members elect the Chair. The Chair for 2022–25 is France.

In addition, the UPU [Consultative Committee](https://www.upu.int/en/Universal-Postal-Union/About-UPU/Bodies/Consultative-Committee) (CC), created by the 2004 Bucharest Congress, gives postal stakeholders other than public postal operators and regulators a voice. In 2022, the membership of the Committee changed to include private companies, further strengthening its role as a platform for dialogue between the UPU and the wider postal sector. The CC consists of non-governmental organizations, suppliers of goods and services to the postal sector, academic and knowledge-based institutions and similar organizations that have an interest in supporting the mission and objectives of the Union. Membership applications are approved by the respective UPU member countries.

The [International Bureau](https://www.upu.int/en/Universal-Postal-Union/About-UPU/Bodies/International-Bureau) is the UPU’s Permanent Secretariat with headquarters in Berne, Switzerland. It provides logistical and technical support for the UPU’s bodies. It also serves as an office of liaison, information and consultation, and promotes technical cooperation among UPU members. More governance information is on the website under ‘[UPU](https://www.upu.int/en/Universal-Postal-Union)’.

Meetings

The Congress meets every four years. The [28th Congress](https://upc28dubai.post/) was scheduled to take place in Dubai, UAE, from 8 to 19 September 2025.

Extraordinary Congress meetings can also be called outside of the four-year cycle. The first Extraordinary Congress was held in 1900 in Berne, Switzerland, to mark the 25th anniversary of the UPU; the second in 2018 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to discuss the sustainability of the postal sector; the third in 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland, to discuss the remuneration rates of small packets; and the fourth in 2023 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, to discuss the UPU’s expanded collaboration with wider postal sector players.

The CA and POC usually meet twice a year at the UPU headquarters in Switzerland, and the CC meets at least once a year. Since 2020, all CA and POC meetings are held in a hybrid format.

Membership

Any UN Member State may become a member of the UPU. Countries that are not UN members may become a UPU member, provided that the request is approved by at least two-thirds of the UPU member countries. As at 1 July 2025, the UPU had 192 [members](https://www.upu.int/en/Universal-Postal-Union/About-UPU/Member-Countries) – all UN members except Andorra, Marshall Islands, Micronesia and Palau, plus non-UN members Aruba, Curaçao and Sint Maarten (formerly Netherlands Antilles); Overseas Territories (UK); and the Vatican.

The following list shows the CA and POC members for the current term. The CC members are listed on the website under ‘About UPU’ and ‘[Consultative Committee](https://www.upu.int/en/Universal-Postal-Union/About-UPU/Bodies/Consultative-Committee/CC-List-of-members)’.

Postal Operations Council (POC) and Council of Administration (CA) members 2022–25\*

Zone 1 – Western Hemisphere

Argentina: CA, POC

Barbados: POC

Brazil: POC

Canada: CA, POC

Chile: CA, POC

Colombia: POC

Cuba: CA

Paraguay: CA

Peru: CA

USA: CA, POC

Uruguay: CA, POC

Zone 2 – Eastern Europe and Northern Asia

Belarus: CA

Bosnia and Herzegovina: CA

Bulgaria: POC

Georgia: CA, POC

Kazakhstan: CA, POC

Poland: POC

Romania: POC

Russian Federation: CA, POC

Zone 3 – Western Europe

Austria: POC

Belgium: CA, POC

France: CA, POC

Germany: CA, POC

Italy: POC

Netherlands: POC

Norway: POC

Spain: CA, POC

Sweden: POC

Switzerland: CA, POC

Türkiye: POC

UK: CA, POC

Zone 4 – Southern Asia, Oceania

Australia: POC

Bangladesh: CA

China: CA, POC

India: CA, POC

Indonesia: POC

Japan: POC

Jordan: CA

Malaysia: CA, POC

Oman: CA

Qatar: CA

ROK: POC

Saudi Arabia: CA, POC

Singapore: POC

Thailand: CA

UAE: CA, POC

Viet Nam: POC

Zone 5 – Africa

Algeria: CA, POC

Burkina Faso: POC

Cameroon: CA, POC

Egypt: CA, POC

Ghana: CA

Kenya: CA, POC

Madagascar: CA, POC

Mali: CA

Morocco: POC

Nigeria: CA, POC

Senegal: POC

Tunisia: CA, POC

UR of Tanzania: CA, POC

Zambia: CA

Note

\* Elections for the 2026–29 term were due to be held at the 28th Universal Postal Congress in September 2025.

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

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X: [@ITU](http://www.twitter.com/ITU)

Website: [www.itu.int](http://www.itu.int)

Secretary-General: Doreen Bogdan-Martin, USA (elected by ITU Member States in September 2022 for a four-year term from 1 January 2023)

Purpose

ITU is the UN’s agency for digital technologies, bringing together governments and industry to coordinate global telecommunication networks and services. ITU was founded in 1865 in Paris as the International Telegraph Union. The 1932 Madrid Plenipotentiary Conference decided the current name, which came into use on 1 January 1934.

The [Strategic Plan](https://www.itu.int/en/council/planning/Pages/default.aspx) for 2024–27, approved at ITU’s 2022 Plenipotentiary Conference ([PP-22](https://pp22.itu.int/en/)), outlines two strategic goals for the organization:

Universal Connectivity: Enable and foster universal access to affordable, high-quality and secured telecommunications and information and communication technologies (ICTs)

Sustainable Digital Transformation: Foster equitable and inclusive use of telecommunications and ICTs to empower people and societies for sustainable development​.

Structure

The Plenipotentiary Conference is ITU’s supreme organ. Conferences are composed of ITU’s Member State delegations, which determine ITU’s underlying policies, direction and activities. The Member States elect Bureau Directors for the Radiocommunication Sector ([ITU-R](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/Pages/default.aspx)), Telecommunication Standardization Sector ([ITU-T](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-T/Pages/default.aspx)) and Telecommunication Development Sector ([ITU-D](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Pages/default.aspx)), as well as choosing the 48 Member States on the ITU Council and the 12 members of the Radio Regulations Board ([RRB](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/conferences/RRB/Pages/default.aspx)).

The ITU Council comprises 48 Member States elected at the Plenipotentiary Conference with allocations ensuring the equitable distribution of seats among five world regions (details in the list of members). It acts as ITU’s governing body between Plenipotentiary Conferences. More information is on the website under ‘Membership’, then ‘[How we are governed](https://www.itu.int/hub/membership/how-we-are-governed/)’.

Meetings

The Plenipotentiary Conference is convened every four years, with [PP-22](https://www.itu.int/pp22/en/) taking place in Bucharest, Romania, in September–October 2022, and PP-26 scheduled to be held in Doha, Qatar, in November 2026. The ITU Council meets annually.

ITU’s three key sectors meet between Plenipotentiary Conferences at, respectively: the Radiocommunication Assembly ([RA](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/conferences/RA/Pages/default.aspx)) and World Radiocommunication Conference ([WRC](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/conferences/wrc/Pages/default.aspx)) for ITU-R; the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly ([WTSA](https://www.itu.int/wtsa/2024/)) for ITU-T; and the World Telecommunication Development Conference ([WTDC](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Conferences/WTDC/Pages/default.aspx)) for ITU-D. ITU serves as secretariat for the treaty-making WRC (held in tandem with the RA) and regularly convenes international meetings, conferences and seminars related to promoting and enabling global connectivity. In addition, ITU organizes high-profile non-statutory meetings like the annual [AI for Good Global Summit](https://aiforgood.itu.int), which promotes artificial intelligence (AI) to accelerate progress on the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Membership

As at 1 July 2025, ITU had 194 [Member States](https://www.itu.int/en/membership/Pages/member-states.aspx) (all UN Member States, plus the Vatican) and more than 1000 [sector members](https://www.itu.int/hub/membership/our-members/directory/?myitu-industry=true&request=sector-members) and [associates](https://www.itu.int/hub/membership/our-members/directory/?myitu-industry=true&request=associates) from industry, international and regional organizations, and [academia](https://www.itu.int/hub/membership/our-members/directory/?myitu-academia=true&request=academia). Sector members are entitled to participate, with specific rights and obligations, in the work of one or more ITU sectors. Over 240 companies and organizations, including small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), take part in ITU work as associates in a specified sector, mainly ITU-T.

ITU [Member States](https://www.itu.int/en/membership/Pages/member-states.aspx) and [Council](https://www.itu.int/en/council/Pages/members.aspx) members are listed on the website. Members that have never served on the Council are not listed below.

Council members (48)

Previous Current

The Americas (9 seats)

Argentina 1947–2022 2023–26

Bahamas 1994–98 2019–22 2023–26

Brazil 1947–2022 2023–26

Canada 1947–2022 2023–26

Chile 1994–98

Colombia 1982–94

Costa Rica 2010–18

Cuba 1989–2022 2023–26

El Salvador 2019–22 2023–26

Jamaica 1989–94

Mexico 1952–2022 2023–26

Paraguay 2010–22 2023–26

Peru 1982–89

Saint Lucia 1998–2002

Suriname 2006–10

Trinidad and Tobago 1973–82 2006–10

USA 1947–2022 2023–26

Venezuela 1965–2018

Western Europe (8 seats)

Denmark 1994–2002

France 1947–2022 2023–26

Germany 1959–2022 2023–26

Greece 1989–94 2010–22

Hungary 1973–82 2019–22

Ireland 1965–73

Italy 1947–2022 2023–26

Lithuania 2014–18

Norway 2002–06

Portugal 1947–52 1994–2010

Spain 1973–2022 2023–26

Sweden 1973–94 2006–14 2023–26

Switzerland 1947–2022 2023–26

Türkiye 2002–22 2023–26

UK 1947–89 1994–2002 2023–26

Eastern Europe and Northern Asia (5 seats)1

Azerbaijan 2014–22 2023–26

Bulgaria 1989–2018 2023–26

Czechia 1993–2014 19–22 2023–26

Poland 1965–82 1994–2006 10–22 2023–26

Romania 1973–89 1994–2022 2023–26

Russian Federation 1947–2022

Ukraine 1994–98 2006–10

Uzbekistan 1947–59

Africa (13 seats)

Algeria 1965–2022 2023–26

Benin 1982–98

Burkina Faso 1989–2022

Cabo Verde 1989–98

Cameroon 1973–2014

Côte d’Ivoire 1998–2002 19–22

DR Congo 1973–82

Egypt 1973–2022 2023–26

Ethiopia 1959–89

Gabon 1998–2002

Ghana 2002–22 2023–26

Kenya 1982–2022 2023–26

Madagascar 1965–73

Mali 1989–2018

Mauritius 2023–26

Morocco 1959–2022 2023–26

Nigeria 1965–98 2002–22 2023–26

Rwanda 2010–22 2023–26

Senegal 1973–2022 2023–26

South Africa 1994–2014 19–22 2023–26

Tunisia 1959–2022 2023–26

Uganda 1965–73 2002–06 14–22 2023–26

UR of Tanzania 1973–2002 06–10 14–18 2023–26

Zambia 1982–89

Asia and Australasia (13 seats)

Australia 1959–2022 2023–26

Bahrain 2023–26

Bangladesh 2010–18

China 1947–2022 2023–26

India 1952–2022 2023–26

Indonesia 1982–98 2002–22 2023–26

Iran 1973–82 2002–06 19–22

Japan 1959–2022 2023–26

Kuwait 1982–2002 10–22 2023–26

Lebanon 1965–89

Malaysia 1973–82 1989–2014 2023–26

Pakistan 1982–2010 14–22

Philippines 1982–2002 06–22 2023–26

ROK 1989–2022 2023–26

Saudi Arabia 1965–2022 2023–26

Thailand 1973–2022 2023–26

UAE 2006–22 2023–26

Viet Nam 1994–2006

Note

1 The former Czechoslovakia and the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia both served on the Council in 1989–92.

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

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Website: <https://wmo.int>

Secretary-General: Celeste Saulo, Argentina (appointed by the 19th World Meteorological Congress in June 2023 for a four-year term from January 2024)

Purpose

The WMO is the UN’s specialized agency on the state and behaviour of the earth’s atmosphere, its interaction with the oceans, the climate it produces and the resulting distribution of water resources. It is the successor to the International Meteorological Organization, which was established in 1873. The WMO formally came into existence in 1950 and became a UN specialized agency in 1951.

Article 2 of the WMO Convention, which was signed in Washington in 1947 and came into force in 1950, defined the Organization’s purposes as being to:

* Facilitate worldwide cooperation in the establishment of networks of stations for making meteorological observations, as well as hydrological and other geophysical observations related to meteorology, and to promote the establishment and maintenance of centres charged with the provision of meteorological and related services
* Promote the establishment and maintenance of systems for rapid exchange of meteorological and related information
* Promote standardization of meteorological and related observations, and ensure the uniform publication of observations and statistics
* Further the application of meteorology to aviation, shipping, water problems, agriculture and other human activities
* Promote activities in operational hydrology and further close cooperation between meteorological and hydrological services

Encourage research and training in meteorology and, as appropriate, in related fields, and assist in coordinating the international aspects of such research and training.

Structure

The [World Meteorological Congress](https://wmo.int/about-wmo/governance/world-meteorological-congress) is the WMO’s supreme body. It determines general policies, elects the President, Vice-Presidents and Executive Council members, and appoints the Secretary-General. The [Executive Council](https://wmo.int/about-wmo/governance/executive-council) has 37 members, comprising the WMO President and three Vice-Presidents, the six regional association presidents (ex officio members) and 27 directors. All are directors of national meteorological or hydrometeorological services and serve in their individual capacities. When a vacancy occurs among the 27 elected members between Congress sessions, an acting member is designated by the Executive Council.

There are six [regional associations](https://wmo.int/about-wmo/regions/regional-associations): Africa; Asia; South America; North America, Central America and the Caribbean; South-West Pacific; and Europe. Each regional association elects its own president every four years. Following approval of a Constituent Bodies Governance Reform by the 18th World Meteorological Congress in June 2019, WMO’s eight technical commissions were replaced by two more coordinated [technical commissions](https://wmo.int/about-wmo/governance/technical-commissions): the Commission for Observation, Infrastructure and Information Systems ([INFCOM](https://community.wmo.int/en/governance/commission-membership/commission-observation-infrastructure-and-information-systems-infcom)) and the Commission for Weather, Climate, Hydrological, Marine and Related Environmental Services and Applications ([SERCOM](https://community.wmo.int/en/governance/commission-membership/sercom)).

The Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) advises the Executive Council on strategic and policy matters concerning the Organization submitted to it by the Executive Council. The [Technical Coordination Committee](https://wmo.int/technical-coordination-committee) (TCC) acts as a two-way interface between the Executive Council and the technical bodies of the Organization: technical commissions, the [Research Board](https://wmo.int/activities/research-board) and other relevant bodies. More governance information is on the website under ‘About WMO’, then ‘[Governance](https://wmo.int/about-wmo/governance)’.

Meetings

The Congress meets once every four years, most recently at the [19th](https://wmo.int/world-meteorological-congress-cg-19) session in May–June 2023 in Geneva, Switzerland and in hybrid format. Extraordinary sessions of Congress may be convened by the Executive Council as appropriate. The Executive Council meets annually. As a result of the reform, from 2020, regional associations and technical commissions may have two sessions in the financial period, including one ordinary session at which elections are held.

Membership

The WMO comprises 187 [Member States](https://wmo.int/about-wmo/wmo-members) and six territories. Apart from regional association presidents, the [Council members](https://community.wmo.int/governance/executive-council/executive-council/executive-council-members) serve terms that finish at the end of Congress in the year shown.

Executive Council members (37)\*

Previous Current

Algeria 1987–91

Angola 1979–80

Argentina 1975–2000 03–23 2023–27

Australia 1958–2023 2023–27

Austria 1994–98 2018–22

Bahamas 2009–13

Bahrain 2000–08

Belgium 1963–71

Belize 2002–03 05–08

Benin 1997–2001

Botswana 1995–2003

Brazil 1974–99 2001–16 18–23 2023–27

British Caribbean Territories 1983–2023 2023–27

Burkina Faso 2023–27

Burundi 1993–97

Cameroon 1979–81 86–95 2001–03 15–23 2023–27

Canada 1975–2023 2023–27

Chile 1980–82 89 2007 08–11 15–19

China 1973–23 2023–27

Colombia 1971–83 91–92 95–99 20–23

Congo 1981–87 1999–2001 11–15

Cook Islands 2005–10

Costa Rica 1986–91 2003–19

Côte d’Ivoire 1986–87 90–95 2014–23 2023–27

Croatia 2009–18

Cuba 1983–84

Curaçao and Sint Maarten1 1993–95 1997–2005 16–23 2023–27

Czechia 1995–99 2004–07

Denmark 1999–2003

Ecuador 1963–71 2000–03 11–15

Egypt 1955–85 87–91 95–99 2003–06 07–11 17–19 2023–27

Eswatini 2023–27

Ethiopia 1982–90 2003–05 14–23 2023–27

Fiji 1995–2003 11–19

Finland 1983–90 2007–15

France 1951–2006 07–23 2023–27

Gambia 1994–95

Germany 1963–2023 2023–27

Ghana 1979–81 87–91 2003–06

Greece 1989–94

Guatemala 1973–77

Guinea 2002–21

Guyana 2021–23 2023–27

Honduras 1991–93

Hungary 1979–81 2000–01 22–23

Iceland 2018–19

India 1979–99 2002–23 2023–27

Indonesia 1993–99 2001–02 07–18 19–23 2023–27

Iran 1969–79 1991–2011 19–23

Iraq 1979–82

Ireland 2023–27

Israel 1995–2002

Italy 1983–95 1998–2000 03–15 16–21 2023–27

Jamaica 2019–24 2025–29

Japan 1967–2015 16–19 19–23 2023–27

Jordan 1987–91 2003–06

Kenya 1971–2013 2023–27

Lesotho 1994–95 2003–07

Lithuania 2002–05

Luxembourg 1955–71

Malawi 1981–82 91–95

Malaysia 1979–86 95–96 1998–2001 03–05 06–15

Mali 1990–2001 06–07 21–23

Mauritania 2007–11

Mauritius 1975–79 2007–11

Mexico 1979–85 1995–2002 07–09 13–16

Mongolia 1975 1994–2000

Morocco 1983–87 1999–2003 11–16 19–23

Mozambique 2006–07 19–23

Myanmar 1982–84

Namibia 2007–11 18 19–23

Nepal 1983–87

Netherlands 1991–95

New Caledonia 1962–71

New Zealand 1986–88 2003–07 10–11

Niger 1985–91 2012–14

Nigeria 1973–83 91–93 1995–2002 07–17 18–23 2023–27

Norway 1979–83 90–94 2022–23 2023–27

Oman 2024–25

Pakistan 1971–91 2003–07

Panama 1987–91 2008–09 24–25

Paraguay 1959–63 91–99 2003–05 11–17 2025–28

Peru 1983–87 2007–11 18–21 23

Philippines 1974–95 97–99

Poland 1971–75 1991–2003 07–16

Portugal 1984–87 2001–02

Qatar 1986–95 2012–17

ROK 2000 07–17 18–23 2023–27

Romania 2021–23 2023–26

Russian Federation 1951–2003 04–23

Rwanda 1991–92 98–99 2006–07

Saudi Arabia 1983–2002 07–19 2025–29

Senegal 1975–85 95–97 2001–04 11–12

Singapore 1967–74 89–92 2002–06 15–23 2023–27

Solomon Islands 2024–25

South Africa 1995–2005 07–17 18–19 2024–25 2023–27

Spain 1983–96 1999–2000 03–23

Sudan 1959–63 91–95 2010–12

Sweden 1955–79

Switzerland 1971–75 2003–09 19–23 2023–27

Syrian AR 1979–84 2001–03

Togo 1983–90

Tonga 2014 18–22 22–24 2025

Trinidad and Tobago 1994–97

Tunisia 1975–79 91–95

Türkiye 2015–18 19–23 2023–27

UAE 2017–21 2023–27

Uganda 1971–79

UK 1979–2023 2023–27

UR of Tanzania 1975–79 1995–2007 12–23

USA 1951–2023 2023–27

Uruguay 1982–91 1999–2000 03–05 19–20 23–25

Uzbekistan 2008–12

Venezuela 1971–79 86–88 94–95 1999–2003 06–10

Viet Nam 2023

Zambia 1983–87 2011–15

Zimbabwe 1987–91 2014–18

President, Vice-Presidents and Regional Association Presidents

President

Abdulla Ahmed Al Mandous, UAE

First Vice-President

Daouda Konate, Côte d’Ivoire

Second Vice-President

Eoin Moran, Ireland

Third Vice-President

Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, India

Presidents of regional associations

Region I, Africa: Fetene Teshome, Ethiopia

Region II, Asia: Ayman Salem Ghulam, Saudi Arabia

Region III, South America: Eduardo José Mingo Vega, Paraguay

Region IV, North America, Central America and the Caribbean: Evan G Thompson, Jamaica

Region V, South-West Pacific: Laitia Fifita, Tonga

Region VI, Europe: Elena Mateescu, Romania

Members that have not served on the Executive Council\*

Afghanistan

Albania

Andorra

Antigua and Barbuda

Azerbaijan

Bangladesh

Barbados

Belarus

Bhutan

Bolivia

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Brunei Darussalam

Bulgaria

Cabo Verde

Cambodia

Central African Republic

Chad

Comoros

Cyprus

DPRK

DR Congo

Djibouti

Dominica

Dominican Republic

El Salvador

Eritrea

Estonia

Eswatini

French Polynesia

Gabon

Georgia

Guinea-Bissau

Haiti

Hong Kong, China

Kazakhstan

Kiribati

Kuwait

Kyrgyzstan

Lao PDR

Latvia

Lebanon

Liberia

Libya

Macau, China

Madagascar

Maldives

Malta

Micronesia

Montenegro

Nauru

Nicaragua

Niue

North Macedonia

Papua New Guinea

Republic of Moldova

Saint Lucia

Samoa

São Tomé and Príncipe

Serbia

Seychelles

Sierra Leone

Slovakia

Slovenia

Somalia

South Sudan

Sri Lanka

Suriname

Tajikistan

Thailand

Timor-Leste

Turkmenistan

Tuvalu

Ukraine

Vanuatu

Viet Nam

Yemen

Notes

\* Current terms are as at July 2025. Further details can be found on the WMO Executive Council [website](https://wmo.int/about-wmo/governance/executive-council). The former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia served on the Executive Council from 1963 to 1991.

1 Group membership of the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba was officially dissolved on 10 October 2010 and has been replaced by the group membership of Curaçao and Sint Maarten as a Member territory.

International Maritime Organization (IMO)

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Website: [www.imo.org](http://www.imo.org)

Secretary-General: Arsenio Dominguez, Panama (elected by the IMO Council in July 2023 for a four-year term from 1 January 2024)

Purpose

The IMO is the UN specialized agency responsible for the safety of life at sea, maritime security and the protection of the marine environment through prevention of pollution caused by ships. It facilitates cooperation among governments to achieve the highest practicable standards of maritime safety and security, and efficiency in navigation. It deals with legal matters connected with international shipping, including liability and compensation regimes, as well as with facilitation of international maritime traffic. It is also responsible for providing technical assistance in maritime matters to developing countries.

The Organization was created by the Convention on the International Maritime Organization, which concluded at Geneva in 1948 and came into force in 1958. The first Assembly was convened in London in 1959. Prior to 22 May 1982 (the date of entry into force of the 1975 amendments to the Convention), the Organization’s name was the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO).

The IMO convenes international conferences on shipping matters and for drafting international conventions or agreements on this subject. The current emphasis is on ensuring relevant conventions and treaties are properly implemented by the countries that have accepted them. The IMO has adopted a mandatory Member State audit scheme.

The IMO also acts as a secretariat in respect of the [Convention](https://www.imo.org/en/About/Conventions/Pages/Convention-on-the-Prevention-of-Marine-Pollution-by-Dumping-of-Wastes-and-Other-Matter.aspx) on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, adopted in London in 1972, which is being superseded by its 1996 Protocol that regulates the disposal into the sea of waste materials generated on land. Consultative meetings are normally held once a year.

The IMO has implemented procedural changes since its inception to ensure that treaty changes can be introduced more quickly. One of the most successful of these has been the process known as ‘tacit acceptance’, which has been included in most technical conventions adopted by the IMO since the early 1970s. Rather than requiring ‘explicit acceptance’ to adopt amendments to a treaty, the tacit acceptance procedure means that amendments enter into force on a set date unless they are specifically rejected by a specific number of countries.

Structure

The [Assembly](https://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/MeetingSummaries/Pages/Assembly-default.aspx) is the IMO’s highest governing body and consists of all Member States. It is responsible for approving the IMO’s work programme, the budget and determining the financial arrangements. It also elects the Council.

Between Assembly sessions, the [Council](https://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/MeetingSummaries/Pages/Council-default.aspx), composed of 40 Member States, performs all the functions of the Organization, except for making recommendations to Member States on the adoption of regulations and guidelines concerning maritime safety, the prevention and control of marine pollution, which is reserved to the Assembly under Article 15(j) of the Convention. The Council is responsible for appointing the IMO Secretary-General, subject to the Assembly’s approval.

There are five main committees: Maritime Safety, Marine Environment Protection, Legal, Technical Cooperation and Facilitation. All IMO committees are open to all member governments on an equal basis. More governance information is on the website under ‘About IMO’ and ‘[Structure](https://www.imo.org/en/About/Pages/Structure.aspx)’.

Meetings

The Assembly meets once every two years in regular session, but may also meet in extraordinary session if necessary. Its 34th regular session is scheduled to be held from 24 November to 3 December 2025. The meetings programme is on the [website](http://www.imo.org/EN/MediaCentre/MeetingSummaries/Pages/Default.aspx).

Membership

The IMO has 176 [members](http://www.imo.org/About/Membership/Pages/MemberStates.aspx) and three associate members. Council [members](https://www.imo.org/en/About/Pages/Structure.aspx) are elected for a biennium, with their two-year terms beginning immediately after each regular session of the Assembly. Council members elected at the most recent Assembly in December 2023, whose term ends in November 2025, are referenced below as serving for the 2024–25 biennium.

IMO Council members are elected from three categories, rather than by region. Category A Council members are the 10 states with the largest interest in providing international shipping services; Category B Council members are the 10 other states with the largest interest in international seaborne trade; Category C Council members are the 20 states not elected under either category A or B that have special interests in maritime transport or navigation and whose election will ensure the representation of all major areas of the world. The categories for current terms are noted in brackets in the following list.

This Handbook outlines the procedures in force at the time of printing. In December 2021, the IMO Assembly adopted [Amendments to the IMO Convention](https://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/pages/IMOCouncilTreatyUrge.aspx) to expand the size of the IMO Council from 40 members to 52 members, as well as to extend the standard term of a Council member from two years to four years. The amendments will enter into force when they have been accepted by two-thirds of the IMO membership, or 117 states.

Council members (2024–25 biennium)

Previous1 Current

African states

Algeria 1972–79 84–99 2002–07

Egypt (C) 1978–2013 16–23 2024–25

Gabon 1984–87

Ghana 1970–73 84–87 96–97 2002–05

Kenya (C) 1978–79 2002–03 06–23 2024–25

Liberia (A) 1978–91 98–99 2012–17 2024–25

Madagascar 1964–71

Morocco (C) 1980–81 84–97 2000–01 12–23 2024–25

Nigeria 1974–85 88–95 2004–05 08–11

South Africa 1998–2021

Tunisia 1998–99

Asia–Pacific states

Bangladesh (C) 1982–87 2002–17 2024–25

China (A) 1976–81 1984–2023 2024–25

Cyprus (C) 1988–2023 2024–25

India (B) 1960–2023 2024–25

Indonesia (C) 1974–79 1984–2023 2024–25

Iran 1992–97

Japan (A) 1960–2023 2024–25

Kuwait 1978–91 94–95 2020–21

Lebanon 1982–91 2002–03

Malaysia (C) 2006–23 2024–25

Pakistan 1978–81 88–93

Philippines (C) 1990–93 1998–2023 2024–25

Qatar (C) 2022–23 2024–25

ROK (A) 1992–2023 2024–25

Saudi Arabia (C) 1982–97 2004–11 22–23 2024–25

Singapore (C) 1994–2023 2024–25

Thailand 2006–23

UAE (B) 2018–23 2024–25

Vanuatu 2022–23

Eastern European states

Bulgaria 1984–85

Poland 1968–77 80–83 86–91 94–99 2002–05

Romania 1978–79

Russian Federation 1960–2023

Latin American and Caribbean states

Argentina 1960–63 76–79 1984–2017 20–21

Bahamas (C) 1992–95 2000–23 2024–25

Barbados 1990–91

Brazil (B) 1968–2023 2024–25

Chile (C) 1984–85 2002–23 2024–25

Cuba 1980–81 84–85

Honduras 2002–03

Jamaica (C) 1980–83 2008–15 18–21 2024–25

Mexico (C) 1978–79 82–83 86–87 1990–2021 2024–25

Panama (A) 1980–83 86–89 92–93 1996–2021 2024–25

Peru (C) 1978–81 88–89 2014–21 2024–25

Trinidad and Tobago 1984–89

Venezuela 2002–05

Western European and Other states

Australia (B) 1960–75 1986–2023 2024–25

Belgium 1960–67 70–75 2006–07 10–23

Canada (B) 1960–2023 2024–25

Denmark (C) 2002–23 2024–25

Finland (C) 1998–2001 2024–25

France (B) 1960–2023 2024–25

Germany (B) 1960–2023 2024–25

Greece (A) 1960–77 1980–2023 2024–25

Italy (A) 1960–73 76–77 1982–2023 2024–25

Malta (C) 1978–79 2000–23 2024–25

Netherlands (B) 1960–73 84–87 1992–2023 2024–25

New Zealand 2008–09

Norway (A) 1960–2023 2024–25

Portugal 2004–07

Spain (B) 1974–75 1980–2023 2024–25

Sweden (B) 1960–69 1988–2019 22–23 2024–25

Türkiye (C) 2000–23 2024–25

UK (A) 1960–2023 2024–25

USA (A) 1960–2023 2024–25

Members that have not served on the Council

African states

Angola

Benin

Botswana

Cabo Verde

Cameroon

Comoros

Congo

Côte d’Ivoire

DR Congo

Djibouti

Equatorial Guinea

Eritrea

Ethiopia

Gambia

Guinea

Guinea-Bissau

Libya

Malawi

Mauritania

Mauritius

Mozambique

Namibia

São Tomé and Príncipe

Senegal

Seychelles

Sierra Leone

Somalia

Sudan

Togo

Uganda

UR of Tanzania

Zambia

Zimbabwe

Asia–Pacific states

Bahrain

Brunei Darussalam

Cambodia

DPRK

Fiji

Iraq

Jordan

Kazakhstan

Kiribati

Kyrgyzstan

Maldives

Marshall Islands

Mongolia

Myanmar

Nauru

Nepal

Oman

Palau

Papua New Guinea

Samoa

Solomon Islands

Sri Lanka

Syrian AR

Timor-Leste

Tonga

Turkmenistan

Tuvalu

Viet Nam

Yemen

Eastern European states

Albania

Armenia

Azerbaijan

Belarus

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Croatia

Czechia

Estonia

Georgia

Hungary

Latvia

Lithuania

Montenegro

North Macedonia

Republic of Moldova

Serbia

Slovakia

Slovenia

Ukraine

Latin American and Caribbean states

Antigua and Barbuda

Belize

Bolivia

Colombia

Costa Rica

Dominica

Dominican Republic

Ecuador

El Salvador

Grenada

Guatemala

Guyana

Haiti

Nicaragua

Paraguay

Saint Kitts and Nevis

Saint Lucia

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Suriname

Uruguay

Western European and Other states

Austria

Iceland

Ireland

Israel

Luxembourg

Monaco

San Marino

Switzerland

Members outside the UN regional groupings

Cook Islands

Associate members

Faroe Islands

Hong Kong, China

Macau, China

Note

1 The former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia served on the Executive Council from 1963 to 1991.

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

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X: [@WIPO](http://www.twitter.com/WIPO)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/wipo](http://www.linkedin.com/company/wipo)

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/wipo](http://www.youtube.com/wipo)

Flickr: [www.flickr.com/photos/wipo/collections/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/wipo/collections/)

Website: [www.wipo.int](http://www.wipo.int)

Director-General: Daren Tang, Singapore (appointed by the WIPO General Assembly, upon nomination by the Coordination Committee, for a six-year term from October 2020 to September 2026)

Purpose

WIPO is the UN’s specialized agency for intellectual property (IP) (copyrights, patents, trademarks, industrial designs and geographical indications). It helps governments, businesses and society realize the benefits of IP. WIPO provides:

* A [policy](https://www.wipo.int/policy/en/) forum to shape balanced international IP rules for a changing world; global [services](https://www.wipo.int/services/en/) to protect IP across borders and to resolve disputes
* [Technical infrastructure](https://www.wipo.int/global_ip/en/) to connect IP systems and share knowledge
* [Cooperation](https://www.wipo.int/cooperation/en/) and [capacity-building](https://www.wipo.int/cooperation/en/capacity_building/) programmes to enable all countries to use IP for economic, social and cultural development

A world [reference](https://www.wipo.int/reference/en/) source for IP information.

WIPO was established by the 1967 Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization ([WIPO Convention](https://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/convention/)), which was signed on 14 July 1967 in Stockholm, entered into force in April 1970 and was amended in 1979. As at 1 July 2025, the WIPO Convention has 194 contracting [states](http://www.wipo.int/members/en/). The Organization became a UN specialized agency in 1974.

WIPO administers 28 [treaties](http://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/) that deal with different legal and administrative aspects of intellectual property, notably the 1883 [Paris](http://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/ip/paris/) Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property that has 181 [contracting parties](https://www.wipo.int/wipolex/en/treaties/ShowResults?search_what=C&treaty_id=2); the 1886 [Berne](http://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/ip/berne/) Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works that has 181 [contracting parties](https://www.wipo.int/wipolex/en/treaties/ShowResults?search_what=C&treaty_id=15); and the [Patent](http://www.wipo.int/treaties/en/registration/pct/) Cooperation Treaty (PCT) that has 158 [contracting states](https://www.wipo.int/pct/en/pct_contracting_states.html).

Structure

The [General Assembly](http://www.wipo.int/about-wipo/en/assemblies/) is the Organization’s supreme decision-making body (WIPO Convention Article 6.1). All states that are both members of WIPO and any of the Unions are members of the WIPO General Assembly. The Conference comprises all 194 WIPO Member States, whether or not they are members of any of the Unions (WIPO Convention Article 7a).

The [Coordination Committee](http://www.wipo.int/meetings/en/topic.jsp?group_id=104) comprises 83 members, made up of the combined Paris and Berne Unions’ executive committees. It is both an advisory organ on questions of common interest to one or more of the Organization’s Unions and the executive organ of the Organization (WIPO Convention Article 8). Treaties administered by WIPO have their own governing bodies. More governance information is on the website under ‘Partner & Collaborate’, then ‘[Negotiating & Decision-Making](https://www.wipo.int/en/web/decision-making-and-negotiating-bodies)’.

The International Bureau (Secretariat) has over 1050 staff from 122 countries. Based in Geneva, Switzerland, WIPO also has a [coordination office](https://www.wipo.int/about-wipo/en/new_york/) in New York and [external offices](https://www.wipo.int/about-wipo/en/offices/) in Abuja, Algiers, Beijing, Moscow, Rio de Janeiro, Singapore and Tokyo.

Meetings

The General Assembly meets in ordinary session once every two years and in extraordinary session every other year. Most recently, its [66th Series of Meetings](https://www.wipo.int/en/web/assemblies/a66/index) took place in Geneva from 8 to 17 July 2025. The Conference meets at the same time as the General Assembly. The Coordination Committee holds an ordinary session once a year.

Membership

As at 1 July 2025, WIPO had 194 [Member States](http://www.wipo.int/members/en/) and 396 accredited [observers](http://www.wipo.int/about-wipo/en/observers/index.html). See the website under ‘About WIPO’ for membership lists.

To become a member of WIPO, a state must deposit an instrument of ratification or accession to the WIPO Convention with the Director-General. The Convention provides that membership is open to any state that is: a member of the Paris Union for the Protection of Industrial Property or the Berne Union for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works; or a member of the UN or its specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) or party to the Statute of the International Court of Justice; or invited by the WIPO General Assembly to become a member.

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

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Website: [www.ifad.org](http://www.ifad.org)

President: Alvaro Lario, Spain (appointed by the Governing Council in July 2022 for a four-year term beginning 1 October 2022)

Purpose

IFAD is an international financial institution and UN specialized agency that provides low-interest loans and grants to developing countries to finance agricultural and rural development programmes and projects. IFAD invests in rural people, empowering them to reduce poverty, increase food security, improve nutrition and strengthen resilience. It was established in 1977 as one of the major outcomes of the 1974 World Food Conference.

The majority of IFAD’s resources are provided to low-income countries on highly concessional terms under which the loans are repayable over 40 years inclusive of a grace period of 10 years, with a 0.75 percent service charge. In 2007, IFAD’s Executive Board approved the Fund’s debt sustainability framework (DSF), replacing loans with grants for poor countries unable to sustain debt. More information on financial products is available on the website under ‘Who We Are’, then ‘About IFAD’ and ‘[Finance](https://www.ifad.org/en/finance)’.

Since starting operations, IFAD has invested over US$25 billion in grants and low-interest loans, supporting more than 1000 programmes and projects. Co-financing worth over US$40 billion has been provided by governments, project participants, multilateral and bilateral donors and other partners. By 2023, IFAD-supported projects had reached almost 100 million people.

IFAD played an active role in the process to frame the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), advocating for the interests of smallholders and other rural people who make up the majority of the world’s poor population. IFAD’s [Strategic Framework 2016–2025](https://www.ifad.org/en/strategic-framework) articulates the Fund’s contribution to the 2030 Agenda. IFAD advocates for a holistic, people-centred approach, underlining the principle that development efforts must support social change, empower the most disadvantaged and marginalized people, and create an enabling environment for smallholders and other rural people. Food security, climate and biodiversity, women and young people are key areas of focus for IFAD’s work. IFAD launched its [13th Replenishment](https://www.ifad.org/en/ifad13/) consultations in February 2023. By mid-2025, Member States had pledged over US$1.4 billion – a record level of financing – in support of the Fund’s 2025–27 programme of work.

Structure

The [Governing Council](https://www.ifad.org/en/governing-council) is IFAD’s highest decision-making authority. Each Member State is represented on the Council by a governor and/or alternate governor and any other designated advisers. The [Executive Board](https://www.ifad.org/en/executive-board) is responsible for overseeing IFAD’s general operations and approving the Fund’s programme of work. It consists of 18 members elected by the Council and 18 alternate members. The [President](https://www.ifad.org/en/president) chairs the Executive Board, is IFAD’s legal representative, the head of staff and conducts the organization’s business under the direction of the Governing Council and Executive Board. More governance information is available on the [website](https://www.ifad.org/en/governance).

Meetings

The Governing Council meets once a year, usually in February. The Executive Board meets three times a year, usually in April, September and December.

Membership

IFAD membership is open to any state that is a member of the UN or its specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Countries may join the Fund after approval by IFAD’s Governing Council and accession to the Agreement Establishing IFAD. As at 1 July 2025 there were 180 Member States. Members are classified as follows: List A (primarily Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) members); List B (primarily Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) members); and List C (primarily developing countries). List C is further divided into sub-list C1 (countries in Africa); sub-list C2 (countries in Europe, Asia and the Pacific); and sub-list C3 (countries in Latin America and the Caribbean).

New members decide which list they wish to be placed on after consultation with the members of that list. A Member State may decide to withdraw from one list to be placed on another, with the approval of members on that list. Prior to 1997, the lists were called categories (IFAD res. [86/XVIII](https://webapps.ifad.org/members/wgg/docs/Resolution-86-XVIII.pdf)). More information is on the website under ‘Who We Are’, then ‘Governance’ and ‘[Membership](https://www.ifad.org/en/membership)’.

The Executive Board has eight members and eight alternates from List A; four members and four alternates from List B; and six members and six alternates from List C – two each in the three regional sub-lists. Board terms are for three years, beginning and ending at the Governing Council session (usually February). Some members and alternates do not serve the full three-year term.

Executive Board members/alternates 2024–27 (as at July 2025)

List A

Canada/Finland

France/Belgium

Germany/Switzerland

Italy/Austria

Japan/Denmark

Norway/Sweden

UK/Netherlands

USA/Spain

List B

Kuwait/UAE

Nigeria/Qatar

Saudi Arabia/Indonesia

Venezuela/Algeria

List C

Sub-list C1 Africa

Cameroon/Eritrea

Angola/Egypt

Sub-list C2 Europe, Asia and the Pacific

China/Pakistan

India/ROK

Sub-list C3 Latin America and the Caribbean

Brazil/Argentina

Mexico/Peru

UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Vienna International Centre

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Website: [www.unido.org](http://www.unido.org)

Director General: Gerd Müller (appointed by the Organization’s General Conference in November 2021; recommended by the UNIDO Industrial Development Board in June 2025 for reappointment by the General Conference in November 2025 for a second four-year term beginning 24 November 2025)

Purpose

UNIDO is the UN specialized agency mandated to promote inclusive and sustainable industrial development and international industrial cooperation. Through this, it aims to create shared prosperity from industry, safeguard the environment and advance economic competitiveness.

The UNIDO constitution calls on the Organization to:

* Assist developing countries in the formulation of development, institutional, scientific and technological policies and programmes in the field of industrial development
* Analyse trends, disseminate information and coordinate activities in industrial development
* Act as a forum for consultations and negotiations directed towards the industrialization of developing countries

Provide technical cooperation to developing countries for the implementation of their development plans for sustainable industrialization in their public and private sectors.

UNIDO takes part in various UN system inter-agency coordination mechanisms, partners with relevant UN organizations and cooperates with the World Trade Organization (WTO) in the Aid for Trade framework. It is an executing agency under the Global Environment Facility (GEF), a core agency of the UN Global Compact, and an implementing agency for several multilateral environmental agreements, including the Montreal Protocol, Stockholm Convention and UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. UNIDO also has direct collaboration agreements with civil society organizations, academia, government-owned institutions and the private sector.

The General Assembly created UNIDO in 1966 as a special organ of the UN (GA res. [2152](http://undocs.org/A/RES/2152(XXI)) (XXI)), and the Organization was formally established in January 1967. It became a UN specialized agency in 1985. UNIDO’s origins can be traced back to a series of studies on the rapid industrialization of developing countries carried out by the UN Secretariat in the early 1950s at the request of ECOSOC. The [Lima Declaration](https://www.unido.org/sites/default/files/2014-04/Lima_Declaration_EN_web_0.pdf): Towards inclusive and sustainable industrial development, adopted in 2013 ([GC.15/Res.1](https://docs.un.org/GC.15/INF/4)), is UNIDO’s long-term vision to eradicate poverty through inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID). The [Abu Dhabi Declaration](https://www.unido.org/sites/default/files/files/2019-11/UNIDO_Abu_Dhabi_Declaration.pdf), adopted in 2019, draws attention to the important role of the private sector in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and highlights the emergence of the Fourth Industrial Revolution.

Structure

The [General Conference](https://www.unido.org/resources-policymaking-organs/general-conference) is UNIDO’s highest policy-making organ and consists of all UNIDO Member States. The Conference appoints the Director General for terms of four years. It determines the guiding principles and policies of the Organization, and approves the budget and work programme. The General Conference also elects the members of the Industrial Development Board (IDB) and the Programme and Budget Committee (PBC). The [IDB](https://www.unido.org/resources-policymaking-organs/industrial-development-board) acts as a preparatory body for the Conference. It consists of 53 Member States elected for four-year terms on a rotational basis. The [PBC](https://www.unido.org/resources-policymaking-organs/programme-and-budget-committee) assists the Board in the preparation and examination of the work programme and financial matters. It consists of 27 Member States elected for two-year terms. More information about UNIDO’s governance can be found on the website under ‘Resources’ and ‘[Policymaking Organs](https://www.unido.org/resources/policymaking-organs-and-other-related-bodies)’.

Meetings

The General Conference meets every two years. The [21st session](https://www.unido.org/gc/21) is scheduled to take place from 23 to 27 November 2025 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. The IDB and PBC each meet once a year.

Membership

All UN Member States or members of a specialized agency or of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) may become members of UNIDO by becoming parties to its Constitution. Other states may become members after their membership has been recommended by the IDB and approved by the General Conference, by a two-thirds majority of members present and voting (UNIDO Constitution, Article 3).

As at 1 July 2025, UNIDO had 173 [members](https://www.unido.org/about-us/member-states). In the list below, members of the IDB are identified by notes 1 and 2, and members of the PBC by note 3.

Members (173)\*

Afghanistan

Albania

Algeria1, 3

Angola1

Antigua and Barbuda

Argentina1

Armenia

Austria1, 3

Azerbaijan

Bahamas

Bahrain

Bangladesh1

Barbados

Belarus2

Belize

Benin

Bhutan

Bolivia

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Botswana

Brazil2, 3

Bulgaria

Burkina Faso2

Burundi

Cabo Verde

Cambodia

Cameroon

Central African Republic

Chad

Chile

China2, 3

Colombia2

Comoros

Congo

Costa Rica1

Côte d’Ivoire2

Croatia

Cuba

Cyprus2

Czechia

DPRK

DR Congo

Djibouti

Dominica

Dominican Republic

Ecuador

Egypt2, 3

El Salvador

Equatorial Guinea

Eritrea

Eswatini

Ethiopia

Fiji

Finland2, 3

Gabon

Gambia

Georgia

Germany2, 3

Ghana1, 3

Grenada

Guatemala

Guinea

Guinea-Bissau

Guyana

Haiti

Honduras

Hungary1, 3

India1, 3

Indonesia3

Iran3

Iraq

Ireland1

Israel

Italy2, 3

Jamaica

Japan2, 3

Jordan

Kazakhstan

Kenya2, 3

Kiribati

Kuwait

Kyrgyzstan1

Lao PDR

Lebanon

Lesotho

Liberia

Libya

Luxembourg1

Madagascar

Malawi

Malaysia

Maldives

Mali

Malta1, 3

Marshall Islands

Mauritania

Mauritius

Mexico2, 3

Micronesia

Monaco

Mongolia1

Montenegro

Morocco1, 3

Mozambique

Myanmar

Namibia2

Nepal

Netherlands2

Nicaragua

Niger

Nigeria1

North Macedonia

Norway2

Oman

Pakistan1, 3

Palau

Panama1

Papua New Guinea

Paraguay

Peru1, 3

Philippines2

Poland2, 3

Qatar2

ROK2

Republic of Moldova

Romania

Russian Federation1, 3

Rwanda

Saint Kitts and Nevis

Saint Lucia

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Samoa

São Tomé and Príncipe

Saudi Arabia

Senegal

Serbia

Seychelles

Sierra Leone

Slovenia2

Solomon Islands

Somalia

South Africa1, 3

South Sudan

Spain1, 3

Sri Lanka

State of Palestine

Sudan

Suriname

Sweden2

Switzerland1, 3

Syrian AR

Tajikistan

Thailand1

Timor-Leste

Togo

Tonga

Trinidad and Tobago

Tunisia1

Türkiye1, 3

Turkmenistan

Tuvalu

Uganda

Ukraine

UAE2

UR of Tanzania

Uruguay2, 3

Uzbekistan

Vanuatu

Venezuela1

Viet Nam

Yemen

Zambia

Zimbabwe

Notes

\* As at 1 July 2025, there was one vacancy on the IDB, for the term expiring at the close of the 22nd session of the General Conference in 2027.

1 Members of the IDB, elected to hold office until the end of the 21st regular session of the General Conference in 2025.

2 Members of the IDB, elected to hold office until the end of the 22nd regular session of the General Conference in 2027.

3 Members of the PBC, elected to hold office until the end of the 21st regular session of the General Conference in 2025.

World Tourism Organization (UN Tourism)

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/WorldTourismOrganization](http://www.facebook.com/WorldTourismOrganization)

X: [@UNWTO](http://www.twitter.com/UNWTO)

Instagram: [@UNWTO](http://www.instagram.com/UNWTO)

LinkedIn: [@UN Tourism](file:///C:\Users\lwright5\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\Content.Outlook\P3TS7U4J\www.linkedin.com\company\unwto-world-tourism-organization)

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/@UNTourism](https://www.youtube.com/@UNTourism)

Flickr: [www.flickr.com/photos/unwto](http://www.flickr.com/photos/unwto)

Website: [www.unwto.org](http://www.unwto.org)

Secretary-General: Zurab Pololikashvili, Georgia (elected by the World Tourism Organization General Assembly in October 2017, took up the position in January 2018; re-elected in December 2021 for a second four-year term from January 2022)

Purpose

UN Tourism is the UN specialized agency fostering responsible, sustainable and universally accessible tourism. As the leading international organization in the field of tourism, it promotes tourism as a driver of economic growth, inclusive development and environmental sustainability and offers leadership and support to the sector in advancing knowledge and tourism policies. With its current strategic focuses on innovation, education, digital transformation and investments, UN Tourism aims to maximize the potential of the sector in terms of job creation, the empowerment of women and youth, and sustainable development.

As part of its mission, UN Tourism generates market knowledge, promotes competitive and sustainable tourism policies and instruments, fosters tourism education and innovation, and works to make tourism an effective tool for development through technical assistance projects in over 100 countries around the world.

UN Tourism encourages the implementation of the Global Code of Ethics for Tourism, to maximize tourism’s socio-economic contribution while minimizing its possible negative impacts, and is committed to promoting tourism as an instrument in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), geared towards reducing poverty and fostering sustainable development worldwide.

UN Tourism was established as the World Tourism Organization (WTO) in 1975 on the entry into force of statutes adopted in 1970. It became a UN specialized agency in 2003 (GA res. [58/232](http://undocs.org/A/RES/58/232) (2003)), and formally adopted the change in acronym to UNWTO in 2005. In January 2024, it rebranded as UN Tourism. GA res. [32/156](http://undocs.org/A/RES/32/156) (1977) sets out the relationship between the UN and UN Tourism.

Structure

The World Tourism Organization [General Assembly](https://www.unwto.org/unwto-general-assembly) is the entity’s supreme body. It is composed of full and associate members, while affiliate members participate as observers. The Assembly approves the Organization’s budget and work programme. The World Committee on Tourism Ethics is a subsidiary organ of the General Assembly.

The [Executive Council](https://www.unwto.org/executive-council) is UN Tourism’s governing body. It consists of 35 full members elected by the Assembly with a view to achieving fair and equitable geographical distribution. As host country, Spain sits on the Council as a permanent voting member. One representative of the associate members and one of affiliate members also participate, though neither has voting rights. The term of office for elected Council members is four years. Elections for half the members are held every two years. The Council elects one chair and two vice-chairs from among its members.

There are six [regional commissions](https://www.unwto.org/unwto-regional-commissions), established by the Assembly, covering Africa, the Americas, Europe, the Middle East, East Asia and the Pacific, and South Asia. Specialized committees of UN Tourism members advise on management and programme content. Headquartered in Madrid, UN Tourism has a liaison office in Geneva and regional offices in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, and Nara, Japan.

Meetings

The General Assembly meets every two years. Its [26th session](https://www.untourism.int/general-assembly-twenty-sixth-session) is scheduled to be held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, from 7 to 11 November 2025. The Executive Council meets at least twice a year, and the Regional Commissions normally meet annually. The [123rd session](https://www.unwto.org/events/123-executive-council) of the Executive Council took place in San Ildefonso, Spain, in May 2025.

Membership

UN Tourism has three categories of members ([Statutes](https://webunwto.s3-eu-west-1.amazonaws.com/imported_images/51970/unwtostatuteseng.pdf), Articles 4–7):

* Full members: 160 [Member States](https://www.unwto.org/member-states)\*
* [Associate members](https://www.untourism.int/member-states#paragraph-48576): six territories or groups of territories not responsible for their external relations but whose membership is approved by the state assuming responsibility for their external relations

[Affiliate members](https://www.unwto.org/affiliate-members): over 500 representatives of the private sector, educational institutions, tourism associations and local tourism authorities.

Permanent observer status, with the right to speak but without the right to vote, was given to the Holy See at the General Assembly in 1979. The State of Palestine was granted special observer status in 1999.

Members (160)\*

Current Executive Council terms are shown in brackets.

Full members (160)

Afghanistan

Albania

Algeria

Andorra

Angola

Antigua and Barbuda

Argentina (2021–25)

Armenia (2021–25)

Austria

Azerbaijan (2021–25)

Bahamas

Bahrain (2021–25)

Bangladesh

Barbados

Belarus

Belize

Benin

Bhutan

Bolivia

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Botswana

Brazil (2021–25; Chair for 2025)

Brunei Darussalam

Bulgaria (2023–27)

Burkina Faso

Burundi

Cabo Verde (2021–25)

Cambodia

Cameroon

Central African Republic

Chad

Chile

China (2023–27)

Colombia (2023–27)

Comoros

Congo

Costa Rica

Côte d’Ivoire

Croatia (2021–25)

Cuba

Cyprus

Czechia (2023–27; Second Vice-Chair for 2025)

DPRK

DR Congo (2023–27)

Djibouti

Dominican Republic (2021–25)

Ecuador

Egypt

El Salvador

Equatorial Guinea

Eritrea

Eswatini

Ethiopia

Fiji

France

Gabon

Gambia

Georgia (2021–25)

Germany

Ghana (2023–27)

Greece (2021–25)

Guatemala

Guinea

Guinea-Bissau

Haiti

Honduras

Hungary

India (2021–25)

Indonesia (2023–27)

Iran (2021–25)

Iraq

Israel

Italy (2023–27)

Jamaica (2023–27)

Japan (2023–27)

Jordan

Kazakhstan

Kenya

Kuwait

Kyrgyzstan

Lao PDR

Lebanon

Lesotho

Liberia

Libya

Lithuania (2023–27)

Madagascar

Malawi

Malaysia

Maldives

Mali

Malta

Mauritania

Mauritius

Mexico

Monaco

Mongolia

Montenegro

Morocco (2021–25)

Mozambique (2021–25)

Myanmar

Namibia (2023–27)

Nepal

Netherlands

Nicaragua

Niger

Nigeria (2023–27)

North Macedonia

Oman

Pakistan

Palau

Panama

Papua New Guinea

Paraguay

Peru

Philippines

Poland

Portugal

Qatar

ROK (2023–27)

Republic of Moldova

Romania

Rwanda (2023–27)

Samoa

San Marino

São Tomé and Príncipe

Saudi Arabia (2023–27)

Senegal

Serbia

Seychelles

Sierra Leone

Slovakia

Slovenia

Somalia

South Africa (2021–25; First Vice-Chair for 2025)

Spain (Permanent Executive Council member)

Sri Lanka

Sudan

Switzerland

Syrian AR

Tajikistan

Thailand

Timor-Leste

Togo

Trinidad and Tobago

Tunisia

Türkiye

Turkmenistan

Uganda

Ukraine

UAE (2021–25)

UR of Tanzania (2023–27)

Uruguay

Uzbekistan

Vanuatu

Venezuela

Viet Nam

Yemen

Zambia (2021–25)

Zimbabwe

Associate members

Aruba

Flanders

Hong Kong, China

Macau, China

Madeira, Portugal

Puerto Rico

Permanent Observer

Holy See

Special Observer

State of Palestine

Note

\* In April 2022, at the [first extraordinary session](https://www.unwto.org/event/first-extraordinary-session-of-the-general-assembly) of the World Tourism Organization General Assembly, members voted to suspend the Russian Federation from the Organization, effective immediately. The Russian Federation announced its withdrawal from the Organization on the same day.

International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM)

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X: [@ICCROM](http://www.twitter.com/ICCROM)

Website: [www.iccrom.org](http://www.iccrom.org)

Director-General: Aruna Francesca Maria Gujral, Italy (appointed by the ICCROM General Assembly in November 2023 for a four-year term from 1 January 2024)

Purpose

ICCROM is an intergovernmental organization with the mandate of promoting the conservation of all types of cultural heritage, both movable and immovable, through its five main areas of activity: training, research, information, cooperation and advocacy. It was founded by the ninth UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) General Conference, in New Delhi in 1956, and established in Rome in 1959.

Structure

The [General Assembly](https://www.iccrom.org/about/corporate-info/governing-structure), made up of delegates from ICCROM’s Member States, determines the Centre’s general policies, including approving its biennial programme of activities and budget, electing Council members and appointing the Director-General. Other functions include approving reports on Council and ICCROM Secretariat activities, determining Member State contributions, adopting ICCROM’s financial regulations and approving changes to the Statutes.

The [Council](https://www.iccrom.org/about/corporate-info/governing-structure) comprises 25 members elected by the ICCROM General Assembly. Members are experts in the field of conservation and restoration of cultural property, taking into consideration equitable geographical, cultural and specialist field representation. It also has three ex officio members with the right to vote: the Italian Government, Istituto Centrale per il Restauro (ICR) and UNESCO.

Ex officio members without the right to vote are the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), the International Council of Museums (ICOM) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). The UAE and the International Institute for Conservation of Historic Works (IIC) are permanent observers. More governance information is on the website under ‘[About](https://www.iccrom.org/about/corporate-info/governing-structure)’.

Meetings

Meetings of the General Assembly take place every two years in Rome, with the Council meeting three times per biennium. The 34th session of the General Assembly is scheduled to be held from 10 to 12 December 2025.

Membership

UNESCO Member States may join ICCROM by depositing a formal declaration of accession with the UNESCO Director-General. Non-UNESCO states may apply for membership directly to the ICCROM Secretariat (ICCROM Statutes, Article 2). As at 1 July 2025, there were 138 [Member States](https://www.iccrom.org/about/overview/member-states). Council members and their terms are on the website under ‘[About](https://www.iccrom.org/about/corporate-info/governing-structure)’.

Members (138)

Afghanistan

Albania

Algeria

Andorra

Angola

Argentina

Armenia

Australia

Austria

Azerbaijan

Bahrain

Bangladesh

Barbados

Belgium

Benin

Bolivia

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Botswana

Brazil

Brunei Darussalam

Bulgaria

Burkina Faso

Cambodia

Cameroon

Canada

Chad

Chile

China

Colombia

Congo1

Costa Rica

Côte d’Ivoire

Croatia

Cuba

Cyprus

Czechia

Dominican Republic

Ecuador

Egypt

Estonia

Eswatini

Ethiopia

Finland

France

Gabon

Gambia

Georgia

Germany

Ghana

Greece

Guatemala

Guyana

Haiti

Honduras

Hungary

India

Iran

Iraq

Ireland

Israel

Italy

Japan

Jordan

Kenya

Kuwait

Lao PDR

Latvia

Lebanon

Lesotho

Libya

Lithuania

Luxembourg

Madagascar

Malawi

Malaysia

Maldives

Mali

Malta

Mauritania

Mauritius

Mexico

Monaco

Mongolia

Montenegro

Morocco

Mozambique

Myanmar

Namibia

Nepal

Netherlands

New Zealand

Nicaragua1

Nigeria

North Macedonia

Norway

Oman

Pakistan

Paraguay

Peru

Philippines

Poland

Portugal

Qatar

ROK

Romania

Russian Federation

Rwanda

Saudi Arabia

Senegal

Serbia

Seychelles

Slovakia

Slovenia

South Africa

Spain

Sri Lanka

Sudan

Sweden

Switzerland

Syrian AR

Tajikistan

Thailand

Togo

Trinidad and Tobago

Tunisia

Türkiye

Ukraine

UAE

UK

UR of Tanzania

USA

Uruguay

Uzbekistan

Venezuela1

Viet Nam

Yemen

Zambia

Zimbabwe

The Sovereign Military Order of Malta is a permanent observer to ICCROM.

Note

1 Currently suspended, under Article 9 of the ICCROM [Statutes](https://www.iccrom.org/sites/default/files/2020-02/statutes_2013_eng_fre_version_9jan14.pdf), for having omitted to pay contributions for six consecutive calendar years.

#### World Bank Group

##### Headquarters

##### 1818 H Street NW

##### Washington, DC 20433

##### United States of America

##### Telephone: +1 202 473 1000

##### Facebook: [www.facebook.com/worldbank](http://www.facebook.com/worldbank)

##### X: [@worldbank](http://www.twitter.com/worldbank/)

##### Website: [www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org)

##### President: Ajay Banga, USA (since 2 June 2023)

Structure

The World Bank Group is an independent specialized agency of the UN comprising the:

* International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)
* International Development Association (IDA)
* International Finance Corporation (IFC)
* Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)

International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID).

Normally, the term World Bank Group refers to the first four agencies, while the term ‘World Bank’ refers specifically to the first two of these institutions, the IBRD and IDA.

The World Bank Group vision is to create a world free of poverty on a livable planet.

The organizations that make up the World Bank Group are owned by the governments of member nations. Members govern the Group through the Boards of Governors and the Boards of Executive Directors.

The [Boards of Governors](https://www.worldbank.org/en/about/leadership/governors) consist of one governor and one alternate governor appointed by each member country. The office is usually held by the country’s Minister of Finance, Minister for Development, Governor of its central bank or a senior official of similar rank. The Governors and Alternates serve five-year terms and can be reappointed.

Because the Governors only meet formally twice a year, most governance work is delegated to a resident board of 25 Executive Directors, located in Washington, DC.

Seven of the [Executive Directors](https://www.worldbank.org/en/about/leadership/directors) are single country chairs. The other 18 are elected according to the wishes of their constituency member countries, but usually represent the larger shareholders within their multi-country constituency. The 25 Directors and 25 Alternate Directors are elected for two-year terms. The current term began in November 2024.

If a World Bank member country is also a member of the IFC or IDA, then the appointed Governor and his or her Alternate serve ex officio as the Governor and Alternate on the IFC and IDA Boards of Governors. They usually also serve as representatives of their country on the ICSID Administrative Council.

While MIGA Governors and Alternates are appointed separately, it is customary for the MIGA Directors to be the same as the World Bank Executive Directors.

More governance information is on the World Bank website under ‘Who We Are’, then ‘[Organization](http://www.worldbank.org/en/about/leadership)’.

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)

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Washington, DC 20433

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Fax: +1 202 477 6391

Website: [www.worldbank.org/ibrd](http://www.worldbank.org/ibrd)

President: Ajay Banga, USA (since 2 June 2023)

Purpose

The IBRD, the original World Bank Group institution, provides loans, guarantees, risk management products and advisory services to middle-income and credit-worthy low-income countries, and coordinates responses to regional and global challenges. It was established to promote the international flow of capital for productive purposes and to assist in financing the rebuilding of nations devastated by World War II.

The IBRD articles were drawn up at the Bretton Woods Conference in 1944 and the Bank issued its first bond in 1947. IBRD’s mission, along with other institutions of the World Bank Group, is now to eliminate extreme poverty and to promote shared prosperity. This work is undertaken largely through technical assistance and lending to client member governments for productive projects, to finance reform programmes and to build local capacity.

Financing

Each Member State has shareholding in IBRD that consists of paid-in and callable capital. No call has ever been made on IBRD capital. IBRD finances its lending activities with its equity, comprising retained earnings and paid-in capital, and by issuing bonds on international capital markets.

IBRD’s administrative budget is managed jointly with the International Development Association’s (IDA’s) budget and is financed by its lending activities, a pro-rata contribution from IDA, income from equity and liquidity management and also externally financed trust funds.

On 1 October 2018, Governors authorized a $60.1 billion capital increase, including a $7.5 billion paid-in portion and a $52.6 billion callable portion. Member States had five years within which to subscribe to the shares made available to them as a result of this capital increase.

Since 1946, IBRD has provided more than $500 billion in loans to alleviate poverty around the world, with its shareholder governments paying in about $14 billion in capital.

Structure

Information about governance is included at the start of the World Bank Group section.

Membership

IBRD membership is restricted to members of the International Monetary Fund that have ratified the articles of the Bank and accepted the terms laid down by it. A list of the 189 members is available at [www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org/) under ‘Who We Are’, then ‘Organization’ (click on ‘[Member Countries’](http://www.worldbank.org/en/about/leadership/members) , then select IBRD).

International Development Association (IDA)

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United States of America

Telephone: +1 202 473 1000

Fax: +1 202 477 6391

Website: [www.worldbank.org/ida](http://www.worldbank.org/ida)

President: Ajay Banga, USA (since 2 June 2023)

Purpose

The IDA provides low-interest loans, called credits, and grants to governments of low-income countries (gross national income per capita less than an established threshold and updated annually ($1335 in fiscal year 2024)) and to a number of small states that are above this threshold (the ‘Small State Exception’).

IDA began operations in 1960 to finance projects or reform programmes in countries that are not able to service loans from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD). With 175 member countries, IDA has become the leading source of concessional lending to the world’s poorest countries.

Financing

IDA’s lending resources are supplemented by regular [replenishments](https://ida.worldbank.org/en/replenishments), typically every three years, from donors. Donor representatives, referred to as IDA Deputies, meet regularly to review IDA’s performance, review its policies, agree target results for the upcoming financing cycle and replenish IDA funds.

The most recent replenishment, concluded in December 2024, was the 21st ([IDA21](https://ida.worldbank.org/en/replenishments/road-to-IDA21)), for a policy and financial package to support 78 countries from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2028. The IDA21 replenishment is a record $100 billion (compared with $93 billion for [IDA20](https://ida.worldbank.org/en/replenishments/ida20-replenishment)). This replenishment is financed through a combination of contributions from 59 donor countries, repayment of past IDA credits, IBRD contributions and capital markets.

Structure

IDA is affiliated to IBRD and shares the same Governor, Executive Directors, President, management and staff as the IBRD. More information about governance is included at the start of the World Bank Group section.

Membership

Membership is open to IBRD member countries. A list of the 175 members is available at [www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org/) under ‘Who We are’, then ‘Organization’ (find ‘[Member Countries](https://www.worldbank.org/en/about/leadership/members)’, then select IDA).

International Finance Corporation (IFC)

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Fax: +1 202 973 4384

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/IFCwbg](http://www.facebook.com/IFCwbg)

X: [@IFC\_Org](http://www.twitter.com/IFC_Org)

Website: [www.ifc.org](http://www.ifc.org)

Managing Director: Makhtar Diop, Senegal (since March 2021)

Purpose

IFC was established in 1956. It undertakes debt and equity investments in private or (in some instances) part-government enterprises in developing countries. In making these investments, IFC focuses on supporting profitable ventures undertaking activities with broad economic development impact that might not otherwise proceed or where IFC involvement can improve the quality of the activity (for example, through enhanced environmental and social standards). IFC undertakes these investments from its own account, but also mobilizes private investors’ funds through various syndication and mobilization mechanisms.

Together with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) and International Development Association (IDA), IFC provides advisory services to help governments improve the climate for investment and private sector development.

Capital

Although affiliated to the IBRD, IFC is a separate legal entity and its capital is entirely separate from that of the Bank. Its major source of borrowings is the international capital markets. Unlike the IBRD, IFC has no callable capital.

In April 2020, the IFC Board of Governors adopted a resolution authorizing a $5.5 billion capital increase from Member States.

In fiscal year 2024, IFC invested a record $55.8 billion in emerging markets, including over $22 billion mobilized.

Structure

IFC shares the same Governor, Executive Directors and President as the IBRD, but has its own management and staff. More information about governance is included at the start of the World Bank Group section.

Membership

Membership is open to all IBRD members. A list of the 186 members is available at [www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org) under ‘Who We Are’, then ‘Organization’ (click on ‘[Member Countries](https://www.worldbank.org/en/about/leadership/members)’, then select IFC).

Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)

1818 H Street NW

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Telephone: +1 202 475 2538

Fax: +1 202 522 0316

Email: [migainquiry@worldbank.org](mailto:migainquiry@worldbank.org)

Website: [www.miga.org](http://www.miga.org)

Executive Vice President: Hiroshi Matano, Japan (since 2019)

Purpose

MIGA was created as a member of the World Bank Group to promote foreign direct investment into developing countries to support economic growth by insuring against political risk. MIGA guarantees or insures eligible investments against losses arising from non-commercial risk such as unexpected restrictions on currency transfer, expropriation, breach of contract by governments, and war and civil disturbance. MIGA also provides credit enhancement to commercial lenders that provide loans to sovereign and sub-sovereign entities, as well as state-owned enterprises (SOEs) entities for infrastructure and other productive investments. It charges premiums for these services. MIGA also carries out research and promotional activities related to foreign direct investment. The international convention establishing MIGA took effect on 12 April 1988.

Guarantee business

Since its creation, MIGA has issued over $84 billion of guarantees across 123 developing countries in support of more than 1030 projects. By the third quarter of fiscal year 2025, as at 31 March 2025, it had a gross guarantee exposure of $35.9 billion, which, due to reinsurance, converts to a net exposure of $11 billion. More detail about guarantees is available on the website under ‘About’, then ‘[Learn More](http://www.miga.org/about-us)’).

Structure

MIGA is legally and financially independent but cooperates closely with the other World Bank Group organizations. Information about governance is included at the start of the World Bank Group section.

Membership

Membership is open to all IBRD members. A list of the 182 MIGA members is available at [www.worldbank.org](http://www.worldbank.org/) under ‘Who We are’, then ‘Organization’ (click on ‘[Member Countries](https://www.worldbank.org/en/about/leadership/members)’, then select MIGA) and on the MIGA website (from ‘[About’](https://www.miga.org/member-countries)).

International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID)

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Washington, DC 20433

United States of America

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Email: [ICSIDsecretariat@worldbank.org](mailto:ICSIDsecretariat@worldbank.org)

Website: [icsid.worldbank.org](http://icsid.worldbank.org/)

Secretary-General: Martina Polasek, Czechia/Sweden (since 1 July 2024)

Purpose

ICSID provides international facilities for conciliation and arbitration of investment disputes. It is an autonomous institution established under the [Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of Other States](https://icsid.worldbank.org/rules-regulations/convention), which was opened for signature in Washington, DC, on 18 March 1965. The Convention provides a voluntary mechanism for settling disputes between governments and foreign investors.

Structure

Information about governance is included at the start of the World Bank Group section.

Membership

Membership is dependent on ratification of the Convention. As at 1 July 2025, there were 165 signatory states to the Convention, of which 158 have deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval. A list is on the ICSID website under ‘[Member States](https://icsid.worldbank.org/en/Pages/about/Database-of-Member-States.aspx)’.

#### International Monetary Fund (IMF)

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##### Facebook: [www.facebook.com/imf](http://www.facebook.com/imf)

##### X: [@IMFNews](http://www.twitter.com/IMFNews)

##### Website: [www.imf.org](http://www.imf.org)

##### Managing Director and Executive Board Chair: Kristalina Georgieva, Bulgaria (since 1 October 2019; reappointed by the IMF Executive Board for a second five-year term starting 1 October 2024)

Purpose

The IMF promotes international monetary cooperation and exchange rate stability, facilitates the balanced growth of international trade and provides resources to help members with balance of payments difficulties. It is a UN specialized agency but has its own charter, governing structure and finances. The IMF Articles of Agreement were drawn up at the Bretton Woods Conference in 1944.

The Fund has 191 member countries as at 1 July 2025. Its key activities are:

* Policy advice to governments and central banks based on analysis of economic and financial trends and cross-country experiences
* Research, statistics, forecasts and analysis based on tracking of global, regional and individual economies and markets, including the impact of policies of individual countries on other economies
* Loans to help countries overcome actual or potential difficulties making international payments
* Concessional loans to low-income countries

Technical assistance and training to help countries build and strengthen their expertise and institutions.

IMF financing

Quota is a member country’s permanent financial commitment to the IMF, which can be called on to provide reserve currencies for IMF loans. Total quota across the IMF membership is the equivalent of $960 billion. Each country’s share of this quota is, or should be, broadly representative of its relative position in the world economy. Quota plays a key role in determining a country’s:

* Financial contributions to the Fund, because countries are not obliged to contribute more than their quota to the IMF
* Access to financing, because the amount a country can borrow from the IMF is determined as a percentage of its quota
* Voting power, because a country’s voting share at the IMF is largely determined by its share of quota

Special Drawing Rights ([SDRs](https://www.imf.org/en/About/Factsheets/Sheets/2023/special-drawing-rights-sdr)) allocation, because quotas determine a country’s share in a general allocation of SDRs (an international reserve asset created by the IMF to supplement the official reserves of its member countries).

The IMF also has arrangements to borrow from member countries. Under the New Arrangements to Borrow (NAB), a group of stronger members has agreed to lend the Fund up to $490 billion to supplement quota resources, if required. As a further backstop, the IMF has made individual, time-limited bilateral agreements with some member countries to borrow up to $190 billion if quota and the NAB prove insufficient.

The IMF reviews quotas periodically. It concluded the 16th General Review of Quotas in December 2023, which approved an increase in quotas by 50 percent. At the same time, it agreed to reduce temporary borrowing to maintain the IMF’s overall lending capacity. Changes to quotas and borrowing levels will be implemented after member countries provide their consent.

The IMF has lending capacity of around $930 billion to provide a global financial safety net. Unlike development banks, the IMF does not lend for specific projects. Instead, it lends reserve currencies to countries that are having, or potentially having, problems making international payments. The IMF has several lending instruments to meet the different needs of its member countries. IMF members have access to the General Resources Account on non-concessional terms (market-based interest rates) as well as precautionary financing facilities to help prevent crises. The IMF also provides concessional financial support through the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust, which is tailored to the needs of low-income countries. The recently established Resilience and Sustainability Trust offers longer-term financing to low-income and vulnerable middle-income countries seeking to build resilience to external shocks. Further information is available on the IMF [website](https://www.imf.org/en/About/Factsheets/IMF-Lending).

Structure

The [Board of Governors](https://www.imf.org/en/About/executive-board/members-quotas) comprises one governor and one alternate governor appointed by each member country, often the Minister of Finance and the Central Bank Governor. A subset of governors, one for each constituency, comprises the International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC), which advises the IMF on the supervision and management of the international monetary system.

While the Board of Governors is the highest body, it delegates almost all decisions to the IMF’s resident Executive Board in Washington, DC. The [Executive Board](https://www.imf.org/en/About/executive-board/eds-voting-power) is composed of 25 directors and the Managing Director, who serves as its chair. Seven Board members represent only one country: China, France, Germany, Japan, Saudi Arabia, UK and USA. The other members represent the interests of constituencies made up of several countries. More details about governance and how the IMF makes decisions are on the IMF [website](https://www.imf.org/en/About/Factsheets/Sheets/2016/07/27/15/24/How-the-IMF-Makes-Decisions).

Meetings

The Executive Board usually meets several times each week. The Board of Governors of the IMF, together with the Board of Governors of the World Bank, meets each year in October, at the Annual Meetings. The formal meeting of the Governors is nowadays largely ceremonial and is one of many gatherings and events that stretch over several days. This includes a meeting of the IMFC, which also meets during the IMF/World Bank Spring Meetings in April.

Membership

Membership is open to all countries, on acceptance by a majority of the existing members. Ratification of the articles and acceptance of conditions laid down by the Fund are conditions of membership. The IMF’s 191 members are listed on the [website](https://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/memdir/memdate.htm).

#### Other Related Bodies

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

Vienna International Centre

Wagramer Strasse 5

PO Box 100

A–1400 Vienna

Austria

Telephone: +43 1 2600 0

Fax: +43 1 2600 7

Email: [official.mail@iaea.org](mailto:official.mail@iaea.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/iaeaorg/](https://www.facebook.com/iaeaorg/)

X: [@iaeaorg](http://www.twitter.com/iaeaorg)

Instagram: [@iaeaorg](http://www.instagram.com/iaeaorg)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/iaea](http://www.linkedin.com/company/iaea)

Flickr: [www.flickr.com/photos/iaea\_imagebank/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/iaea_imagebank)

Weibo: [www.weibo.com/iaeaorg](http://www.weibo.com/iaeaorg)

Website: [www.iaea.org](http://www.iaea.org)

Director General: Rafael Mariano Grossi, Argentina (appointed by the Board of Governors in October 2019; took office December 2019; reappointed in March 2023 for a second four-year term from December 2023)

Purpose

The IAEA’s role is to accelerate and enlarge the contribution nuclear science and technology make to peace, health and prosperity throughout the world. The Agency is also charged with ensuring that the assistance it provides is not used to further any military purposes. The IAEA [Statute](https://www.iaea.org/about/overview/statute) entered into force in 1957, making it an independent intergovernmental organization under the aegis of the UN rather than a specialized agency.

The Agency seeks to act as a catalyst for the development and transfer of the peaceful applications of nuclear science, technologies and techniques to build and maintain a global nuclear safety and security regime and to assist in global efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons. It is authorized by its Statute to:

* Encourage and assist research on atomic energy for peaceful purposes worldwide
* Act as an intermediary in the supply of materials, services, equipment and facilities
* Foster the exchange of scientific and technical information
* Encourage the exchange and training of scientists and experts
* Establish and administer safeguards in connection with Agency projects
* Apply safeguards, at the request of the parties, to any bilateral or multilateral arrangement, or at the request of a state, to any of that state′s activities in the field of atomic energy

Establish safety standards and provide for their application.

[Safeguards](https://www.iaea.org/topics/safeguards-and-verification) are one of the IAEA′s main functions. Currently, the IAEA applies safeguards for 190 states with safeguards agreements in force. The aim is to verify states′ undertakings to use nuclear material and technology for peaceful purposes. Through the implementation of safeguards, the IAEA provides assurances to the international community that nuclear material remains in peaceful activities and is not diverted to nuclear weapons and that states comply with their international non-proliferation obligations.

Several treaties require parties to conclude comprehensive safeguards [agreements](https://www.iaea.org/topics/safeguards-agreements) (CSA) with the Agency. These include the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty ([NPT](https://www.un.org/disarmament/wmd/nuclear/npt/)), the [Treaty of Tlatelolco](https://www.un.org/nwfz/content/treaty-tlatelolco) (the Latin American Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone), the [Treaty of Pelindaba](https://www.un.org/nwfz/content/treaty-pelindaba) (the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone), the [Treaty of Bangkok](https://www.un.org/nwfz/fr/content/treaty-bangkok) (the ASEAN Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone), the [Treaty of Rarotonga](https://www.un.org/nwfz/content/treaty-rarotonga) (the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone) and the Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone ([CANWFZ](https://www.un.org/nwfz/content/treaty-nuclear-weapon-free-zone-central-asia)) Treaty.

The Agency helps its Member States improve nuclear safety by developing and promoting [safety standards](https://www.iaea.org/resources/safety-standards) and by supporting Member State efforts to establish and implement safety regulations and manage nuclear activities. It also works to mobilize peaceful applications of nuclear science and technology for critical needs in developing countries and transfer related knowledge through its [technical cooperation programme](https://www.iaea.org/services/technical-cooperation-programme).

In the [security](https://www.iaea.org/topics/security-of-nuclear-and-other-radioactive-material) area, the focus is on helping states prevent, detect and respond to terrorist or other malicious acts, such as illegal possession, use, transfer and trafficking of radioactive materials, and to protect associated facilities and transport against sabotage. Although the IAEA is not a regulatory body, many countries have used its recommendations as a basis for national regulations.

The Agency is committed to contributing to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by making peaceful nuclear technology available to its Member States. It helps countries use nuclear science and technology for climate change monitoring, mitigation and adaptation.

Conventions

The Agency also has important functions under international conventions, in particular those related to emergency response and preparedness in the event of a nuclear accident or radiological emergency. These conventions (with party numbers as at 1 July 2025) are: the [Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident](https://www.iaea.org/publications/documents/treaties/convention-early-notification-nuclear-accident), which was adopted on 27 September 1986 and entered into force on 27 October 1986 (135 parties) and the [Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency](https://www.iaea.org/publications/documents/treaties/convention-assistance-case-nuclear-accident-or-radiological-emergency), which was adopted on 26 September 1986 and entered into force on 26 February 1987 (129 parties).

On 17 June 1994, an IAEA Diplomatic Conference adopted the [Convention on Nuclear Safety](https://www.iaea.org/topics/nuclear-safety-conventions/convention-nuclear-safety). It entered into force on 24 October 1996 (98 parties). Other conventions adopted under the auspices of the IAEA in the field of nuclear safety, security and civil liability for nuclear damage (with numbers as at 1 July 2025) are the:

* [Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management](https://www.iaea.org/topics/nuclear-safety-conventions/joint-convention-safety-spent-fuel-management-and-safety-radioactive-waste), which was adopted on 5 September 1997 and entered into force on 18 June 2001 (91 parties)
* [Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material](https://www.iaea.org/publications/documents/conventions/convention-physical-protection-nuclear-material), which was adopted on 26 October 1979 and entered into force on 8 February 1987 (165 parties). An amendment to this Convention was adopted on 8 July 2005 and entered into force on 8 May 2016 (138 parties)
* [Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage](https://www.iaea.org/publications/documents/conventions/vienna-convention-on-civil-liability-for-nuclear-damage), which was adopted on 21 May 1963 and entered into force on 12 November 1977 (47 parties)
* [Protocol to Amend the 1963 Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage](https://www.iaea.org/topics/nuclear-liability-conventions/vienna-convention-on-civil-liability-for-nuclear-damage), which was adopted on 12 September 1997 and entered into force on 4 October 2003 (17 parties)
* [Joint Protocol Relating to the Application of the Vienna Convention and the Paris Convention](https://www.iaea.org/topics/nuclear-liability-conventions/joint-protocol-relating-to-application-of-vienna-convention-and-paris-convention), which was adopted on 21 September 1988 and entered into force on 27 April 1992 (36 parties)
* [Optional Protocol concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes to the Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage](https://www.iaea.org/topics/nuclear-liability-conventions/vienna-convention-on-civil-liability-for-nuclear-damage), which entered into force on 13 May 1999 (two parties)

[Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage](https://www.iaea.org/publications/documents/treaties/convention-supplementary-compensation-nuclear-damage), which was adopted on 12 September 1997 and entered into force on 15 April 2015 (11 parties).

The Agency provides upon request a broad range of legislative and technical assistance to support states that are party to the conventions and other international legal instruments. For details about conventions and treaties, see the IAEA [website](https://www.iaea.org/publications/documents).

Structure

The [General Conference](https://www.iaea.org/about/governance/general-conference) is composed of representatives of all IAEA Member States and is the Agency’s highest policy-making body. The [Board of Governors](https://www.iaea.org/about/governance/board-of-governors) has 35 members. Thirteen members are designated each year by the Board to serve for one year, and 22 (11 each year) are elected by the General Conference to serve for two years. Article VI of the IAEA Statute requires the Board to designate the 10 members most advanced in the technology of atomic energy, including the production of source materials. It also requires the Board to designate the member most advanced in the technology of atomic energy, including the production of source materials, in each of the following areas in which none of the aforesaid 10 is located: North America, Latin America, Western Europe, Eastern Europe, Africa, the Middle East and South Asia, South East Asia and the Pacific, and the Far East.

Elected Board members are representatives from the following areas: five from Latin America, four from Western Europe, three from Eastern Europe, four from Africa, two from the Middle East and South Asia, one from South East Asia and the Pacific and one from the Far East. In addition, one member is elected from the Middle East and South Asia, or South East Asia and the Pacific, or the Far East; and one other member from Africa, or the Middle East and South Asia, or South East Asia and the Pacific. A chair and two vice-chairs are elected annually by the Board.

In 1999, the General Conference approved an amendment to the IAEA Statute concerning the size and distribution of seats on the Board, by which membership would expand from 35 to 43 seats. This amendment will enter into force when two-thirds of all IAEA Member States have accepted it and other conditions are met.

The IAEA’s Secretariat is based at the Agency headquarters in Vienna. The IAEA also has three laboratories, in Vienna, Seibersdorf and Monaco; two regional safeguards offices, in Tokyo and Toronto; and two UN liaison offices, in Geneva and New York.

Meetings

The General Conference meets in regular session once a year, usually in Vienna in September. The Board generally meets five times a year, in March and June, twice in September (before and after the General Conference) and in November. Additional meetings can be scheduled.

Membership

Any state can apply to become a member of the IAEA (Statute, Article IV). Membership is granted following recommendation by the Board, approval by the General Conference and deposit of an instrument of acceptance of the IAEA Statute. As at 1 July 2025, the IAEA had 180 [Member States](https://www.iaea.org/about/governance/list-of-member-states). Terms for the Board of Governors run from and to the end of General Conference regular sessions in the years stated in the list of Board members. A list of previous Board chairs is on the [website](https://www.iaea.org/about/policy/board/previous-chair-1957-to-present).

Board Officers 2024–25

Chair

Matilda Aku Alomatu Osei-Agyeman, Ghana

Vice-Chair

Caroline Vermeulen, Belgium

Board members (35)

Previous1 Current

Afghanistan 1963–65 2008–10

Albania 2007–09

Algeria 1967–69 73–74 81–83 85–87 88–90 91–93 94–96 1999–2001 04–06 07–09 12–14 16–18 2023–25

Argentina 1957–2014 15–24 2024–26

Armenia 2017–19 2023–25

Australia 1957–2024 2024–25

Austria 1965–67 77–79 83–85 90–92 1999–2001 06–08 13–15 20–22

Azerbaijan 2009–11 18–20

Bangladesh 1975–77 81–83 2023–25

Belarus 1999–2001 05–07 15–17

Belgium 1958–59 60–61 62–63 64–65 66–67 68–69 70–71 72–73 76–78 83–85 89–91 91–92 95–99 2003–06 10–13 17–20 2024–25

Bolivia 1999–2001 06–08

Bosnia and Herzegovina 2013–14

Brazil 1957–2006 06–08 09–24 2024–25

Bulgaria 1959–61 67–69 73–75 77–79 82–84 86–88 91–93 95–97 2001–03 11–13 22–24

Burkina Faso 2001–03 08–10 2023–25

Burundi 2021–23

Cameroon 1990–92 2009–11

Canada 1957–2024 2024–25

Chile 1964–66 70–72 73–74 75–77 79–81 83–85 86–88 89–91 92–94 95–97 1998–2000 01–03 06–08 10–12 14–16 17–19

China 1984–2024 2024–25

Colombia 1961–63 65–67 71–73 75–77 81–83 87–89 93–95 96–98 2001–03 05–07 21–23 2024–26

Costa Rica 1973–75 2012–14 16–18 22–24

Côte d’Ivoire 1984–86 88–90 2016–18

Croatia 2006–08

Cuba 1983–85 87–89 90–92 93–95 96–98 1999–2001 02–07 08–10 11–13

Czechia 1996–98 2002–04 10–12 21–23

DR Congo 1963–65 71–73 74–76 82–84 91–93

Denmark 1958–59 62–63 66–67 70–71 73–74 75–77 82–84 88–90 95–97 2002–04 09–11 16–18 22–24

Ecuador 1977–79 84–86 91–93 2004–06 07–09 10–12 18–20 2023–25

Egypt 1957–60 64–66 71–73 76–97 1998–2007 08–10 11–13 14–16 18–22 2024–26

El Salvador 1960–62

Estonia 2019–21

Ethiopia 1993–95 2006–08

Finland 1960–61 64–65 68–69 72–73 78–80 85–87 92–95 1999–2002 06–09 13–14 15–16 21–24

France 1957–2024 2024–25

Gabon 1973–75

Georgia 2024–26

Germany2 1960–62 66–68 1972–2024 2024–25

Ghana3 1962–63 65–67 73–74 77–79 88–90 94–96 97–99 2000–02 04–06 07–09 15–17 19–21 2024–26

Greece 1961–63 71–73 78–80 84–86 91–93 1998–2000 05–07 12–14 19–21

Guatemala 1957–58 78–80 85–87 2021–23

Hungary 1961–63 69–71 73–75 78–80 83–85 87–89 92–94 97–99 2003–05 11–13 19–21

India 1957–2024 2024–25

Indonesia 1957–60 62–64 66–68 72–74 75–77 78–80 81–83 84–86 87–89 90–92 93–95 1999–2001 05–07 11–13 17–19 2023–25

Iran 1962–64 68–70 74–76 77–79 90–92 2001–03

Iraq 1960–62 74–76 80–82 83–85 86–88 89–91 2007–09

Ireland 1973–74 79–81 86–88 93–95 2000–02 07–09 14–16 21–23

Italy 1957–58 62–64 68–70 73–86 89–91 93–94 97–99 2003–05 07–08 10–13 17–20 2024–26

Japan 1957–2024 2024–25

Jordan 1984–86 1998–2000 10–12 17–19

Kenya 1979–81 82–84 2009–11 13–15 17–19 22–24

Kuwait 1977–79 87–89 95–97 2001–03 19–21

Latvia 2015–17

Lebanon 1966–68 73–74 80–82 93–95

Libya 1975–77 82–84 87–89 92–94 2000–02 05–07 12–14 21–23

Lithuania 2007–09

Luxembourg 2024–26

Madagascar 1967–69 86–88

Malaysia 1976–78 80–82 84–86 88–90 92–94 96–98 2002–04 08–10 14–16 20–22

Mexico 1959–61 62–64 66–68 72–74 76–78 79–81 82–84 85–87 88–90 91–93 94–96 97–99 2000–02 03–05 07–09 11–13 14–16 20–22

Mongolia 1985–87 2009–11 19–21

Morocco 1963–65 69–71 78–80 84–86 90–92 94–96 97–99 2001–03 06–08 18–20 2024–26

Namibia 1996–98 2015–17 22–24

Netherlands 1958–60 64–66 70–72 75–77 81–83 88–90 95–98 2002–05 09–12 16–19 2023–25

New Zealand 1996–98 2002–04 08–10 14–16 20–22

Nicaragua 1995–97

Niger 1976–78 79–81 2010–12 18–20

Nigeria 1969–71 76–78 80–82 83–85 86–88 89–91 92–94 95–97 1999–2001 03–08 12–16 19–21

North Macedonia 2014–16

Norway 1959–60 63–64 67–68 71–72 77–79 84–86 91–93 1998–2000 05–07 12–14 19–21

Pakistan 1957–59 61–63 65–67 69–71 73–75 76–78 79–81 82–84 85–87 88–90 91–93 94–96 97–99 2000–08 09–11 12–14 15–17 18–20 21–23 2024–26

Panama 1976–78 81–83 2002–04 19–21

Paraguay 1992–94 2015–17 19–21 2023–25

Peru 1957–60 67–69 73–75 77–79 80–82 84–86 88–90 97–99 2000–05 09–11 13–14 16–18 20–22

Philippines 1959–61 67–69 73–77 79–81 83–85 89–91 93–95 2001–03 07–09 15–17

Poland 1958–59 60–61 62–63 64–65 66–67 68–69 70–71 72–73 75–77 80–82 85–87 89–91 93–95 1999–2001 03–05 12–14 20–22

Portugal 1957–58 59–60 61–62 63–64 65–66 67–68 69–70 71–72 76–78 82–84 90–92 96–98 2004–06 10–12 17–19

Qatar 2013–15 16–18 22–24

ROK 1957–59 65–67 73–75 77–79 81–83 85–89 91–93 1995–2001 03–07 09–13 15–19 21–23 2023–25

Romania 1957–59 63–65 71–73 77–79 81–83 91–93 95–97 2001–03 08–10

Russian Federation 1957–2024 2024–25

Saudi Arabia 1972–74 78–80 86–88 89–91 92–94 95–97 1998–2000 02–04 07–09 11–13 14–16 19–21 22–24

Senegal 1975–78 87–89 2020–22

Serbia 2017–19

Singapore 1968–70 1998–2000 04–06 10–12 16–18 22–24

Slovakia 1994–96 1998–2000 04–06 13–15

Slovenia 1997–99 2005–07 16–18 21–23

South Africa 1957–77 1995–2024 2024–25

Spain 1959–61 69–71 74–76 81–83 86–89 92–93 94–96 2000–04 08–10 14–17 21–22 2023–25

Sri Lanka 1959–61 67–69 71–73 2004–06

Sudan 1973–75 80–82 85–87 1998–2000 02–04 13–14 17–19

Sweden 1957–58 61–62 65–66 69–70 73–75 80–82 85–94 1997–2000 04–07 11–15 18–21

Switzerland 1963–65 73–75 79–81 86–89 93–95 96–97 2000–03 07–10 14–17 20–23

Syrian AR 1970–72 83–85 92–94 1999–2001 05–07

Thailand 1960–62 64–66 70–72 74–76 78–80 82–84 86–88 90–92 94–96 2000–02 06–08 12–14 18–20 2024–26

Tunisia3 1962–63 65–67 77–79 83–85 89–91 93–95 96–98 2003–05 10–12

Türkiye 1957–59 67–69 74–76 80–82 87–89 94–96 2001–03 08–10 15–17 22–24

Ukraine 1990–92 93–95 2000–02 09–11 2023–25

UAE 1996–98 2010–12 13–14 16–18 20–22

UK 1957–2024 2024–25

UR of Tanzania 1978–80 2011–13

USA 1957–2024 2024–25

Uruguay 1963–65 69–71 74–76 80–82 90–92 94–96 1998–2000 08–10 12–14 15–17 18–20 22–24

Venezuela 1958–60 68–70 74–76 78–80 82–84 86–88 89–91 2004–06 09–11 13–14 17–19 2024–26

Viet Nam 1961–63 69–71 91–93 97–99 2003–05 13–14 21–23

Yemen 2004–06

Zambia 1974–76 81–83

Members that have not served on the Board

Angola

Antigua and Barbuda

Bahamas

Bahrain

Barbados

Belize

Benin

Botswana

Brunei Darussalam

Burundi

Cabo Verde

Cambodia4

Central African Republic

Chad

Comoros

Congo

Cook Islands

Cyprus

Djibouti

Dominica

Dominican Republic

Eritrea

Eswatini

Fiji

Gambia

Grenada

Guinea

Guyana

Haiti

Holy See

Honduras

Iceland

Israel

Jamaica

Kazakhstan

Kyrgyzstan

Lao PDR

Lesotho

Liberia

Liechtenstein

Malawi

Mali

Malta

Marshall Islands

Mauritania

Mauritius

Monaco

Montenegro

Mozambique

Myanmar

Nepal

Oman

Palau

Papua New Guinea

Republic of Moldova

Rwanda

Saint Kitts and Nevis

Saint Lucia

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Samoa

San Marino

Seychelles

Sierra Leone

Somalia

Tajikistan

Togo

Tonga

Trinidad and Tobago

Turkmenistan

Uganda

Uzbekistan

Vanuatu

Zimbabwe

Notes

1 The former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia served on the Board in 1965–67, 1975–77, 1979–81, 1983–85 and 1987–89. Czechoslovakia served on the Board in 1957–74, 1976–78, 1981–83, 1985–87 and 1989–91. The DPRK, which joined the IAEA in 1974, withdrew its membership on 13 June 1994.

2 Prior to 3 October 1990, the German Democratic Republic had been a member of the Board in 1974–76, 1979–81, 1984–86 and 1988–90.

3 One year as an observer.

4 Cambodia, which joined the IAEA in 1958, withdrew its membership on 26 March 2003. It rejoined on 23 November 2009.

International Criminal Court (ICC)

PO Box 19519

2500 CM, The Hague

The Netherlands

Telephone: +31 70 515 8515

Email: [PublicAffairs.Unit@icc-cpi.int](mailto:PublicAffairs.Unit%40icc-cpi.int?subject=)

X: [@IntlCrimCourt](http://www.twitter.com/IntlCrimCourt)

Website: [www.icc-cpi.int](http://www.icc-cpi.int)

Registrar: Osvaldo Zavala Giler, Ecuador (elected by the Judges for a five-year term 2023–28)

Purpose

The ICC is a permanent international court with the power to exercise its jurisdiction over individuals suspected of having committed, since 1 July 2002, the most serious crimes of concern to the international community as a whole: genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and the crime of aggression. It is not a body of the UN, but an independent organization. Its relationship with the UN is governed by a separate relationship agreement.

The Court was established as a new international organization by the [Rome Statute](http://legal.un.org/icc/statute/99_corr/cstatute.htm), which was adopted on 17 July 1998 by the UN Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court. The Conference was convened pursuant to GA res. [51/207](http://undocs.org/A/RES/51/207) (1996) and GA res. [52/160](http://undocs.org/A/RES/52/160) (1997).

States decide to accept the jurisdiction of the Court by becoming party to the Rome Statute, to which there are 125 [States Parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=XVIII-10&chapter=18&clang=_en) (as at 1 July 2025). Unless a situation is referred to the ICC Prosecutor by the Security Council, the Court may exercise jurisdiction only if either the state in which the suspected crime occurred or the state of nationality of the person suspected of having committed the crime is a party to the Rome Statute; or otherwise has accepted the jurisdiction of the Court. As a Court of last resort complementary to domestic jurisdictions, the ICC may exercise jurisdiction only when national legal systems are not, or not genuinely, investigating or prosecuting the alleged crimes. For its daily operations, the Court relies on the assistance of the States Parties, who have an obligation to cooperate in the investigation and prosecution of Rome Statute crimes.

The Court issued its first verdict in March 2012. As at 1 July 2025, 33 cases involving a total of 70 defendants had been brought before the Court and the Prosecutor had opened 17 investigations. Details are on the [website](https://www.icc-cpi.int/Pages/cases.aspx) under ‘Situations and Cases’.

Structure

The ICC is composed of the [Presidency](https://www.icc-cpi.int/about/presidency), [Chambers](https://www.icc-cpi.int/about/judicial-divisions), Office of the Prosecutor and Registry. The Assembly of States Parties, composed of representatives of states that have ratified and acceded to the [Rome Statute](http://legal.un.org/icc/statute/99_corr/cstatute.htm), is the ICC’s management oversight and legislative body (see [asp.icc-cpi.int](https://asp.icc-cpi.int)). The Court’s seat is in The Hague, although the Court may sit elsewhere whenever it considers it desirable to do so.

The ICC’s 18 [judges](https://www.icc-cpi.int/judges/judges-who-s-who) are elected by the Assembly and are chosen from two lists:

* Candidates with established competence in criminal law and procedure, and the necessary relevant experience – whether as judge, prosecutor, advocate or in another similar capacity in criminal proceedings

Candidates with established competence in relevant areas of international law, such as international humanitarian law and the law of human rights, and extensive experience in a professional legal capacity that is relevant to the judicial work of the Court.

In the selection of judges, States Parties must take into account the need for representation of the principal legal systems of the world, equitable geographical distribution and a fair representation of female and male judges. Judges are elected for terms of nine years and may not be re-elected. The terms of one-third of the 18 judges expire every three years. The President and Vice-Presidents are elected for a three-year term by an absolute majority of the judges and shall be eligible for re-election once. The current term began on 11 March 2024.

The [Office of the Prosecutor](https://www.icc-cpi.int/about/otp) is an independent organ of the Court headed by the Prosecutor, who can be assisted by one or more deputy prosecutors. The Prosecutor is elected by the Assembly, and the Deputy Prosecutors are elected in the same way from a list of candidates provided by the Prosecutor. The Prosecutor and Deputy Prosecutors must be of different nationalities. Unless a shorter term is decided on at the time of election, the Prosecutor and Deputy Prosecutors hold office for nine years and are not eligible for re-election. The term of office of the current Prosecutor, Karim Asad Ahmad Khan KC, UK, commenced in June 2021. The term of office of the Deputy Prosecutors, Mame Mandiaye Niang, Senegal, and Nazhat Shameem Khan, Fiji, commenced in March 2022.

The [Registry](https://www.icc-cpi.int/about/registry/default) is headed by the Registrar, who is the Court’s principal administrator. The Registrar is elected by the Judges of the Court, taking into account any recommendation by the Assembly. If the need arises, and the Registrar so recommends, the Judges may also elect a deputy registrar. Osvaldo Zavala Giler, Ecuador, was elected Registrar on 10 February 2023 and commenced his five-year term on 17 April 2023.

Meetings

The Assembly meets annually, usually in December, in The Hague or New York.

Judges

Listed in order of precedence; terms end in March of the year shown.

President

Tomoko Akane, Japan 2027

First Vice-President

Rosario Salvatore Aitala, Italy 2027

Second Vice-President

Reine Alapini-Gansou, Benin 2027

Judges

Luz del Carmen Ibáñez Carranza, Peru 2027

Solomy Balungi Bossa, Uganda 2027

Kimberly Prost, Canada 2027

Joanna Korner, UK 2030

Gocha Lordkipanidze, Georgia 2030

Socorro Flores Liera, Mexico 2030

Sergio Gerardo Ugalde Godínez, Costa Rica 2030

Miatta Maria Samba, Sierra Leone 2030

Althea Violet Alexis-Windsor, Trinidad and Tobago 2030

Keebong Paek, ROK 2033

Erdenebalsuren Damdin, Mongolia 2033

Iulia Motoc, Romania 2033

Haykel Ben Mahfoudh, Tunisia 2033

Nicolas Guillou, France 2033

Beti Hohler, Slovenia 2033

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC)

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Email: [info@eccc.gov.kh](mailto:info@eccc.gov.kh)

Website: [www.eccc.gov.kh/en](http://www.eccc.gov.kh/en)

Acting Director of the Office of Administration: Tony Kranh, Cambodia (since 2009)

Deputy Director of the Office of Administration: Knut Rosandhaug, Norway (since 2008)

Purpose

The ECCC is a special Cambodian court made up of both Cambodian and international judges and attorneys. It operates with international participation and assistance, and is required to apply international standards. It was established following a request in 1997 from the Government of Cambodia to the United Nations for assistance in establishing a court for the prosecution under Cambodian law of crimes committed during the period of Democratic Kampuchea from 1975 to 1979. In 2001, the Cambodian National Assembly passed a law to create the ECCC. An agreement concluded by Cambodia and the UN in June 2003 established that the international community would provide technical assistance to the ECCC through the UN Assistance to the Khmer Rouge Trials (UNAKRT) (see [www.unakrt-online.org](http://www.unakrt-online.org)).

The Court had jurisdiction over senior leaders of Democratic Kampuchea and those who were most responsible for the crimes and serious violations of Cambodian penal law, international humanitarian law and custom and international conventions recognized by Cambodia, that were committed between 17 April 1975 and 6 January 1979 (Article 1 of the UN–Cambodia Agreement and Article 1 of the Law on the Establishment of the ECCC).

Judicial proceedings were completed in December 2022. The ECCC is now carrying out various residual functions for an initial period of three years, as outlined in the [Addendum](https://eccc.gov.kh/sites/default/files/legal-documents/Addendum.pdf) to the Agreement between the UN and the Royal Government of Cambodia on the Transitional Arrangements and the Completion of Work of the Extraordinary Chambers (approved by the UN in GA res. [75/257B](http://undocs.org/A/RES/75/257B) (2021)). During this phase, the ECCC will supervise the enforcement of sentences, provide for the protection of victims and witnesses, preserve and manage its archives, and disseminate information to the public, among other functions.

Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone (RSCSL)

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Branch Office

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Sierra Leone

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Email: [info@rscsl.org](mailto:info@rscsl.org)

X: [@SpecialCourt](http://www.twitter.com/SpecialCourt)

Website: [www.rscsl.org/](http://www.rscsl.org/)

Prosecutor: James C Johnson, USA (former Chief of Prosecutions at the Special Court; appointed to the Residual Special Court in September 2019; reappointed in 2022)

Registrar: Binta Mansaray, Sierra Leone (former Registrar of the Special Court for Sierra Leone; appointed to the Residual Special Court as Acting Registrar in December 2013 and as Registrar in September 2014; most recently reappointed in 2023)

Principal Defender: Ibrahim Sorie Yillah, Sierra Leone (appointed in September 2015; appointment most recently renewed in September 2024)

Purpose

The Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone was established by an agreement between the UN and the Government of Sierra Leone to oversee the continuing legal obligations of the Special Court for Sierra Leone (SCSL) after its closure in 2013. These include ongoing functions such as the maintenance, preservation and management of the Court’s archive; witness protection and support; assistance to national prosecution authorities; supervision of prison sentences, pardons, commutations and early releases; and ad hoc functions, including review of convictions and acquittals, contempt of court proceedings, defence counsel and legal aid issues, claims for compensation, prevention of double jeopardy, and the trial of any indictee not brought before the Court. The RSCSL also maintains the Sierra Leone [Peace Museum](https://rscsl.org/peace-museum-virtual-tour/) as a memorial, research and historical site.

The SCSL was established in January 2002 by an agreement between the UN and the Government of Sierra Leone, pursuant to SC res. [1315](http://undocs.org/S/RES/1315(2000)) (2000), for a special court to address serious crimes committed during the country’s 1991 to 2002 civil war. The Court, the first ‘hybrid’ international criminal tribunal, began operations in July 2002 and the first indictments were issued in March 2003. The Court closed on 31 December 2013, following completion of the appeals proceedings in the case of Charles Taylor, former Liberian President, in September 2013.

Structure

The roster of judges consists of no fewer than 16, 10 of whom are appointed by the UN Secretary-General and six by the Government of Sierra Leone. The Judges appoint the President of the Court, who acts as a Duty Judge and may assign judges to a Trial Chamber or Appeals Chamber, should the need arise.

The Residual Special Court has its interim seat in the Netherlands, with an office in Sierra Leone for witness and victim protection and support, and matters related to the convicted persons.

Judges

Terms are for six years, starting January 2020. The first 16 Judges were elected in December 2013. In 2019, 10 Judges were reappointed by the UN Secretary-General, four Judges were reappointed by the Government of Sierra Leone, and two new Judges were appointed by the Government of Sierra Leone.

Appointed by the UN

Richard Brunt Lussick, Samoa (President, elected in March 2024 for a two-year term)

Pierre G Boutet, Canada

Renate Winter, Austria

Teresa Anne Doherty, UK

Shireen Avis Fisher, USA

Philip Nyamu Waki, Kenya

Oagile Bethuel Key Dingake, Botswana

Andrew John Hatton, UK

Isaack Lenaola, Kenya (Vice-President, elected in March 2024 for a two-year term)

Paula da Conceição Machatine Honwana, Mozambique1

Appointed by the Government of Sierra Leone

Jon Kamanda, Sierra Leone

Emmanuel Ekundayo Roberts, Sierra Leone

Desmond Babatunde Edwards, Sierra Leone

Eldred Taylor-Camara, Sierra Leone

Alusine Sanie Sesay, Sierra Leone (Staff Appeal Judge, elected in March 2024 for a two-year term)

Tonia Barnett, Sierra Leone

Note

1 Appointed in January 2024 to serve the remainder of the term of Judge Elizabeth Ibanda-Nahamya, Uganda, who passed away on 5 January 2023.

Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/opcwonline](http://www.facebook.com/opcwonline)

X: [@OPCW](http://www.twitter.com/OPCW)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/opcw/](http://www.linkedin.com/company/opcw/)

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/opcw](http://www.youtube.com/opcw)

Website: [www.opcw.org](http://www.opcw.org)

Director-General: Fernando Arias, Spain (since 25 July 2018; reappointed by the Conference of the States Parties in November 2021 for a second four-year term from 25 July 2022)

Purpose

The OPCW was created under the [Convention](http://www.opcw.org/chemical-weapons-convention/) on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction (CWC). The Convention was negotiated in the Conference on Disarmament and entered into force on 29 April 1997. The OPCW’s role is to ensure the implementation of the Convention’s provisions and to provide a forum for consultation and cooperation. The OPCW is an independent intergovernmental organization, not a UN specialized agency. An agreement concerning the relationship between the UN and the OPCW was signed in 2000 and approved by the Conference of the States Parties and the UN General Assembly in 2001 (GA res. [55/283](http://undocs.org/A/RES/55/283)).

The Convention is a global disarmament treaty that bans the development, production, stockpiling and use of an entire category of weapons of mass destruction – chemical weapons – and provides for the destruction of existing stockpiles of chemical weapons and related facilities within a specific timeframe.

The Convention also contains provisions for the production, processing, consumption and, to some degree, the international transfer of toxic chemicals that can be converted into or used to produce chemical weapons. To this end, the OPCW engages with the chemical industry by means of compulsory annual national declarations by States Parties, is notified of the transfer of some chemicals listed in the Convention and conducts routine inquiry inspections under its verification regime to ensure compliance with the Convention.

States Parties are obliged, under [Article VII](https://www.opcw.org/chemical-weapons-convention/articles/article-vii-national-implementation-measures) of the Convention, to enact national legislation implementing the obligations provided for under the CWC. The [Technical Secretariat](https://www.opcw.org/about/technical-secretariat) provides States Parties with legal assistance in drafting their national implementation legislation and with other forms of technical assistance. The OPCW is also working to promote international cooperation and the peaceful use of chemistry under [Article XI](https://www.opcw.org/chemical-weapons-convention/articles/article-xi-economic-and-technological-development). States Parties can also request and receive, under certain circumstances, assistance and protection against the use or threat of use of chemical weapons under [Article X](https://www.opcw.org/chemical-weapons-convention/articles/article-x-assistance-and-protection-against-chemical-weapons) of the Convention.

In October 2013, the OPCW and the UN established an [OPCW–UN Joint Mission](https://opcw.unmissions.org/mandate-and-timelines/) to oversee the timely elimination of the Syrian Arab Republic’s chemical weapons programme in the safest and most secure manner and in accordance with the OPCW Executive Council decision [EC-M-33/DEC.1](https://www.opcw.org/fileadmin/OPCW/EC/M-33/ecm33dec01_e_.pdf) and UN Security Council res. [2118](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2118(2013)) (2013). The Joint Mission ended on 30 September 2014. The OPCW mission in the Syrian Arab Republic continues, with safety, security and logistical support from the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS).

In response to persistent allegations of chemical weapon attacks in the Syrian Arab Republic, the OPCW Fact-Finding Mission ([FFM](https://www.opcw.org/fact-finding-mission)) was set up in 2014 “to establish facts surrounding allegations of the use of toxic chemicals, reportedly chlorine, for hostile purposes in the Syrian Arab Republic”. The FFM’s findings have confirmed that chemical weapons have been used. These findings were the basis for the work of the OPCW–UN Joint Investigative Mechanism (JIM), an independent body established by the UN Security Council in August 2015 (SC res. [2235](http://undocs.org/S/RES/2235(2015)) (2015)). The JIM’s purpose was to identify the perpetrators of the chemical weapon attacks confirmed by the FFM. The JIM’s mandate expired in December 2017. The Declaration Assessment Team ([DAT](https://www.opcw.org/declaration-assessment-team)) was also established in 2014 to engage with the relevant Syrian authorities for them to resolve the identified gaps, inconsistencies and discrepancies in the initial declaration of the Syrian Arab Republic. As at 1 July 2025, the DAT had conducted 28 rounds of technical consultations, with 19 outstanding issues remaining.

Pursuant to decision C-SS-4/DEC.3, adopted by the OPCW Conference of the States Parties on 27 June 2018, an Investigation and Identification Team ([IIT](https://www.opcw.org/iit)) was established. The IIT was tasked with identifying the perpetrators of the use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic by identifying and reporting on all information potentially relevant to the origin of those chemical weapons in those instances in which the FFM determines or has determined that use or likely use occurred, and cases for which the JIM had not issued a report. The IIT has issued four findings reports that cover six of those instances, in [April 2020](https://www.opcw.org/iit/first-report-iit), [April 2021](https://www.opcw.org/iit/second-report-iit), [January 2023](https://www.opcw.org/iit/third-report-iit) and [February 2024](https://www.opcw.org/iit/fourth-report-iit).

The situation has changed since the fall of the Assad regime in December 2024. All legal obligations binding upon the Syrian Arab Republic as a State Party to the Convention remain valid, regardless of any change in government.

The new Syrian authorities are cooperating with the Secretariat and have recognized all the mandates of the Secretariat in Syria as carried out by the DAT, the FFM and the IIT. This recognition allows the Secretariat to rationalize its efforts in the conduct of these activities in a more efficient and integrated manner when deploying to the Syrian Arab Republic.

As of 1 June 2025, the functions of the DAT, FFM and the IIT were integrated into the newly established Office of Special Missions (OSM). From 1 June to 31 December 2025, the IIT will continue its activities in its current form during the transition period. The OSM will organize, coordinate and undertake all contingency operations, including challenge inspections, investigations of alleged use, certain technical assistance visits, certain requests by States Parties for assistance, protection and any other type of investigation pursuant to the Convention. Beyond its current mandated activities in the Syrian Arab Republic, the OSM will operate in other States Parties upon request.

Structure

The [Conference of the States Parties](https://www.opcw.org/about/conference-states-parties) is the plenary organ consisting of all OPCW members. It oversees implementation of the Convention and may make recommendations and take decisions on any questions, matters or issues within the scope of the Convention.

The [Executive Council](https://www.opcw.org/about-us/executive-council/) is the executive organ responsible to the Conference. Its role includes promoting the effective implementation of and compliance with the Convention. The Executive Council consists of 41 members sitting on a rotational basis with regard to equitable geographical distribution and the importance of the chemical industry, as well as to political and security interests. More governance information is on the website under ‘[About Us](https://www.opcw.org/about-us)’.

In May 2023, the OPCW inaugurated its new Centre for Chemistry and Technology ([CCT](https://www.opcw.org/media-centre/featured-topics/chemtech-centre)), located in Pijnacker-Nootdorp, 12km from OPCW headquarters. This facility enhances the OPCW’s operational and capacity-building capabilities.

Meetings

The Conference of the States Parties meets annually in The Hague, usually in November/December. States Parties to the Convention can also request special meetings during the intersessional period. The Conference of the States Parties also convenes in a special session called the Review Conference every five years to examine the CWC’s operations. The Executive Council holds three regular sessions annually and meets during the intersessional period as often as required to consider issues of exceptional nature.

Membership

Any state that becomes a State Party to the Convention (Article VIII) is a member of OPCW. As at 1 July 2025, 193 countries were [members](https://www.opcw.org/about-us/member-states) of the OPCW (DPRK, Egypt, Israel and South Sudan are not members, though Israel is a signatory to the CWC).

Each year the Conference of the States Parties elects members of the Executive Council to two-year terms that run from 12 May to 11 May of the years shown in the following list. The Chair and Vice-Chairs are listed on the website under ‘[Executive Council](https://www.opcw.org/about-us/executive-council)’.

Executive Council members (41)

Previous Current

Albania 2010–12 22–24

Algeria 1997–24 2024–26

Angola 2023–25 2025–27

Argentina 1997–2025 2025–27

Armenia 2015–17

Australia 1997–2000 06–10 16–18 20–22

Austria 2000–02 08–10 20–22

Azerbaijan 2017–19

Bangladesh 1997–2004 16–18 19–21 2024–26

Belarus 1997–98 2002–04 06–08 14–16

Belgium 1998–2000 02–04 06–08 12–14 16–18 20–22 2024–26

Benin 2002–04

Bolivia 2012–14

Bosnia and Herzegovina 2006–08

Botswana 2001–03

Brazil 1997–2025 2025–27

Bulgaria 1997–98 2001–03 07–09 19–21 22–24

Cameroon 1997–2005 07–25 2025–27

Canada 2000–04 10–14 18–20 22–24

Chile 1997–2004 06–10 12–24 2024–26

China 1997–25 2025–27

Colombia 2002–07 10–12 17–19 22–24

Costa Rica 2008–12

Côte d’Ivoire 1997–2001

Croatia 2001–03 11–13 14–16

Cuba 1998–2002 04–12

Czechia 1998–2000 03–05 07–09 12–14 18–20 21–23 2025–27

Denmark 2002–04 10–12 18–20 2024–26

Ecuador 1997–2000 10–14 21–23 2024–26

El Salvador 2020–24 2024–26

Ethiopia 1997–2001

Estonia 2017–19

Finland 1998–2000 06–08 14–16 22–24

France 1997–25 2025–27

Gabon 2005–07

Germany 1997–2025 2025–27

Ghana 2005–09 16–24 2024–26

Greece 2004–06 14–16 2024–26

Guatemala 2006–08 14–24 2024–26

Hungary 1997–99 2002–04 11–13

India 1997–2025 2025–27

Indonesia 2000–02 18–20

Iran 1998–2024 2024–26

Iraq 2010–14 15–17 18–20 22–24

Ireland 2006–08 12–14 22–24

Italy 1997–2025 2025–27

Japan 1997–2025 2025–27

Kenya 1997–2000 04–08 10–12 13–25

Kuwait 2003–05 08–10

Latvia 2015–17

Lesotho 2005–09

Libya 2008–18

Lithuania 2020–22 2024–26

Luxembourg 2010–12

Malaysia 2004–06 07–09 11–13 14–16 22–24 2024–26

Malta 1997–98 2018–20

Mexico 1997–2025 2025–27

Morocco 1999–2008 09–25 2025–27

Mozambique 2009–11

Namibia 2000–02 11–13

Netherlands 1997–98 2000–02 04–06 08–10 14–16 18–20 22–24

New Zealand 2004–06 14–16 2024–26

Nigeria 2001–05 08–10 11–15 18–24 2024–26

North Macedonia 2008–10 23–25 2025–27

Norway 1997–98 2004–06 12–14 20–22

Oman 1997–98

Pakistan 1998–2024 2024–26

Panama 2000–06 14–20 2025–27

Peru 1997–2010 12–22

Philippines 1997–2000 06–08 20–22

Poland 1997–2002 05–07 09–11 13–15 16–18 20–22 2024–26

Portugal 2002–04 12–14 18–20

Qatar 2012–14 14–16 23–25

ROK 1997–2025 2025–27

Romania 1997–2001 05–07 10–12 19–21 23–25

Russian Federation 1998–2024

Rwanda 2011–13 23–25 2025–27

Saudi Arabia 1997–2025 2025–27

Senegal 2013–23

Serbia 2004–06 13–15

Slovakia 1998–2000 03–05 08–10 16–18 21–23

Slovenia 2000–02

South Africa 1997–2024 2024–26

Spain 1997–2002 04–06 08–12 14–18 20–22 2024–26

Sri Lanka 1997–2006 08–12

Sudan 2001–11 12–14 15–23 2025–27

Suriname 1997–98

Sweden 2000–02 08–10 16–18

Switzerland 1998–2000 06–08 16–18

Thailand 2006–08

Tunisia 1997–2011 14–16

Türkiye 2002–04 10–12 22–24

Ukraine 1999–2001 04–06 09–11 12–14 18–20 2024–26

UAE 2020–22

UK 1997–2025 2025–27

USA 1997–2021 23–25 2025–27

Uruguay 1997–98 2001–06 09–11 13–15

Venezuela 1998–2000

Viet Nam 2016–18

Zambia 2003–05

Zimbabwe 1997–2001

Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO)

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LinkedIn: [@ctbto](https://az.linkedin.com/company/ctbto)

Website: [www.ctbto.org](http://www.ctbto.org)

Executive Secretary: Robert Floyd, Australia (since August 2021; reappointed by the Preparatory Commission in November 2024 for a second four-year term from 1 August 2025)

Purpose

The CTBTO, established by the States Signatories to the [Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty](http://www.ctbto.org/the-treaty/) (CTBT) on 19 November 1996, is mandated to carry out the necessary preparations for the entry into force and effective implementation of the Treaty. This includes establishing a global verification regime to monitor Treaty compliance as well as the promotion of signatures and ratifications.

The Treaty was adopted by the UN General Assembly on 10 September 1996 and opened for signature on 24 September 1996. Article I prohibits all nuclear weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions. Each State Party further undertakes to refrain from causing, encouraging or in any way participating in the carrying out of any such test or explosion.

The Treaty will enter into force after it has been signed and ratified by the 44 states listed in Annex 2 to the Treaty (35 had ratified as at 1 July 2025). These countries possessed nuclear reactors or research reactors and participated in negotiations for the Treaty. Under Article XIV, if the Treaty had not entered into force three years after its opening for signature, a [Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force](https://www.ctbto.org/our-mission/article-xiv-conferences) was to be convened. Thirteen such conferences have taken place, with the fourteenth scheduled to be held in September 2025 in New York.

Structure

The CTBTO consists of two main organs:

* A [plenary](https://www.ctbto.org/our-mission/the-organization/the-preparatory-commission) or executive body composed of all States Signatories

The Provisional Technical Secretariat ([PTS](https://www.ctbto.org/our-mission/the-organization/the-provisional-technical-secretariat)).

The plenary body has three subsidiary organs: Working Group A on budgetary and administrative matters, Working Group B on verification issues and the Advisory Group consisting of financial experts from States Signatories.

The [verification regime](https://www.ctbto.org/verification-regime/) consists of three main components: the International Monitoring System ([IMS](https://www.ctbto.org/our-work/international-monitoring-system)), the International Data Centre ([IDC](https://www.ctbto.org/our-work/international-data-centre)) and on-site inspections (OSI). The IMS is made up of 337 facilities – 321 monitoring stations supported by 16 radionuclide laboratories around the world that monitor the earth for signs of a nuclear explosion. Seismic, infrasound and hydroacoustic stations monitor underground, the atmosphere and oceans respectively. Radionuclide stations detect radioactive debris, and in many cases check for noble gases, emanating from an explosion. The IMS stations send data to the International Data Centre ([IDC](https://www.ctbto.org/our-work/international-data-centre)) in Vienna, where it is processed, analysed and forwarded to Member States for their evaluation and judgement. When the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) conducted nuclear tests in 2006, 2009, 2013, 2016 and 2017, Member States received initial estimates of the time, location and magnitude of the tests in less than two hours. As at 1 July 2025, over 300 monitoring stations were certified. A [map](https://www.ctbto.org/map/) on the CTBTO website shows full details of all IMS facilities. The current status of monitoring stations is available under ‘[Station Profiles](https://www.ctbto.org/our-work/station-profiles)’.

Once the Treaty has entered into force, the verification regime will be complemented by on-site inspections ([OSI](https://www.ctbto.org/our-work/on-site-inspection)) in the event of a nuclear explosion, a consultation and clarification process as well as confidence-building measures.

IMS data can be used in a variety of [civil areas](https://www.ctbto.org/our-work/civil-and-scientific-applications), including scientific research, meteorological and climate forecasting and disaster mitigation, such as tsunami warnings. CTBTO has concluded 21 [tsunami warning agreements](https://www.ctbto.org/our-work/civil-and-scientific-application/tsunami-early-warning) with institutions in 20 countries. After the March 2011 Fukushima nuclear power plant accident, CTBTO radionuclide data provided a first-hand source of information on the composition and dispersal of radioactive emissions on a global scale.

Membership

A state becomes a member of the CTBTO upon signing the Treaty. Member States oversee the CTBTO’s work and fund its activities. As at 1 July 2025, there were 187 [States Signatories](https://www.ctbto.org/our-mission/states-signatories). Of these, 178 had deposited their instruments of ratification. Thirty-five of the 44 Annex 2 states (whose signature and ratification is required for the Treaty to enter into force) had ratified it, including two nuclear weapon states: France and the UK. The most recent Annex 2 state to ratify the Treaty was Indonesia, which did so on 6 February 2012. The nine Annex 2 states that have not yet ratified the Treaty are: China, DPRK, Egypt, India, Iran, Israel, Pakistan, Russian Federation and USA. DPRK, India and Pakistan have also yet to sign the Treaty.

International Narcotics Control Board (INCB)

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Website: [www.incb.org](http://www.incb.org)

Acting Secretary: Stefano Berterame (since 1 April 2025)

Purpose

The INCB is the independent and quasi-judicial control organ monitoring and supporting implementation of the international drug control conventions. It was established in 1968 in accordance with the 1961 Single [Convention](https://www.incb.org/incb/en/narcotic-drugs/1961_Convention.html) on Narcotic Drugs. It had predecessors under the former drug control treaties as far back as the time of the League of Nations.

The functions of INCB are laid down in the following treaties (with party numbers as at 1 July 2025): the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol (186 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=VI-18&chapter=6&clang=_en)); the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 (184 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=VI-16&chapter=6&clang=_en)); and the UN Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988 (192 [parties](https://treaties.un.org/Pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=IND&mtdsg_no=VI-19&chapter=6&clang=_en)).

In regard to the manufacture of, trade in and use of drugs, INCB:

* Endeavours, in cooperation with governments, to ensure that adequate supplies of licit drugs are available for medical and scientific uses, and that the diversion of drugs from licit sources to illicit channels does not occur. INCB also monitors governments’ control over chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs and assists them in preventing the diversion of those chemicals into the illicit traffic.

Identifies weaknesses in national and international control systems of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursor chemicals, and contributes to correcting such situations. INCB is also responsible for assessing chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs to determine whether they should be placed under international control.

If measures necessary to remedy a serious situation have not been taken, INCB may call the matter to the attention of the parties concerned, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and ECOSOC. As a last resort, the treaties empower INCB to recommend to parties that they stop importing drugs from a defaulting country, exporting drugs to it or both. INCB acts in close cooperation with governments, including through country missions.

INCB publishes an annual report containing an analysis of the drug control situation worldwide so that governments are kept aware of existing and potential situations that may endanger the objectives of the international drug control treaties. The report also includes recommendations for governments and international and regional organizations aimed at improving the drug control situation. The annual report is supplemented by detailed technical reports on narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. Under the provisions of Article 12 of the 1988 Convention, INCB also publishes a report each year that gives an account of the results of the monitoring of precursors and chemicals frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

Structure

INCB consists of 13 [members](http://www.incb.org/incb/en/about/membership.html) elected by ECOSOC who serve in their personal capacities. Three members with medical, pharmacological or pharmaceutical experience are elected from a list of people nominated by the World Health Organization (WHO) and 10 are elected from a list of people nominated by governments. INCB members usually serve five-year terms and may be re-elected.

The INCB [Secretariat](http://www.incb.org/incb/en/about/secretariat.html) is an administrative entity of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), but it reports solely to the Board on matters of substance. INCB collaborates closely with UNODC and also cooperates with other international bodies concerned with drug control, including ECOSOC and its Commission on Narcotic Drugs, and other relevant specialized agencies of the UN, particularly WHO. It also cooperates with bodies outside the UN system, especially the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) and the World Customs Organization.

Meetings

INCB sessions are normally held in February, May and November each year.

Membership

Terms end on the eve of the first meeting of the Board that the successor is entitled to attend.

Members (13)

Nominated by WHO

Sawitri Assanangkornchai, Thailand 2030

Cornelis P de Joncheere, Netherlands 20271

Emmanuel Luyirika, Uganda 20272

Nominated by governments

César T Arce Rivas, Paraguay 20301

H H Sevil Atasoy, Türkiye 20271

David T Johnson, USA 20271

Galina A Korchagina, Russian Federation 20271

Pierre Lapaque, France 20301

Lu Lin, China 2027

Jagjit Pavadia, India 20301

N Larissa Razanadimby, Madagascar 2027

Jallal Toufiq, Morocco 20301

Zukiswa Zingela, South Africa 20301

Notes

1 Re-elected for a five-year term.

2 Elected by ECOSOC on 29 July 2025, to complete the remainder of the term of Mariângela Simão, Brazil, who resigned on 30 March 2025.

International Trade Centre (ITC)

Palais des Nations

1211 Geneva 10

Switzerland

Telephone: +41 22 730 0111

Fax: +41 22 733 4439

Email: [itcreg@intracen.org](mailto:itcreg@intracen.org)

X: [@ITCnews](http://www.twitter.com/ITCnews)

Website: [www.intracen.org](http://www.intracen.org)

Executive Director: Pamela Coke-Hamilton, Jamaica (appointed by the UN Secretary-General in July 2020)

Purpose

ITC is the joint agency of the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the UN. ITC assists small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in developing and transition economies to become more competitive in global markets, thereby contributing to sustainable economic development within the frameworks of the Aid for Trade agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

ITC was created in 1964 through a decision of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) contracting parties. In 1968, the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD, now UN Trade and Development) joined GATT as co-sponsor of ITC. Its legal status was formally confirmed by the General Assembly in 1974 as a joint subsidiary organ of the GATT and the UN, the latter acting through UNCTAD.

Meetings

ITC’s annual intergovernmental gathering is called the [Joint Advisory Group](https://intracen.org/about-us/governance/the-joint-advisory-group-jag) (JAG) meeting. The JAG is open to all WTO and UNCTAD members, as well as to UN specialized agencies and bodies, other intergovernmental organizations with observer status and non-governmental organizations with an interest in trade promotion. This meeting, held in Geneva, reviews ITC’s technical cooperation programme over the preceding year and makes recommendations for its future work programme.

The ITC’s annual flagship events include the [World Export Development Forum](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fintracen.org%2Fnews-events%2Fevents%2Fworld-export-development-forum-wedf&data=05%7C02%7Chall%40intracen.org%7C259b0964abae4ee4365108dc7e48469d%7Cc3476d307bc34f9b9d15f444947ff4cd%7C0%7C0%7C638524096077316912%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=6%2FfmRW9XBO2IvJprxHt8C%2BzyD1YHOQUc5bwyLa4dbnA%3D&reserved=0) (WEDF) and the [World Trade Promotion Organizations (WTPO) Conference and Awards](https://www.intracen.org/news-events/events/world-trade-promotion-organizations-conference-and-awards). The inaugural [Global SME Ministerial Meeting](https://www.intracen.org/news-and-events/events/global-sme-ministerial-meeting-2025) was held from 22 to 24 July 2025 in Johannesburg, South Africa, with the theme ‘Navigating New Business Frontiers’. More information about ITC events is available on the [website](https://www.intracen.org/news-and-events/events).

Membership

Because of its legal status, ITC does not have a membership of its own. Its de facto members are WTO and UNCTAD Member States.

International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV)

34 Chemin des Colombettes

1211 Geneva 20

Switzerland

Telephone: +41 22 338 9111

Email: [upov.mail@upov.int](mailto:upov.mail@upov.int)

X: [@UPOVint](http://www.twitter.com/UPOVint)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/upov-official](http://www.linkedin.com/company/upov-official)

Website: [www.upov.int](http://www.upov.int)

Secretary-General: Daren Tang, Singapore (the UPOV Council appoints the Director-General of WIPO as Secretary-General of UPOV; current term October 2020 to September 2026)

Purpose

UPOV’s mission is to provide and promote an effective system of plant variety protection, with the aim of encouraging the development of new varieties of plants for the benefit of society.

UPOV is an intergovernmental organization established by the [International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants](https://upovlex.upov.int/en/convention), which was adopted in Paris in 1961 and entered into force in 1968. The Convention was revised in 1972, 1978 and 1991. The 1991 Act entered into force in 1998.

Structure

The UPOV [Council](https://www.upov.int/about/en/organigram.html#Council) is responsible for safeguarding the Union’s interests, encouraging its development and adopting its work programme and budget. The Council consists of representatives of all members. Each state member has one vote in the Council.

Three committees assist the Council: the [Consultative Committee](https://www.upov.int/about/en/organigram.html#Consultative_Committee) (which prepares the sessions of the Council), the [Administrative and Legal Committee](https://www.upov.int/about/en/organigram.html#CAJ) and the [Technical Committee](https://www.upov.int/about/en/organigram.html#TC). Several working groups have been established under the Technical Committee.

The Secretariat is called the Office of the Union and is directed by UPOV’s Secretary-General.

Meetings

Information about [upcoming meetings](https://www.upov.int/meetings/en/calendar.html) is on the UPOV website.

Members (80)

African Intellectual Property Organization

Albania

Argentina

Armenia

Australia

Austria

Azerbaijan

Belarus

Belgium

Bolivia

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Brazil

Bulgaria

Canada

Chile

China

Colombia

Costa Rica

Croatia

Czechia

Denmark

Dominican Republic

Ecuador

Egypt

Estonia

European Union

Finland

France

Georgia

Germany

Ghana

Hungary

Iceland

Ireland

Israel

Italy

Japan

Jordan

Kenya

Kyrgyzstan

Latvia

Lithuania

Mexico

Montenegro

Morocco

Netherlands

New Zealand

Nicaragua

Nigeria

North Macedonia

Norway

Oman

Panama

Paraguay

Peru

Poland

Portugal

ROK

Republic of Moldova

Romania

Russian Federation

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Serbia

Singapore

Slovakia

Slovenia

South Africa

Spain

Sweden

Switzerland

Trinidad and Tobago

Tunisia

Türkiye

Ukraine

UK

UR of Tanzania

USA

Uruguay

Uzbekistan

Viet Nam

International Organization for Migration (IOM)

17 Route des Morillons

1211 Geneva 19

Switzerland

Telephone: +41 22 717 9111

Fax: +41 22 798 6150

Email: [hq@iom.int](mailto:hq@iom.int)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/IOM](http://www.facebook.com/IOM)

X: [@UNmigration](http://www.twitter.com/UNmigration)

Website: [www.iom.int](http://www.iom.int)

Director General: Amy Pope, USA (elected in May 2023 for a five-year term from 1 October 2023)

Purpose

Established in 1951, IOM is the leading intergovernmental organization in the field of migration and is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. IOM supports migrants across the world, developing effective responses to the shifting dynamics of migration, and is a key source of advice on migration policy and practice. The Organization works in emergency situations, developing the resilience of all people on the move, and particularly those in situations of vulnerability, as well as building capacity within governments to manage all forms and impacts of mobility, utilizing the humanitarian-development-peace nexus approach where possible. Respect for the rights, dignity and well-being of migrants remains paramount.

The [IOM Strategic Plan 2024–2028](https://www.iom.int/iom-strategic-plan-2024-2028) sets out how the Organization will support its Member States to seize the opportunities and face the challenges of migration, while supporting the world’s most vulnerable people. It outlines three strategic objectives: saving lives and protecting people on the move; driving solutions to displacement; and facilitating pathways for regular migration.

IOM was granted permanent observer status to the UN General Assembly in 1992. A cooperation agreement between IOM and the UN was signed in 1996. IOM joined the UN system as a related organization in September 2016, when the agreement outlined in GA res. [70/296](http://undocs.org/A/RES/70/296) (2016) was signed during the UN Summit for Refugees and Migrants.

In 2016, the General Assembly adopted the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants (GA res. [71/1](http://undocs.org/A/RES/71/1)). Annex II of the New York Declaration set in motion a process of intergovernmental consultations and negotiations towards the development of the [Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration](https://www.iom.int/global-compact-migration). The Global Compact, a state-led process, was adopted on 10 December 2018 by the majority of UN Member States at an [Intergovernmental Conference](https://www.un.org/en/conf/migration/) in Marrakesh, Morocco, and endorsed by the General Assembly on 19 December 2018 (GA res. [73/195](http://undocs.org/A/RES/73/195)).

IOM serves as Coordinator and Secretariat of the [UN Network on Migration](https://migrationnetwork.un.org), established to ensure effective, timely and coordinated system-wide support to Member States in the implementation, follow-up and review of the Global Compact. In carrying out its mandate, the Network prioritizes the rights and well-being of migrants and their communities of destination, origin and transit. It places emphasis on those issues where a common UN system approach will add value and from which results and impact can be readily gauged.

Structure

IOM’s structure is highly decentralized, with over 22,000 staff and over 550 offices in 171 countries. Its Geneva [headquarters](https://www.iom.int/about-iom/organizational-structure/headquarters) is composed of the Executive Office and the following pillars: Operations; Management and Reform; Partnerships, Advocacy and Communications; and Strategic Planning and Organizational Performance.

IOM also has six [regional offices](https://www.iom.int/regional-offices), two [administrative centres](https://www.iom.int/administrative-centres), two global [offices](https://www.iom.int/country-offices), one [special liaison office](https://www.iom.int/special-liaison-offices), six country [offices](https://www.iom.int/country-offices) for partnerships and advocacy and 19 country offices with coordinating functions, and a global network of [country offices](https://www.iom.int/sites/default/files/about-iom/iom_offices_en.pdf). The African Capacity Building Centre for Migration Management is based in the United Republic of Tanzania and the Global Data Institute is based in Berlin.

The [Council](https://governingbodies.iom.int/council) is the highest authority of the IOM. The [Standing Committee on Programmes and Finance](https://governingbodies.iom.int/standing-committee-programmes-and-finance) (SCPF) is a subsidiary body of the Council that examines and reviews policies, programmes and activities, discusses financial and budgetary matters and considers any matter specifically referred to by the Council. The Director General is elected by the Council for a five-year term, and appoints two deputies for the duration of their term: the Deputy Director General for Operations and the Deputy Director General for Management and Reform. More detailed information about organizational structure is available on the [website](https://www.iom.int/organizational-structure).

Meetings

The Council meets in regular session once a year and in special sessions at the request of one-third of its members, the Director General or the Chairperson of the Council in urgent circumstances. Its 116th session is scheduled to be held in December 2025 in Geneva, and its [Seventh Special Session](https://governingbodies.iom.int/7th-special-session-council-2024) took place on 29 April 2024. The SCPF normally meets twice a year, and otherwise as may be required, at the request of: the Council; one-third of its members; its Chairperson; or the Director General, after consultation with the Chairperson. Its 37th session is scheduled to be held on 27 and 28 October 2025 in Geneva.

The [International Dialogue on Migration](https://www.iom.int/international-dialogue-migration) (IDM) is IOM’s principal forum for migration policy dialogue. It provides a space to analyse current and emerging issues in migration governance and to exchange experiences, policy approaches and effective practices. Consistent with the IOM [Constitution](https://www.iom.int/constitution), the IDM promotes cooperation and coordination of efforts on international migration issues. The annual theme is decided through consultation with Member States at the beginning of each year.

Membership

As at 1 July 2025, IOM’s membership included 175 [Member States](https://www.iom.int/member-states) and eight [Observer States](https://www.iom.int/observer-states), as well as international governmental and non-governmental organizations. A membership list is available on the website. At the beginning of each regular session, the Council elects a [Bureau](https://governingbodies.iom.int/council-bureau) for a one-year term.

Bureau, 116th session (2025)

Chair

Seong Deok Yun, ROK

First Vice-Chair

Luis Juan Chuquihuara Chil, Peru

Second Vice-Chair

Sabri Bachtobji, Tunisia

Rapporteur

Vincenzo Grassi, Italy

## REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BANKS

##### African Development Bank (AfDB) Group

##### Immeuble du Centre de commerce International

##### d’Abidjan CCIA

##### 01 BP 1387

##### Abidjan 01

##### Côte d’Ivoire

##### Telephone: +225 27 2026 3900

##### Email: [afdb@afdb.org](mailto:afdb@afdb.org)

##### Facebook: [www.facebook.com/AfDBGroup](http://www.facebook.com/AfDBGroup)

##### X: [@AfDB\_Group](http://www.twitter.com/AfDB_Group)

##### Skype: afdb\_acc

##### Website: [www.afdb.org](http://www.afdb.org)

##### President: Sidi Ould Tah, Mauritania (elected in May 2025 for a five-year term beginning 1 September 2025)

Purpose

The AfDB Group is a multilateral development finance institution. Its overall objective is to support African countries’ economic development and social progress by delivering high-quality, transformative investment projects and programmes.

The Bank’s 10-year [strategy](https://www.afdb.org/en/about/mission-and-strategy) 2024–33 outlines the vision of an Africa that is prosperous, inclusive, resilient and integrated. This vision is supported by twin strategic objectives: accelerating inclusive green growth and driving prosperous and resilient economies. It is based on five priorities: Light up and power Africa; Feed Africa; Industrialize Africa; Integrate Africa; and Improve the quality of life for the people of Africa.

The AfDB Group comprises three distinct entities under one management:

* [African Development Bank](https://www.afdb.org/en/about/corporate-information/african-development-bank-afdb) (AfDB): the [Agreement establishing the AfDB](https://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=X-2&chapter=10&clang=_en) was drawn up in 1963 and entered into force in 1964. The Bank began operations in 1966. Its major role is to contribute to the economic and social progress of African countries, individually and collectively.
* [African Development Fund](https://www.afdb.org/en/about-us/corporate-information/african-development-fund-adf/) (ADF): the ADF was established in 1972 and became operational in 1974. It makes concessional loans and grants to African countries.

[Nigeria Trust Fund](http://www.afdb.org/en/about-us/corporate-information/nigeria-trust-fund-ntf/) (NTF): the Government of Nigeria set up the NTF in 1976. The Fund makes concessional loans for projects in regional member countries.

Structure

The [Board of Governors](https://www.afdb.org/en/about-us/organisational-structure/board-of-governors/) is the highest decision-making organ of the Bank. It provides strategic guidance on the Bank’s policy decisions and operations.

The [Board of Directors](https://www.afdb.org/en/about-us/organisational-structure/board-of-directors/) comprises 20 members holding the title of Executive Director, with 13 representing African member countries and seven representing non-African member countries. The Board of Governors elects the Board of Directors for three-year terms, renewable once.

The Board of Governors elects the [President](https://www.afdb.org/en/about-us/organisational-structure/the-president/) for a five-year term, renewable once. The President acts as the Bank’s Chief Executive and conducts its business, as well as being Chairperson of the AfDB and ADF Board of Directors.

Membership

Fifty-four African states are shareholders of the AfDB. Twenty-eight non-African states are also shareholders. Article 3 of the AfDB Agreement, which provides for any independent African state to become a member, also makes provision for membership from outside Africa.

Members

Regional member countries (54)

Algeria

Angola

Benin

Botswana

Burkina Faso

Burundi

Cabo Verde

Cameroon

Central African Republic

Chad

Comoros

Congo

Côte d’Ivoire

DR Congo

Djibouti

Egypt

Equatorial Guinea

Eritrea

Eswatini

Ethiopia

Gabon

Gambia

Ghana

Guinea

Guinea-Bissau

Kenya

Lesotho

Liberia

Libya

Madagascar

Malawi

Mali

Mauritania

Mauritius

Morocco

Mozambique

Namibia

Niger

Nigeria

Rwanda

São Tomé and Príncipe

Senegal

Seychelles

Sierra Leone

Somalia

South Africa

South Sudan

Sudan

Togo

Tunisia

Uganda

UR of Tanzania

Zambia

Zimbabwe

Non-regional member countries (28)

Argentina

Austria

Belgium

Brazil

Canada

China

Denmark

Finland

France

Germany

India

Ireland

Italy

Japan

Kuwait

Luxembourg

Netherlands

Norway

Portugal

ROK

Saudi Arabia

Spain

Sweden

Switzerland

Türkiye

UAE (ADF member only)

UK

USA

Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) Group

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/BancoInteramericano/](http://www.facebook.com/BancoInteramericano/)

X: [@the\_IDB](http://www.twitter.com/the_IDB)

Website: [www.iadb.org](http://www.iadb.org)

President (Executive Head): Ilan Goldfajn (elected by the Board of Governors in November 2022 for a five-year term)

Purpose

The IDB is the main source of multilateral financing for sustainable economic, social and institutional development in Latin America and the Caribbean. It was established in December 1959 to:

* Use its own capital, funds raised in financial markets and other resources for financing the development of borrowing member countries
* Supplement private investment when private capital is unavailable on reasonable terms and conditions

Provide technical assistance for the preparation, financing and implementation of development plans and projects.

The IDB obtains financial resources from its 48 member countries, borrowings on financial markets, trust funds it administers and through co-financing ventures. It provides non-concessional and concessional loans, grants and technical assistance to its regional member countries and undertakes research. Most of the IDB Group’s loans finance key public sector projects although a significant proportion of its operations are directed to the private sector, through IDB Invest (see below).

The IDB’s [institutional strategy](https://www.iadb.org/en/who-we-are/institutional-strategy) for 2024–30 has three core objectives: reducing poverty and inequality; addressing climate change; and bolstering sustainable growth. It works in seven areas of operational focus: biodiversity, natural capital and climate action; gender equality and inclusion of diverse population groups; institutional capacity, rule of law and citizen security; social protection and human capital development; sustainable, resilient and inclusive infrastructure; productive development and innovation through the private sector; and regional integration.

Operations

The IDB has had nine increases of its ordinary capital since it was founded. Terms for the most recent increase were approved by the Board of Governors in July 2010 and the increase took effect in February 2012. The agreement increased the Bank’s Ordinary Capital by $70 billion to more than $170 billion, implemented through to 2020. It also increased resources for the Fund for Special Operations and the IDB Grant Facility, to provide an aid package to Haiti.

In March 2024, the Boards of Governors of IDB and IDB Invest approved a $3.5 billion capital increase to support a new business model for IDB Invest, the Group’s private-sector arm. The IDB Board of Governors also approved $400 million more resources and a more scalable, catalytic and sustainable business model for IDB Lab, the Group’s innovation and venture capital arm.

In 2024, the IDB approved $12 billion in financing for 95 sovereign-guaranteed projects. IDB Invest secured another $9.8 billion in commitments, while IDB Lab approved $107 million for 72 projects.

Structure

The IDB is an official observer to the UN. It has headquarters in Washington, DC, with [country offices](https://www.iadb.org/en/who-we-are/country-offices) in 26 borrowing countries, as well as regional offices in Madrid and Tokyo. The IDB Group includes three organizations based at its headquarters in Washington, DC: the Inter-American Development Bank, IDB Invest and IDB Lab.

The Bank is headed by its [Board of Governors](https://www.iadb.org/en/who-we-are/how-we-are-organized/board-governors), which delegates oversight of Bank operations to the [Board of Executive Directors](https://www.iadb.org/en/who-we-are/how-we-are-organized/board-executive-directors). Each member country appoints a governor, whose voting power is proportional to the Bank’s capital subscribed to by the country. The 26 Latin American and Caribbean countries in the IDB hold 50.01 percent of the voting power. The single largest shareholder is the USA, with 30 percent. Members of the Board of Executive Directors serve three-year terms. The [President](https://www.iadb.org/en/who-we-are/how-we-are-organized/presidency-idb) is elected by the Board of Governors for a five-year term.

The Office of Institutional Integrity (OII) plays an important role in the IDB Group’s integrity efforts. The OII investigates allegations of fraud and corruption within IDB Group-financed activities and performs prevention work.

Membership

The IDB has 48 member countries, of which 26 are regional shareholding and borrowing countries. The [members](https://www.iadb.org/en/about-us/how-are-we-organized) are listed on the website.

IDB Invest

1350 New York Avenue NW

Washington, DC 20577

United States of America

Telephone: +1 202 623 3900

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/IDBInvest/](https://www.facebook.com/IDBInvest/)

Website: [www.idbinvest.org](http://www.idbinvest.org)

Chief Executive Officer: James P Scriven, Argentina (since November 2015)

IDB Invest is a multilateral development bank committed to promoting the economic development of its member countries in Latin America and the Caribbean through the private sector. IDB Invest finances sustainable companies and projects to achieve financial results that maximize economic, social and environmental development for the region. With a current portfolio of $21 billion under management and 394 clients in 25 countries, IDB Invest provides innovative financing and advisory services that meet the needs of its clients in a variety of industries.

IDB Invest has 48 member countries, 26 of which are in Latin America and the Caribbean. All [member countries](http://www.iic.org/en/countries) are represented on the Corporation’s Board of Executive Directors.

IDB Lab

1300 New York Avenue NW

Washington, DC 20577

United States of America

Telephone: +1 202 942 8211

Fax: +1 202 942 8100

Website: <https://bidlab.org/en>

Chief Executive Officer: Irene Arias Hofman, Spain (since January 2018)

IDB Lab is the innovation lab for the IDB Group. It conducts high-risk experiments to test new models for engaging and inspiring the private sector to solve economic development problems in Latin America and the Caribbean. Since it began operations as the Multilateral Investment Fund in 1993, IDB Lab has funded nearly 3000 projects and financed more than $2 billion in grants and investments. It is the largest provider of technical assistance for private sector development in Latin America and the Caribbean.

IDB Lab finances about 100 projects per year, with a total finance volume of about $90 million. There are 39 donating member countries, both regional and non-regional, listed on the website.

Asian Development Bank (ADB)

6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City

1550 Metro Manila

Philippines

Telephone: +63 2 8632 4444

Email: [information@adb.org](mailto:information@adb.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/AsianDevBank](https://www.facebook.com/AsianDevBank)

X: [@ADB\_HQ](https://twitter.com/ADB_HQ)

Instagram: [@adb\_hq](http://www.instagram.com/adb_hq)

LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/asian-development-bank](http://www.linkedin.com/company/asian-development-bank)

Website: [www.adb.org](http://www.adb.org)

President and Chair of the Board of Directors: Masato Kanda, Japan (elected in November 2024 for a term beginning 24 February 2025 and ending 23 November 2026)

Purpose

ADB is a multilateral finance institution founded in 1966 to foster development in the Asia and Pacific region with the aim of reducing poverty. It helps developing member countries by providing loans, technical assistance and grants for a broad range of development activities. Most financing is provided to the public sector, with 30 percent of projects in 2024 directly provided to private enterprises through equity investments and loans.

Working with its members and partners to solve complex challenges together, ADB harnesses innovative financial tools and strategic partnerships to transform lives, build quality infrastructure, and safeguard our planet.

ADB’s updated strategy, [Strategy 2030 Midterm Review](https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/institutional-document/995056/strategy-2030-midterm-review-evolution-approach-adb.pdf), sharpens the bank’s focus on five strategic focus areas:

* Climate action
* Private sector development
* Regional cooperation and public goods
* Digital transformation

Resilience and empowerment.

Operations

ADB raises funds through bond issues on the world’s capital markets and also relies on member contributions, retained earnings from lending operations, transfer from the concessional window and the repayment of loans. It provides grants from several special funds, the largest of which is the Asian Development Fund ([ADF](https://www.adb.org/what-we-do/funds/adf)).

In 2024, ADB’s total commitments from its loans, grants, guarantees, equity investments and technical assistance amounted to $24.3 billion, including $4.9 billion in nonsovereign financing for private sector programmes and projects. It also mobilized an additional $14.9 billion in co-financing. ADB committed a record $11.1 billion in climate finance, including $1.6 billion in nonsovereign financing. Cumulative climate financing between 2019 and 2030 is expected to exceed $100 billion.

As at 31 March 2025, ADB’s available resources in the form of subscribed capital stock amounted to $141 billion, and total equity in the ADB increased to $57.2 billion. Outstanding loan balance amounted to $156.3 billion that supported operations in developing member countries. Outstanding borrowing amounted to $160.8 billion in bond issues and private placements.

In September 2023, ADB reviewed and updated its Capital Adequacy Framework, which significantly expanded ADB’s lending capacity using its existing capital base. Building on the review, ADB prepared the Capital Utilization Plan in February 2025, which outlined a pathway for increasing ADB’s annual financing commitments from $24 billion in 2024 to exceed $36 billion by 2034.

In May 2024, donors and ADB agreed to a record replenishment of $5 billion for ADB’s [ADF 14](https://www.adb.org/news/adf-14-replenishment-support-most-vulnerable-asia-and-pacific) and Technical Assistance Special Fund 8 (TASF 8). ADF 14 will support grant operations from 2025 to 2028 and will continue to play a critical role in supporting the poorest and most vulnerable developing member countries. ADF 14 will prioritize dedicated assistance to small island developing states and countries in fragile and conflict-affected situations. It will provide support for climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction, regional cooperation and regional public goods, and transformative gender action, and provide aid in the event of emergencies. In parallel, ADB will provide $16.7 billion in concessional loans with low interest rates over long repayment periods during the ADF 14 period.

ADB’s technical assistance is provided through the TASF and other special funds managed by the bank, such as the Climate Change Fund, Financial Sector Development Partnership Special Fund, Regional Cooperation and Integration Fund, and Japan Special Fund. Technical assistance grants are used for preparing projects, developing capacity, providing policy advice and fostering research and development.

ADB also manages grant funds and loans financed by bilateral and multilateral financing partners to pursue objectives mutually agreed between the financing partner and ADB. It also has a channel financing facility for grants provided by bilateral donors to support technical assistance and soft components of loans.

Headquartered in the Philippines, ADB also has offices across Asia and the Pacific, as well as representative offices in Europe, Japan and the USA. To learn more about the bank’s operations, see the ADB [Annual Report 2024](https://www.adb.org/annual-report/editions/2024).

Structure

ADB’s highest policy-making body is its [Board of Governors](https://www.adb.org/who-we-are/organization/board-governors), which comprises one representative from each member and meets annually. The Governors elect the 12-member resident [Board of Directors](https://www.adb.org/who-we-are/organization/board-directors), with each director appointing an alternate. The President is elected by the Board of Governors for a five-year term and may be re-elected. The President is Chair of the Board of Directors and, assisted by six vice-presidents, manages ADB’s business under the general oversight of the Board of Directors. Details about the Board of Governors and Board of Directors are on the [website](https://www.adb.org/who-we-are/organization) under ‘Who We Are’, then ‘Organization’.

The total voting power of each ADB member consists of basic votes (distributed equally among all members) plus proportional votes (allocated according to the number of shares of ADB capital stock held by the member). In total, the number of basic votes allocated comprises 20 percent of all votes.

Membership

Membership is open to members and associate members of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and other regional countries and non-regional developed countries that are members of the UN or any of its specialized agencies. The ADB has 69 members, of which 50 are regional members and 19 non-regional members. A [list of members](http://www.adb.org/about/members) is on the website.

Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)

PO Box 408

Wildey, St Michael

Barbados, WI BB11000

Telephone: +1 246 539 1600

Email: [info@caribank.org](mailto:info@caribank.org)

Website: [www.caribank.org](http://www.caribank.org)

President and Chair of Board of Directors: Daniel M Best (elected by the Board of Governors in December 2024 for a five-year term from February 2025)

Purpose

CDB is a regional financial institution established in 1970 to contribute to the harmonious economic growth and development of its member countries in the Caribbean and to promote economic cooperation and integration among them. CDB is required to have special and urgent regard to the needs of its less developed member countries. It provides loans, equity, guarantees and technical assistance for both the public and private sectors of regional borrowing member countries.

CDB’s lending activities are divided into two major categories: Ordinary Operations and Special Operations. Ordinary Operations are financed from CDB’s Ordinary Capital Resources (OCR), which include capital subscriptions from its members, reserves, and market borrowings on the international capital markets, as well as loans from other multilateral development banks.

Special Operations are financed by the Special Funds Resources (SFR), which primarily comprise contributions and loans on highly concessionary terms. These resources are used to provide technical assistance or to make or guarantee loans of high developmental priority. SFR loans have longer maturities, longer deferred commencement of repayment of principal and lower interest rates than those determined for Ordinary Operations. The Special Development Fund is the Bank’s main special fund. Non-member contributors to CDB’s resources have included the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Sweden and the USA.

Structure

CDB is owned by 28 member countries: 23 regional members, divided into 19 [borrowing](https://www.caribank.org/countries-and-members/borrowing-members) countries and four [non-borrowing](https://www.caribank.org/countries-and-members/non-borrowing-members) countries; and five non-regional non-borrowing members. The voting power of each country is linked to its subscription to CDB’s capital stock. CDB’s capital stock is held or available for subscription in the proportion of not less than 60 percent by regional members and not more than 40 percent by non-regional members.

CDB’s [Board of Governors](https://www.caribank.org/about-us/bank-organisation/board-governors) comprises one governor for each member country. For this purpose, the member territories of Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, and Turks and Caicos Islands are regarded as one member. Voting power is approximately proportional to shares subscribed.

The [Board of Directors](https://www.caribank.org/about-us/bank-organisation/board-directors) comprises 19 directors, 14 representing regional members and five representing non-regional members. Directors hold office for two-year terms and are eligible for reappointment. Details about the Board of Governors and Board of Directors are available on the website.

Meetings

The Board of Governors meets once a year, and the Board of Directors five times a year. Additional or special meetings may also be called, if necessary, and participation is permitted via videoconferencing. In some cases, decisions may be taken without a meeting using a round robin procedure.

Membership

CDB membership is open to regional states and territories, non-regional states that are members of the UN, its specialized agencies or the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and Institutions. A list of member countries is on the [website](http://www.caribank.org/about-cdb/member-countries).

## Budget and Scales of Assessment

### UN BUDGET

The main resolutions governing the preparation, approval and implementation of the UN programme budget are set forth in General Assembly resolutions [41/213](https://undocs.org/A/RES/41/213) (1986), [42/211](https://undocs.org/A/RES/42/211) (1987), [45/248](https://undocs.org/A/RES/45/248) (1990), [55/231](https://undocs.org/A/RES/55/231) (2000) and [58/269](https://undocs.org/A/RES/58/269) (2004).

In GA res. [72/266](https://undocs.org/A/RES/72/266B) (2017), the Assembly approved the Secretary-General’s proposal to change the UN budget cycle from a biennial to an annual budget period on a trial basis, beginning with the programme budget for 2020, pending a final decision at its 77th session on whether to continue that practice. In GA res. [77/267](http://undocs.org/A/RES/77/267) (2022), the Assembly decided to lift the trial period effective from 2023 and requested the Secretary-General to continue with the submission of the programme budget according to an annual cycle.

The budget for the year 2025 was adopted by the General Assembly on 24 December 2024 through GA res. [79/259 A–C](https://docs.un.org/a/res/79/259a-c) (approving the Fifth Committee’s report [A/79/652](https://docs.un.org/A/79/652)) as follows:

(US dollars)

Part I. Overall policymaking, direction and coordination

1. Overall policymaking, direction and coordination 98,203,000

2. General Assembly and Economic and Social Council affairs  
and conference management 400,800,700

Total, Part I 499,003,700

Part II. Political affairs

3. Political affairs 733,971,900

4. Disarmament 19,127,700

5. Peacekeeping operations 61,027,000

6. Peaceful uses of outer space 5,543,000

Total, Part II 819,669,600

Part III. International justice and law

7. International Court of Justice 34,661,600

8. Legal affairs 70,082,500

Total, Part III 104,744,100

Part IV. International cooperation for development

9. Economic and social affairs 106,596,500

10. Least developed countries, landlocked developing countries   
and small island developing states 11,184,800

11. United Nations support for the African Union’s Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want 10,735,800

12. Trade and development 89,995,000

13. International Trade Centre 23,376,800

14. Environment 24,501,100

15. Human settlements 15,055,000

16. International drug control, crime and terrorism prevention and criminal justice 27,765,000

17. UN-Women 11,443,400

Total, Part IV 320,653,400

Part V. Regional cooperation for development

18. Economic and social development in Africa 94,922,900

19. Economic and social development in Asia and the Pacific 58,498,400

20. Economic development in Europe 40,951,800

21. Economic and social development in Latin America and the Caribbean 62,821,700

22. Economic and social development in Western Asia 51,152,200

23. Regular programme of technical cooperation 49,706,000

Total, Part V 358,053,000

Part VI. Human rights and humanitarian affairs

24. Human rights 258,004,600

25. International protection, durable solutions and assistance to refugees 50,466,900

26. Palestine refugees 84,315,400

27. Humanitarian assistance 20,278,500

Total, Part VI 413,065,400

Part VII. Global communications

28. Global communications 123,446,300

Total, Part VII 123,446,300

Part VIII. Common support services

29A. Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance 68,358,900

29B. Department of Operational Support 101,043,900

29C. Office of Information and Communications Technology 55,389,600

29D. Administration, Nairobi 23,512,300

29E. Administration, Geneva 90,283,800

29F. Administration, Vienna 22,314,600

Total, Part VIII 360,903,100

Part IX. Internal oversight

30. Internal oversight 26,342,800

Total, Part IX 26,342,800

Part X. Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses

31. Jointly financed administrative activities 9,137,300

32. Special expenses 97,258,700

Total, Part X 106,396,000

Part XI. Capital expenditures

33. Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance 88,020,500

Total, Part XI 88,020,500

Part XII. Safety and security

34. Safety and security 150,739,400

Total, Part XII 150,739,400

Part XIII. Development Account

35. Development Account 19,011,900

Total, Part XIII 19,011,900

Part XIV. Staff assessment

36. Staff assessment 327,330,400

Total, Part XIV 327,330,400

Grand total 3,717,379,600

By the same resolution ([79/259 A–C](https://docs.un.org/a/res/79/259a-c)), the General Assembly approved estimates of income other than assessments on Member States totalling $364,273,100 as follows:

Income section

1. Income from staff assessment 329,472,000

2. General income 34,090,300

3. Services to the public 710,800

Total, Income Section 364,273,100

### SCALES OF ASSESSMENT

UN Regular Budget

Contributions from Member States to the UN regular budget are determined by reference to a scale of assessments approved by the General Assembly on the basis of advice from the Committee on Contributions.

GA res. [55/5B](http://undocs.org/A/RES/55/5B-F) (2000) substantially revised the scale of assessments, lowering the ceiling on the maximum contribution by any Member State to the regular budget to 22 percent. It reaffirmed the floor for the minimum contribution at 0.001 percent and the maximum contribution from Least Developed Countries at 0.01 percent. It also reaffirmed the low per capita income adjustment with a threshold per capita income limit of the average per capita gross national product of all Member States and a gradient of 80 percent.

GA res. [79/249](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/79/249) (2024) set out the scale of assessments for 2025, 2026 and 2027. The scale of assessments will be reviewed by the General Assembly before the end of 2027.

The following table lists the scale of assessments for contributions to the regular budget for the period 2025–27.\*

Member States percentage contribution

Member State Percentage

Afghanistan 0.005

Albania 0.010

Algeria 0.087

Andorra 0.004

Angola 0.010

Antigua and Barbuda 0.002

Argentina 0.490

Armenia 0.007

Australia 2.040

Austria 0.626

Azerbaijan 0.034

Bahamas 0.015

Bahrain 0.050

Bangladesh 0.010

Barbados 0.007

Belarus 0.043

Belgium 0.773

Belize 0.001

Benin 0.005

Bhutan 0.001

Bolivia 0.018

Bosnia and Herzegovina 0.014

Botswana 0.013

Brazil 1.411

Brunei Darussalam 0.019

Bulgaria 0.071

Burkina Faso 0.005

Burundi 0.001

Cabo Verde 0.001

Cambodia 0.008

Cameroon 0.014

Canada 2.543

Central African Republic 0.001

Chad 0.005

Chile 0.374

China 20.004

Colombia 0.197

Comoros 0.001

Congo 0.005

Costa Rica 0.063

Côte d’Ivoire 0.024

Croatia 0.088

Cuba 0.122

Cyprus 0.035

Czechia 0.344

DPRK 0.005

DR Congo 0.010

Denmark 0.531

Djibouti 0.002

Dominica 0.001

Dominican Republic 0.069

Ecuador 0.065

Egypt 0.182

El Salvador 0.013

Equatorial Guinea 0.008

Eritrea 0.001

Estonia 0.045

Eswatini 0.002

Ethiopia 0.010

Fiji 0.003

Finland 0.386

France 3.858

Gabon 0.011

Gambia 0.001

Georgia 0.009

Germany 5.692

Ghana 0.025

Greece 0.280

Grenada 0.001

Guatemala 0.046

Guinea 0.004

Guinea-Bissau 0.001

Guyana 0.011

Haiti 0.006

Honduras 0.010

Hungary 0.223

Iceland 0.035

India 1.106

Indonesia 0.579

Iran 0.386

Iraq 0.131

Ireland 0.472

Israel 0.609

Italy 2.813

Jamaica 0.007

Japan 6.930

Jordan 0.021

Kazakhstan 0.131

Kenya 0.037

Kiribati 0.001

Kuwait 0.222

Kyrgyzstan 0.003

Lao PDR 0.006

Latvia 0.050

Lebanon 0.022

Lesotho 0.001

Liberia 0.001

Libya 0.040

Liechtenstein 0.009

Lithuania 0.081

Luxembourg 0.073

Madagascar 0.004

Malawi 0.003

Malaysia 0.326

Maldives 0.004

Mali 0.005

Malta 0.020

Marshall Islands 0.001

Mauritania 0.003

Mauritius 0.010

Mexico 1.137

Micronesia 0.001

Monaco 0.011

Mongolia 0.004

Montenegro 0.004

Morocco 0.059

Mozambique 0.002

Myanmar 0.010

Namibia 0.007

Nauru 0.001

Nepal 0.010

Netherlands 1.298

New Zealand 0.302

Nicaragua 0.004

Niger 0.004

Nigeria 0.150

North Macedonia 0.008

Norway 0.653

Oman 0.115

Pakistan 0.123

Palau 0.001

Panama 0.086

Papua New Guinea 0.009

Paraguay 0.023

Peru 0.145

Philippines 0.198

Poland 0.831

Portugal 0.328

Qatar 0.245

ROK 2.349

Republic of Moldova 0.006

Romania 0.358

Russian Federation 2.094

Rwanda 0.003

Saint Kitts and Nevis 0.001

Saint Lucia 0.002

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 0.001

Samoa 0.001

San Marino 0.002

São Tomé and Príncipe 0.001

Saudi Arabia 1.217

Senegal 0.007

Serbia 0.040

Seychelles 0.002

Sierra Leone 0.001

Singapore 0.479

Slovakia 0.149

Slovenia 0.077

Solomon Islands 0.001

Somalia 0.002

South Africa 0.251

South Sudan 0.005

Spain 1.895

Sri Lanka 0.038

Sudan 0.008

Suriname 0.002

Sweden 0.822

Switzerland 1.029

Syrian AR 0.006

Tajikistan 0.003

Thailand 0.341

Timor-Leste 0.001

Togo 0.002

Tonga 0.001

Trinidad and Tobago 0.033

Tunisia 0.018

Türkiye 0.685

Turkmenistan 0.036

Tuvalu 0.001

Uganda 0.010

Ukraine 0.074

UAE 0.574

UK 3.991

UR of Tanzania 0.010

USA 22.000

Uruguay 0.079

Uzbekistan 0.024

Vanuatu 0.001

Venezuela 0.069

Viet Nam 0.159

Yemen 0.003

Zambia 0.006

Zimbabwe 0.007

Total 100.000

Note

\* In accordance with GA res. [58/1B](http://undocs.org/A/RES/58/1B) (2003) the Holy See, which is not a member of the UN but which participates in some of its activities, is called upon to contribute towards the expenses of the organization for 2025–27 on the basis of a notional assessment rate of 0.001 percent that would have been charged if it were a member. Similarly, in accordance with GA decision [68/548](https://www.un.org/en/ga/fifth/68/C5_68_decisions/A_68_49_II_decision%2068-548.pdf) (2013) and GA res. [73/271](https://undocs.org/A/RES/73/271) (2018), the State of Palestine, which is not a member of the UN but which participates in some of its activities, is called upon to contribute towards the expenses of the organization for 2025–27 on the basis of a notional assessment rate of 0.011 percent that would have been charged if it were a member.

### AD HOC SCALE OF ASSESSMENT FOR UN PEACEKEEPING BUDGETS

By GA res. [55/235](http://undocs.org/A/RES/55/235) (2000), the General Assembly reformed its methodologies for apportioning the expenses of peacekeeping operations, replacing the ad hoc arrangements in place since GA res. [3101](http://undocs.org/A/RES/3101(XXVIII)) (XXVIII) (1973). The Assembly took into account that the financing of peacekeeping operations was the collective responsibility of Member States and a different procedure was required from that used under the regular budget. The economically more developed countries were in a position to make relatively larger contributions and the economically less developed countries had a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such operations. It also reaffirmed the special responsibilities of the Security Council’s permanent Member States, as indicated in GA res. [1874](http://undocs.org/A/RES/1874(S-IV)) (S-IV) (1963), in connection with their contributions to the financing of peace and security operations.

To reflect these principles, the Assembly decided on the parameters of a new set of 10 levels for Member States for the purposes of apportioning the costs of peacekeeping, to be implemented on a phased basis from 1 July 2001. The resulting distribution of Member States among the 10 levels was set out in an annex to the resolution. The apportionments range from a premium payable by permanent Member States of the Security Council (Level A), to a 90 percent discount for Least Developed Countries (Level J).

GA res. [79/250](https://docs.un.org/A/RES/79/250) (2024) established the updated composition of levels of contribution for peacekeeping operations for the period 2025–27, as outlined in the report to the Secretary-General (see [A/79/318/Add.1](http://undocs.org/A/79/318/Add.1)). The scale of assessments for peacekeeping will be reviewed by the General Assembly before the end of 2027.

Assignment of contribution levels 2025–27

Level A – Permanent Members of the Security Council

China

France

Russian Federation

UK

USA

Level B

Andorra

Australia

Austria

Bahamas1

Bahrain1

Belgium

Canada

Cyprus

Denmark

Finland

Germany

Iceland

Ireland

Israel

Italy

Japan

Liechtenstein

Luxembourg

Malta

Monaco

Netherlands

New Zealand

Norway

Portugal

ROK

San Marino

Saudi Arabia1

Slovenia

Spain

Sweden

Switzerland

Transition to B

Czechia

Estonia

Level C

Brunei Darussalam

Kuwait

Qatar

Singapore

UAE

Level E

Greece

Latvia

Lithuania

Saint Kitts and Nevis

Slovakia

Level F

Antigua and Barbuda

Barbados

Hungary

Nauru

Oman

Palau

Trinidad and Tobago

Uruguay

Level G

Chile

Croatia

Panama

Poland

Level H\*2

Bulgaria

Romania

Level H

Costa Rica

Seychelles

Level I

Albania

Algeria

Argentina

Armenia

Azerbaijan

Belarus

Belize

Bhutan

Bolivia

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Botswana

Brazil

Cabo Verde

Cameroon

Colombia

Congo

Côte d’Ivoire

Cuba

DPRK

Dominica

Dominican Republic

Ecuador

Egypt

El Salvador

Equatorial Guinea

Eswatini

Fiji

Gabon

Georgia

Ghana

Grenada

Guatemala

Guyana

Honduras

India

Indonesia

Iran

Iraq

Jamaica

Jordan

Kazakhstan

Kenya

Kyrgyzstan

Lebanon

Libya

Malaysia

Maldives

Marshall Islands

Mauritius

Mexico

Micronesia

Mongolia

Montenegro

Morocco

Namibia

Nicaragua

Nigeria

North Macedonia

Pakistan

Papua New Guinea

Paraguay

Peru

Philippines

Republic of Moldova

Saint Lucia

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Samoa

Serbia

South Africa

Sri Lanka

Suriname

Syrian AR

Tajikistan

Thailand

Tonga

Tunisia

Türkiye

Turkmenistan

Ukraine

Uzbekistan

Vanuatu

Venezuela

Viet Nam

Zimbabwe

Level J – Least Developed Countries

Afghanistan

Angola

Bangladesh

Benin

Burkina Faso

Burundi

Cambodia

Central African Republic

Chad

Comoros

DR Congo

Djibouti

Eritrea

Ethiopia

Gambia

Guinea

Guinea-Bissau

Haiti

Kiribati

Lao PDR

Lesotho

Liberia

Madagascar

Malawi

Mali

Mauritania

Mozambique

Myanmar

Nepal

Niger

Rwanda

São Tomé and Príncipe

Senegal

Sierra Leone

Solomon Islands

Somalia

South Sudan

Sudan

Timor-Leste

Togo

Tuvalu

Uganda

UR of Tanzania

Yemen

Zambia

Notes

1 At the time of the adoption of GA res. [79/250](https://undocs.org/A/RES/79/250) (2024), the Fifth Committee Chair and General Assembly President stated that it was the understanding of the Assembly that, on an exceptional basis for the 2025–27 scale period only, three countries in level B – the Bahamas, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia – would be afforded discounts of 7.5 percent to their assessment rates, and that these discounts should be borne on a pro rata basis by the permanent members of the Security Council. See [A/C.5/79/SR.22/Add.1](https://undocs.org/A/C.5/79/SR.22/Add.1) and [A/79/PV.55](https://undocs.org/A/79/PV.55).

2 Category H\* comprises countries that have voluntarily moved to category H and pay at a level of 30 percent rather than 20 percent.

## LIST OF ACRONYMS

A

ACABQ Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

ADB Asian Development Bank

AfCFTA African Continental Free Trade Area

AfDB African Development Bank

AU African Union

AUC AU Commission

**B**

BBNJ Biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction

BINUH UN Integrated Office in Haiti

**C**

C24 Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples

C34 Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations

CAAC Children and Armed Conflict

CAC Codex Alimentarius Commission

CAR Central African Republic

CAT Committee against Torture

CBD Convention on Biological Diversity

CCO Committee of Cosponsoring Organizations (UNAIDS)

CCPCJ Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

CD Conference on Disarmament

CDB Caribbean Development Bank

CDP Committee for Development Policy

CEB UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination

CED Committee on Enforced Disappearances

CEDAW Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

CEPA Committee of Experts on Public Administration

CEPAL Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (Spanish acronym)

CERD Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination

CESCR Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

CHR Commission on Human Rights

CITES Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

CLCS Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf

CMA Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement

CMP Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties (for the Kyoto Protocol)

CMS Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals

CMW Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families

CND Commission on Narcotic Drugs

COP Conference of the Parties

COPUOS Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

CPC Committee for Programme and Coordination

CPD Commission on Population and Development

CPR Committee of Permanent Representatives

CRC Committee on the Rights of the Child

CRPD Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

CSD Commission on Sustainable Development

CSocD Commission for Social Development

CSTD Commission on Science and Technology for Development

CSW Commission on the Status of Women

CTBT Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

CTBTO Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization

CTC Counter-Terrorism Committee

CTED Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate

CWC Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on their Destruction

D

DCO Development Coordination Office

DDPA Durban Declaration and Programme of Action

DESA Department of Economic and Social Affairs

DGACM Department for General Assembly and Conference Management

DGC Department of Global Communications

DMSPC Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance

DOS Department of Operational Support

DPA Department of Political Affairs

DPO Department of Peace Operations

DPPA Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs

DPRK Democratic People’s Republic of Korea

E

ECA Economic Commission for Africa

ECCAS Economic Community of Central African States

ECCC Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia

ECE Economic Commission for Europe

ECLAC Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

ECOSOC Economic and Social Council

ECOWAS Economic Community of West African States

EDG Emergency Directors Group

EMRIP Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

EMRTD Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development

EOSG Executive Office of the Secretary-General

ERC Emergency Relief Coordinator

ESCAP Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

ESCWA Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

EU European Union

F

FAO Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN

FARC-EP Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia

FGS Federal Government of Somalia

FTFs Foreign terrorist fighters

G

G5-Sahel Group of Five for the Sahel

GEF Global Environment Facility

GHS Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

GP Global Platform (for Disaster Risk Reduction)

H

HLCM High-Level Committee on Management

HLCP High-Level Committee on Programmes

HLPF High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

HONLEA Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies

HRC Human Rights Council

HRCAC Human Rights Council Advisory Committee

I

IAAC Independent Audit Advisory Committee

IAEA International Atomic Energy Agency

IASC Inter-Agency Standing Committee

IBRD International Bank for Reconstruction and Development

ICAO International Civil Aviation Organization

ICC International Criminal Court

ICCROM International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property

ICGLR International Conference on the Great Lakes Region

ICJ International Court of Justice

ICPD International Conference on Population and Development

ICSC International Civil Service Commission

ICSID International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes

ICT Information and communications technology

ICTR International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda

ICTY International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia

IDA International Development Association

IDB Inter-American Development Bank

IEE Group of Independent Eminent Experts

IFAD International Fund for Agricultural Development

IFC International Finance Corporation

IIIM International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism to assist in the Investigation and Prosecution of those Responsible for the Most Serious Crimes under International Law committed in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011

IIMM Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar

IIMP Independent Institution on Missing Persons in the Syrian Arab Republic

ILC International Law Commission

ILO International Labour Organization

IMF International Monetary Fund

IMO International Maritime Organization

INCB International Narcotics Control Board

INTERPOL International Criminal Police Organization

IOM International Organization for Migration

IP Intellectual property

IPCC Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

IRMCT International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals

ISA International Seabed Authority

ISIL Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant

ITC International Trade Centre

ITLOS International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea

ITU International Telecommunication Union

J

JIU Joint Inspection Unit

L

LDCs Least developed countries

LLDCs Landlocked developing countries

M

MIGA Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency

MINUJUSTH UN Mission for Justice Support in Haiti

MINURSO UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara

MINUSCA UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic

MINUSMA UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali

MONUSCO UN Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

MOP Meeting of the Parties

N

NGO Non-governmental organization

NSGTs Non-self-governing territories

O

OAJ Office of Administration of Justice

OCHA Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

OCR Ordinary capital resources

ODET Office for Digital and Emerging Technologies

OECD Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

OFFMK OHCHR Fact-Finding Mission on the situation in the North and South Kivu provinces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

OHCHR Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

OIOS Office of Internal Oversight Services

OLA Office of Legal Affairs

OPCW Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons

OPEC Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries

OSAA Office of the Special Adviser on Africa

OSES Office of the Special Envoy for the Sahel

OSLA Office of Staff Legal Assistance

OSRSG-CAAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict

OSRSG-SVC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict

OSRSG-VAC Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children

OVRA Office of the Victims’ Rights Advocate

P

PBC Peacebuilding Commission

PBSO Peacebuilding Support Office

R

RA Radiocommunication Assembly (ITU)

RSCSL Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone

S

SCSL Special Court for Sierra Leone

SDGs Sustainable Development Goals

SIDS Small island developing states

SMEs Small and medium-sized enterprises

SPMs Special political missions

SPT Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture

SRSG-CAAC Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict

SRSG-SVC Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict

SRSG-VAC Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children

T

TDB Trade and Development Board

TDG Transport of Dangerous Goods

U

UDHR Universal Declaration of Human Rights

UNAIDS UN Programme on HIV/AIDS, Joint

UNAKRT UN Assistance to the Khmer Rouge Trials

UNAMA UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

UNAMI UN Assistance Mission for Iraq

UNAOC UN Alliance of Civilizations

UNAT UN Appeals Tribunal

UNC UN Command (in Korea)

UNCCD UN Convention to Combat Desertification in Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

UNCCT UN Counter-Terrorism Centre

UNCDF UN Capital Development Fund

UNCED UN Conference on Environment and Development

UNCITRAL UN Commission on International Trade Law

UNCLOS UN Convention on the Law of the Sea

UNCMAC UN Command Military Armistice Commission

UNCSGN UN Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names

UNCTAD UN Trade and Development

UNDC UN Disarmament Commission

UNDEF UN Democracy Fund

UNDOF UN Disengagement Observer Force

UNDP UN Development Programme

UNDRR UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

UNDSS UN Department of Safety and Security

UNDT UN Dispute Tribunal

UNEA UN Environment Assembly

UNECE UN Economic Commission for Europe

UNEP UN Environment Programme

UNESCAP UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

UNESCO UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

UNFCCC UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

UNFF UN Forum on Forests

UNFICYP UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus

UNFIP UN Fund for International Partnerships

UNFPA UN Population Fund

UNGEGN UN Group of Experts on Geographical Names

UN-GGIM UN Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

UN-Habitat UN Human Settlements Programme

UNHCR UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Office of the

UNHQ UN Headquarters

UNICEF UN Children’s Fund

UNICRI UN Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

UNIDIR UN Institute for Disarmament Research

UNIDO UN Industrial Development Organization

UNIFIL UN Interim Force in Lebanon

UNISFA UN Interim Security Force for Abyei

UNISPAL UN Information System on the Question of Palestine

UNITAMS UN Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan

UNITAR UN Institute for Training and Research

UNJSPF UN Joint Staff Pension Fund

UNMAS UN Mine Action Service

UNMHA UN Mission to support the Hudaydah Agreement

UNMIK UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo

UNMISS UN Mission in South Sudan

UNMOGIP UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan

UNOAU UN Office to the African Union

UNOCA UN Regional Office for Central Africa

UNOCT UN Office of Counter-Terrorism

UNODA UN Office for Disarmament Affairs

UNODC UN Office on Drugs and Crime

UNOG UN Office at Geneva

UN-OHRLLS Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States

UNOMS UN Ombudsman and Mediation Services

UNON UN Office at Nairobi

UNOOSA UN Office for Outer Space Affairs

UNOP UN Office for Partnerships

UNOPS UN Office for Project Services

UNOV UN Office at Vienna

UNOWA UN Office for West Africa

UNOWAS UN Office for West Africa and the Sahel

UNPFII UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

UNRCCA UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia

UNRISD UN Research Institute for Social Development

UNRoD UN Register of Damage Caused by the Construction of the Wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory

UNRWA UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

UNSCEAR UN Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation

UNSCO UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Office of the

UNSCOL UN Special Coordinator for Lebanon, Office of the

UNSDG UN Sustainable Development Group

UNSMIL UN Support Mission in Libya

UNSMS UN Security Management System

UNSOM UN Assistance Mission in Somalia

UNSSC UN System Staff College

UNTMIS UN Transitional Assistance Mission in Somalia

UN Tourism UN World Tourism Organization

UNTSO UN Truce Supervision Organization

UNU United Nations University

UNV UN Volunteers

UN-Women UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

UPOV International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants

UPR Universal Periodic Review

UPU Universal Postal Union

V

VRA Victims’ Rights Advocate

W

WEDF World Export Development Forum

WEOG Western European and Other states group

WFP World Food Programme

WGC Working Group on Communications

WGS Working Group on Situations

WHC World Heritage Centre

WHO World Health Organization

WIPO World Intellectual Property Organization

WMDs Weapons of mass destruction

WMO World Meteorological Organization

WRC World Radiocommunication Conference

WTDC World Telecommunication Development Conference

WTO World Trade Organization

WTPO World Trade Promotion Organizations (Conference)

WTSA World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly

## INDEX

Bold entries denote the main reference to the organization.

A

Abidjan Postal Strategy 348

Abu Dhabi Declaration 365

Abyei region 123, 211, 221

ACABQ 26–27, 83, 87, 180, 197

academia 218, 228, 237, 284, 285, 288, 345, 349, 365

Accra Initiative 131

Ad Hoc Committee established by the General Assembly in its resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996 59

Ad Hoc Committee on the Elaboration of Complementary Standards 41

Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean 58

Ad Hoc Working Group of the Whole on the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment 77–78

Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa 101

Ad Hoc Working Group on the Revitalization of the Work of the General Assembly 79, 217

ADB 322, 405–07

Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) 177, 185

Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters 80, 284

Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) 26–27, 83, 87, 180, 197

Advisory Committee on the UN Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law 81

AfDB 131, 173, 322, 402

Group 402–03

Afghanistan 44, 107, 109, 125–26, 211, 221, 222, 273

Africa 81, 101, 148, 314–15, 333, 402–03

development in 172–73, 237, 402, 411

special and personal representatives, envoys and advisers of the Secretary-General 210–11, 237

African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) 237

African descent, people of 38–39, 40, 45, 53–54

African Development Bank (AfDB) 131, 173, 322, 402

Group 402–03

African Development Fund (ADF) 402

African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP) 173

African-led International Support Mission in the Central African Republic (MISCA) 116, 124

African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone 379

African Union (AU) 101, 102, 131, 172, 173, 210, 237, 410

Agenda 2063 172, 237, 410

Agenda 21 75, 78, 172, 190

Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030) 77, 241, 253, 262

advancing 148, 155, 156, 164, 177, 197, 198, 216, 222, 237, 241, 244, 273, 287, 348, 363

alignment with 171, 172, 191, 267, 279, 285

financing 213, 260, 363

Agreement between the UN and USA regarding UN Headquarters 62

Agreement Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR) 189

Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade 333

Agreement … on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ Agreement) 76, 228, 305, 321

agriculture 328, 354, 363

Aid for Trade 365, 396

AIDS 281–82

Air Navigation Commission (ANC) 346

albinism 45

Al-Nusrah Front 108

Al-Qaida 101, 106, 107–08

Al-Shabaab 106–07

Americas, special and personal representatives, envoys and advisers of the Secretary-General 211

Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team 108, 109

animals 315–16, 318

Annan, Kofi 235, 253

Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS) 237

antisemitism 243

Arab states 72, 271

Arabs of the occupied territories 71

arbitrary detention 45

armed groups 110, 116, 120, 122, 126, 129, 239

arms see weapons

artificial intelligence (AI) 226, 284, 351

artistic works 362

ASEAN Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone 379

Asia 81, 126–27, 148, 178–79

development in 174–75, 405–07, 411

special and personal representatives, envoys and advisers of the Secretary-General 211–12

Asian Development Bank (ADB) 322, 405–07

Asian Development Fund (ADF) 406

atmosphere (earth’s) 77, 308, 316, 353, 393

atomic energy/radiation 73, 379–80

atrocity crimes 239–40

auditing 82–84, 227, 358

see also oversight bodies

aviation 107, 189, 219, 345, 354

Awaza Programme of Action 237

B

Balkans 238

banks 112, 372–76, 377

see also financial bodies; regional development banks; World Bank

Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal 310, 311

Basel Protocol on Liability and Compensation for Damage Resulting from the Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal 311

BBNJ Agreement 76, 228, 305, 321

Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (BPfA) 262

Beirut 111, 273

Belarus 44

Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works 362

BINUH 127–28, 211, 222

biodiversity 77, 260, 305, 313–14, 321, 363, 404

loss 267

Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdictions (BBNJ) Agreement 76, 228, 305, 321

biological weapons 104, 110, 230

Convention 231

BirdLife International 319

Board of Auditors 83, 84, 215

Boko Haram 126

Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela 52, 273

Bonn Convention 318–19

borders 63, 103, 119, 123, 125, 126, 131, 286, 362

Bretton Woods Conference (1944) 373, 377

budget, UN 12, 24, 26, 243, 274, 284, 410–17

see also peacekeeping

Burkina Faso 221, 273

Burundi 44

business enterprises 37–38, 42, 45, 374, 396, 405

C

C24 70–71

C34 68–69, 101

CAAC 100, 239

CAC 332–33

Cambodia 44, 186, 386–87

Cameroon 132

Cameroon–Nigeria Mixed Commission (CNMC) 132, 222

Capacity-Building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) 321

Caribbean 81, 148, 177–78, 403–05, 407–08, 411

Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) 407–08

Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety 313

CAT 289–91

CBD 313–14, 321

CCO 282

CCPCJ 144, 168–70, 235, 287

CD 66–68, 230, 389

CDB 407–08

CDP 186–87

CEB 196–97, 198, 215, 253, 285

CED 300

CEDAW (Convention and Committee) 262, 291–92

Central Africa 126, 210, 222

Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC) 126

Central African Republic (CAR) 44, 116, 124, 133, 210, 221

Central Asia 126–27, 176, 211, 222

Central Asian Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty 379

CEPA 191–92

CERD 293–94

CESCR 191, 292–93

Chad 133

chemical weapons 67, 104, 110, 230, 286, 388–89

chemicals 144, 188, 190, 311–12, 321, 389

Chicago Convention 345

children 126, 246–47, 271, 273

and armed conflict 100, 115, 213, 239, 296

and education 43, 246

rights of 43, 55, 296

sexual exploitation and abuse of 47, 296

trafficking of 48, 235, 296

violence against 214, 241–42

Chornobyl 73

CITES 315–16

cities 233, 272–73

civil society

engagement/liaison 43–44, 50, 55, 63, 64, 129, 133, 157, 214, 216, 218, 233, 235, 237, 239, 240

partnerships with 261, 286, 365

support for 230, 238, 244

civilians, protection of 122, 123, 124

CLCS 301–02

climate change 77, 173

action 37, 45, 171, 213, 215, 237, 244, 246, 254, 267, 273, 349, 363, 379, 406

bodies 307–09, 316–18

funding 260, 321, 363, 404, 406

impacts of 126, 236, 237, 279

CMS Convention 318–19

CMW 295–96

CND 144–48, 168, 235, 394, 395

Code of Ethics for UN Personnel 243

Codex Alimentarius 332–33

Collaborative Partnership on Forests (CPF) 171, 172

Colombia 127, 133, 211, 221, 222

Commission for India and Pakistan (UNCIP) 118

Commission for Social Development (CSocD) 164–67

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) 144, 168–70, 235, 287

Commission on Human Rights 28, 33, 34, 37, 39, 40

see also HRC

Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan 50

Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) 88–90, 228

Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) 144–48, 168, 235, 394, 395

Commission on Population and Development (CPD) 148–52

Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) 152–55

Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS) 301–02

Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) 156–60, 261, 262

Committee against Torture (CAT) 289–91

Committee for Development Policy (CDP) 186–87

Committee for Programme and Coordination (CPC) 179–82, 218

Committee for the UN Population Award 259–60

Committee of 24 70–71

Committee of Cosponsoring Organizations (CCO) 282

Committee of Experts established by the Security Council at its 1506th meeting … 100

Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management (UN-GGIM) 194–95

Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters 184–86

Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA) 191–92

Committee of Experts on Rules of Procedure 100

Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals 188–90

Committee on Admission of New Members 100

Committee on Conferences 59–60

Committee on Contributions 27–28, 412

Committee on Council Meetings away from Headquarters 100

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) 191, 292–93

Committee on Enforced Disappearances (CED) 300

Committee on Information 60–62

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations 182–84

Committee on Relations with the Host Country 62

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) 291–92

Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) 293–94

Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People 63–66, 222

Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) 65–66, 236

Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (CMW) 295–96

Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) 297–98

Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC) 43, 296–97

communications 34, 50, 218, 224, 285, 411

compensation 72, 74, 75, 101, 301, 358, 387

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) 67, 393–94

Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 298

Conference on Disarmament (CD) 66–68, 230, 389

Conference on Environment and Development (1992) (Earth Summit; UNCED) 155, 190, 313, 317

Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) 155, 267

Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names (UNCSGN) 194

Conference on Trade and Development see UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

conference services 59, 64, 198, 216, 217, 234

conflict

armed 56, 100, 115, 271, 284

prevention 100, 101, 125, 126–27, 129, 131, 221, 242–43

responses to 53, 63, 100, 101, 131, 132–33, 221–22, 230, 238, 242–43, 271, 278

sexual violence in 240–41

see also children; war crimes

conservation 313, 318, 319, 339

cultural 339, 370

marine 77, 305

Conservation International (CI) 322

continental shelf 301

contributions 27, 119, 412–14

Convention against Corruption 235

Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances 394, 395

Convention against Torture … 289, 290

Convention against Transnational Organized Crime 235

Convention Establishing the World Intellectual Property Organization 362

Convention on Assistance in the Case of a Nuclear Accident or Radiological Emergency 379

Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) 313–14, 321

Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons 231

Convention on Early Notification of a Nuclear Accident 379

Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention) 345

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) 315–16

Convention on Nuclear Safety 379

Convention on Psychotropic Substances 394

Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage 380

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn Convention; CMS) 318–19

Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) 262, 291

Convention on the International Maritime Organization 358

Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) 75, 76, 228, 301, 302, 305–06

Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material 380

Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide 239

Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter 358

Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the UN 62

Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques (ENMOD) 67

Convention on the Prohibition of … Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons … (BWC) 67

Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons … (CWC) 67, 389–90

Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness 268

Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities 297–98

Convention on the Rights of the Child 43, 241, 296

Convention on the Settlement of Investment Disputes between States and Nationals of Other States 376

Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention) 319

Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees 268, 269

Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) 227, 314–15, 321

Coordination Committee of Special Procedures 43–44

Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action 164

COPUOS 65–66, 236

corruption 235, 286, 404

counter-terrorism see terrorism

Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) 102–03

COVID-19 pandemic 271, 273, 278

recovery from 237, 246

CPC 179–82, 218

CPD 148–52

CRC 43, 296–97

Credentials Committee 26

crime 41, 238, 385–88

and drugs 235

international and transnational 51–52, 57, 103, 131–32, 235

investigations 49, 51–52, 54, 56

prevention 168, 238, 286, 410

see also war crimes

crimes against humanity 49, 239, 385

CRPD 297–98

CSocD 164–67

CSTD 152–55

CSW 156–60, 261, 262

CTBTO 393–94

CTC 102–03

cultural bodies 24, 333–38, 370–72

culture 192, 333, 370

and development 362

and rights 43, 45, 46, 191, 232, 292–93

cybercrime 41

Cyprus 118–19, 212, 221, 222

D

Da’esh see ISIL

dangerous goods 188–90

Darfur (Sudan) 111

DCO 33, 208, 222–23, 244, 253

DDPA 40

death penalty 299

debt 46, 363, 374

Decent Work Agenda 322

Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace 58

Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium 273

Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples 70

Declaration on the Right to Development 39

Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities 36

decolonization 24, 70, 222

democracy 38, 121, 122, 244

Democratic Kampuchea 387

Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) 44, 50–51, 111–13, 393

Democratic Republic of the Congo 51, 57, 110, 121–22, 210, 221, 273

Department for General Assembly and Conference Management (DGACM) 149, 155, 157, 207, 217

Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) 149, 155, 195, 207, 216, 244

Department of Global Communications (DGC) 60, 207, 218, 244

Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance (DMSPC) 207, 218–19, 411

Department of Operational Support (DOS) 207, 219, 411

Department of Peace Operations (DPO) 207–08, 220–21, 222, 240

Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) 220, 221

Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) 63, 125, 208, 220, 221–22

Department of Public Information (DPI) 218

Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS) 208, 229

Deputy Secretary-General 206

DESA 149, 155, 195, 207, 216, 244

desertification 314–15, 321

developing countries 152, 184–85, 246, 288, 309

assistance to 148, 184, 251, 315, 358, 365, 379, 396

financial assistance to 260–61, 310, 314, 363, 374–76, 406

landlocked 174, 175, 236–37

development 64, 127, 128, 129, 130, 191, 262, 266, 283, 349

agricultural/rural 363

and peace 237, 398

bodies 143, 148–56, 164, 186–87, 216, 222–23, 236–37, 251–61, 262, 287–88

economic 138, 155, 172, 174, 177, 179, 192, 260, 317, 362, 375, 396, 402, 403, 405

finance and investment for 143, 173, 174, 179, 213, 237, 244, 252, 260–61, 320–22, 363, 373–75, 402–408, 411

human 254, 271, 404

inclusive 172, 174, 365, 367

industrial 365

right to 35–36, 37, 39, 45, 232

social 138, 155, 164, 172, 174, 177, 178–79, 192, 287, 362, 405

sustainable 121, 125, 155, 178, 226, 231, 236–37, 251, 278, 283, 285, 307, 321, 333, 351, 367–68

urban 272–73

see also Africa; Agenda for Sustainable Development; Asia; environment; regional development banks; science; Sustainable Development Goals; technology; trade

Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) 322

Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA) 322

Development Coordination Office (DCO) 33, 208, 222–23, 244, 253

DGACM 149, 155, 157, 195, 207, 217

DGC 60, 207, 218, 244

digital technology 184, 197, 226, 284, 351, 367, 406

see also information and communications technology

diplomacy 112, 125, 126, 130, 131, 211, 232

disabilities 37, 46, 213, 215, 246, 297–98

disappearances 46, 300

disarmament 23, 66–67, 72, 73, 80, 122, 124, 213, 217, 230–31, 284, 389, 410

disasters, responses to 113, 126, 143, 174, 233, 273, 349, 394, 406

see also emergencies

discrimination

against women and girls 48, 157, 240, 262, 291

racial 38, 40–41, 53, 293–94

religious 41, 53

displaced persons 47, 120, 121, 225, 269, 273, 398

disputes

financial 376

settlement of 69, 85, 96, 202–03, 215, 305–06, 362

staff 90

Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS) 76, 78, 228

Division for Palestinian Rights 63, 64

DMSPC 207, 218–19, 411

documentation 50, 51, 59, 64, 100–01, 189, 217

Doha Amendment (Kyoto Protocol) 317

Doha Programme of Action (for LDCs) 237

DOS 207, 219, 411

DPO 207–08, 220–21, 222, 240

DPPA 63, 125, 208, 220, 221–22

drought 278, 314–15

drugs, illicit 132, 144–45, 235, 394–95, 410

Dubai Postal Strategy 348

Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (DDPA) 40

E

early warning 221, 233, 238

Earth Summit (1992) 155, 190, 313, 317

East Jerusalem 53, 71, 94, 271

ECA 172–73

ECCC 386–87

ECLAC 177–78

e-commerce 252, 349

economic bodies 23, 172–79, 216, 251–52, 396

Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) 172–73

Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) 174

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) 177–78

Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) 178

Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) 126

Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) 131–32

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) 174–75

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) 178–79

Economic and Social Council see ECOSOC

economies in transition see transition economies

ECOSOC 39, 138–98, 216, 217, 224, 262, 365, 395, 410

Charter provisions 138

expert bodies 184–95

functional commissions 144–72

membership 138–42

presidents and vice-presidents 143

regional commissions 172–79

sessions and officers 143

standing committees 179–84

subsidiary bodies 144–98, 282

ecosystems 76, 77, 316

education 37, 138, 156, 192, 213, 246, 271, 333, 367

rights to 43, 46

Ejército de Liberación Nacional (ELN) 127

emergencies 113, 223–25, 246, 278, 379, 406

humanitarian response to 143, 271, 273, 398

employers 322–23

employment 138, 322, 367

EMRIP 35

EMRTD 35–36, 39

endangered species 315–16, 318

energy 126, 174, 179, 237, 260, 310

sustainable 176, 214

environment 46, 176, 184, 192, 216, 285, 286, 410

and development 155, 174, 237, 246, 367, 375, 405

bodies 267–685, 307–22

marine 77, 306, 358

protection of 189, 190, 306, 311–12, 320, 321, 346, 358, 365

urban 272–73

see also climate change

EOSG 206, 214–15

Eritrea 44, 106–07

ESCAP 174–75

ESCWA 178–79

ethics 243

ethnic cleansing 238

Ethiopia 57, 221

Europe 148, 175–76, 411

special representatives and envoys of the Secretary-General 212

European Agreement Concerning … Dangerous Goods by Inland Waterways 189

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) 322

European Union 116, 121, 261, 271

executions 46

Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG) 206, 214–15

Expert Mechanism on the Right to Development (EMRTD) 35–36, 39

Expert Mechanism on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (EMRIP) 35

Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia (ECCC) 386–87

extremism, violent 103, 131, 229, 242

F

FAO 171, 310, 321, 328–32

FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission (CAC) 332–33

FARC-EP 127

financial bodies 23, 26–27, 46, 74, 84, 87–88, 128, 129, 133, 143, 171, 197, 213, 260–61, 320–22, 363–64, 376–78

see also banks; development; regional development banks

financial crisis 38, 64, 215, 377

fish stocks 305

food 46, 260, 278–79, 317

security 279, 363

standards 332–33

Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN (FAO) 171, 310, 321, 328–32

Foreign Economic Cooperation Office (China) 322

foreign terrorist fighters (FTFs) 103, 108

see also terrorism

forests 171, 176, 321

Forum on Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law 38

Forum on Minority Issues 36

fraud 227, 404

freedoms 28, 34, 46, 48, 138

Fukushima 73, 394

Fundo Brasileiro para a Biodiversidade (FUNBIO) 322

G

G5-Sahel 131

Gambia 133

Gaza 71, 271, 272

GEF 267, 310, 312, 314, 315, 318, 320–22, 365

gender issues 48, 54, 55, 56, 131, 177, 246, 284, 287, 406

and equality 126, 173, 240, 244, 258, 261–62, 333, 404

see also sexual violence; women and girls

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) 396

General Assembly 12–94, 133, 155, 216, 221, 224, 228, 262, 410

Ad Hoc Working Group 79

advisory bodies 80–82

Charter provisions 12

expert bodies 83–94

intergovernmental bodies 28–79

Main Committees 23–25, 27, 59, 68, 197, 217, 218, 219, 228, 230

membership 12–17

Presidents and Vice-Presidents 17, 22

procedural committees 25–26

regional groups 15–17

sessions and officers 17–22

special sessions 17

standing committees 26–28

subsidiary and ad hoc bodies 28–94, 259, 273

General Committee 17, 25–26, 217

Geneva International Discussions 212, 222

genocide 102, 213, 238–40, 385

geographical names 193–94

geospatial information 194–95

girls see women and girls

Global Aids Strategy 281

Global Biodiversity Framework 314

Fund 321

Global Code of Ethics for Tourism 368

Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration 398

Global Compact on Refugees 269

Global Digital Compact 226

Global Environment Facility (GEF) 267, 310, 312, 314, 315, 318, 320–22, 365

Global Forest Financing Facilitation Network (GFFFN) 171

Global Forest Goals 171

Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction 233

globalization 37, 184

Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (‘Purple Book’) 190

good offices 125, 126, 129, 131, 215, 222

Golan 71, 117, 213

governance 122, 126, 128, 131, 171, 173, 191, 237, 254

global 285, 328

UN 87, 227, 262

Great Lakes region 133, 210, 222

Green Climate Fund 267

greenhouse gases 308, 309–10, 316–17

Group of Five for the Sahel 131

Group of Human Rights Experts on Nicaragua 55

Group of Independent Eminent Experts (IEE) on the Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (DDPA) 40–41

Group of Independent Experts on the Human Rights Situation in Belarus 56

Guatemala 133

Guinea-Bissau 114, 133

Gulf of Guinea Commission (GGC) 126, 131

Guterres, Antonio 206, 229, 253

H

Haiti 116, 127–28, 211, 222, 404

Haitian National Police (HNP) 128

hate crime 41

hate speech 41, 239

hazardous substances 48

see also waste

Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA) 148

health 37, 65, 73, 138, 184, 192, 244, 246, 311–12, 320, 340, 378

mental 46

reproductive 258–59

right to 46

staff (UN) 197, 219

see also HIV/AIDS; pandemic

heritage 339, 370

High-Level Advisory Board on Mediation 214

High-Level Committee on Management (HLCM) 196, 197–98

High-Level Committee on Programmes (HLCP) 196, 198

High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) 143, 155–56, 216

HIV/AIDS 37, 281–82

Hizbullah 119, 120, 129

HLCM 196, 197–98

HLCP 196, 198

HLPF 143, 155–56, 216

HONLEA 148

Horn of Africa 210, 222

host countries

of refugees 268, 269, 271

UN 62, 117, 283

housing 46, 176

Houthi movement 132

HRC 28–57, 232

Advisory Committee (HRCAC) 28, 33, 34

Complaint Procedure 28, 34

mandated investigations and related bodies 49–57

mechanisms of 32–39

membership of 29–32

Special Procedures 28, 32, 34, 43–48, 54, 56, 232

special rapporteurs, independent experts and working groups 32–33, 34, 37, 39, 43–48, 54, 55, 56

thematic working groups 39–43

Hudaydah Agreement 132, 213, 222

human resources 84, 87, 197, 218, 219

human rights 37, 121, 192, 226, 230, 238, 243, 244, 266, 322, 411

defenders 46

in Africa 44, 45, 51, 56, 57, 123, 124, 129, 130, 131

in Asia 44, 50–52, 53, 126

in Haiti 127

in the Middle East 44, 45, 49–50, 53, 55, 128, 271

of minorities 36

of older persons 37, 47, 79

of people of African descent 38, 40

of refugees 271

treaty bodies 32, 232, 289–300

see also HRC; international law; OHCHR

Human Rights Committee 299

Human Rights Council see HRC

human settlements 177, 272–74, 410

humanitarian affairs 130, 143, 223–25, 227, 233, 262, 271, 283, 285, 411

humanitarian assistance 109, 113, 115, 123, 124, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 143, 268, 271, 411

financing 224, 225

humanitarian bodies 23, 208, 210, 211, 212, 223–26, 259, 270–72

hunger 279

hydrology 353–54

I

IAAC 82

IAEA 73, 84, 378–84

IASC 224–26, 269

IBRD 321, 372, 373, 374, 375

ICAO 189, 345–48

ICC 51–52, 385–86

ICCROM 370–72

ICJ 52, 132, 202–03, 410

ICSC 84–85, 197

ICSID 372, 376

IDA 321, 372, 373, 374, 375

IDB 322, 403–04

Group 403–05

IDB Invest 404, 405

IDB Lab 404, 405

IEE 40–41

IFAD 321–22, 363–64

IFC 372, 374–75

IIIM 49

IIMM 51–52

IIMP 49–50

ILC 85–86, 228

ILO 73, 281, 322–27

IMF 376–78

IMO 189, 358–61

INCB 144, 394–95

Independent Audit Advisory Committee (IAAC) 82

Independent Institution on Missing Persons in the Syrian Arab Republic (IIMP) 49–50

Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory … 53

Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic 49

Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Ukraine 54

Independent International Fact-Finding Mission for the Sudan 56

Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela 52

Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Islamic Republic of Iran 55

Independent Investigative Mechanism for Myanmar (IIMM) 51–52

India 118, 212

Indian Ocean 58

Indigenous Peoples 35, 46, 192–93, 314

industrialization 237, 365, 402

Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions 100–01

Informal Working Group on International Tribunals 102

information and communications technology (ICT) 174, 197, 218, 219, 226, 351

infrastructure 177, 197, 271, 362, 375, 404, 406

inspections 112, 114, 136, 389, 390, 393–94

within UN 87, 227

insurance 375–76

integration, regional 172, 173, 176, 177, 178, 402, 404, 407

intellectual property 362–63

InterAction 225

Inter-Agency Coordination Group on Mine Action (IACG-MA) 221

Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (UN-Space) 236

Inter-Agency Standing Committee (IASC) 224–26, 269

Interagency Working Group on UN Sanctions 106

Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) 322, 403–04

Group 403–05

Inter-Departmental Task Force on African Affairs 237

Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) 124

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 307–09

Intergovernmental Working Group on the Effective Implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (DDPA) 40

internally displaced persons see displaced persons

International Arrangement on Forests (IAF) 171

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) 73, 84, 378–84

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) 321, 372, 373, 374, 375

International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) 372, 376

International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property (ICCROM) 370–72

International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) 189, 345–48

Technical Instructions for Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods 189

International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) 84–85, 197

International Commission on Human Rights Experts on Ethiopia 57

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) 225

International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems (ICG) 236

International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) 259

International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) 124, 126

International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance 300

International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants 397

International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism 59

International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings 59

International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism 59

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination 40, 294

International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families 295

International Council of Voluntary Agencies (ICVA) 225

International Court of Justice (ICJ) 52, 132, 202–03, 410

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 299

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 191, 292–93

International Criminal Court (ICC) 51–52, 385–86

International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) 230, 395

International Criminal Tribunal for … Rwanda … (ICTR) 102, 134, 135

International Criminal Tribunal … for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) 102, 134, 135

International Decade for People of African Descent 38, 40

International Development Association (IDA) 321, 372, 373, 374, 375

International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) 225

International Finance Corporation (IFC) 372, 374–75

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) 321–22, 363–64

International, Impartial and Independent Mechanism to assist in the Investigation and Prosecution the Most Serious Crimes under International Law committed in the Syrian Arab Republic (IIIM) 49

International Independent Expert Mechanism to Advance Racial Justice and Equality in Law Enforcement 53–54

International Labour Organization (ILO) 73, 281, 322–27

international law 65, 81, 85, 88–89, 202, 228, 269, 271, 385

criminal 239, 385

human rights 42, 49, 52, 53, 56, 239, 240, 385

humanitarian 49, 51, 52, 54, 56, 57, 102, 238, 239, 240, 385, 387

violations of 49, 51, 52, 53, 54, 56, 57, 102, 115, 238, 387

see also law of the sea

International Law Commission (ILC) 85–86, 228

International Maritime Organization (IMO) 189, 358–61

Dangerous Goods Code 189

International Monetary Fund (IMF) 376–78

International Monitoring System (IMS) (nuclear testing) 393

International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) 144, 394–95

international order and solidarity 47

International Organization for Migration (IOM) 398–99

International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) 333

International Red Cross and Red Crescent (IFRC) 225

International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (IRMCT) 102, 134–35

International Seabed Authority (ISA) 228, 302–05

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction 233

International Team of Experts on the Democratic Republic of the Congo 51

International Telecommunication Union (ITU) 350–53

International Trade Centre (ITC) 396, 410

International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) 305–06

International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) 319, 322

International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) 396–97

International Water Management Institute (IWMI) 319

Internet Governance Forum 213

INTERPOL 230, 395

interpretation services 59, 217, 234

investment 86–87, 93, 114, 174, 184, 367, 374–75, 402, 403, 405

disputes 376

see also development

Investments Committee 86–87

IOM 398–99

IPCC 307–09

Iran 44, 55, 273

Iraq 110, 128–29, 212, 221, 222

IRMCT 102, 134–35

ISA 228, 302–05

ISIL (Da’esh) 106, 107–08

Islamic Republic of Iran see Iran

Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant see ISIL

Islamophobia 213, 243

Israel 53, 71–72, 94, 117, 119, 129, 271

Defense Forces 119

Istanbul Declaration on Human Settlements 273

ITC 396, 410

ITLOS 305–06

ITU 350–53

Ituri province 110, 122

J

Jammu and Kashmir 118

Japan 73, 136, 320

JIU 87–88, 180, 215

Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism (JBVVM) 123

Joint Convention on the Safety of Spent Fuel Management and on the Safety of Radioactive Waste Management 380

joint FAO/WHO expert groups 333

Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) 87–88, 180, 215

Joint UN Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) 259, 281–82

Jordan 119, 271, 272

judges 46, 91, 92, 135, 203, 306, 385–86, 387, 388

justice 48, 50, 103, 124, 128, 202–03, 240, 410

criminal 53, 168, 234, 235, 286, 410

internal (UN) 90–92, 215, 218

racial 53–54

social 287, 322

see also law

K

Kampuchea see Cambodia

Kasai region 51

Kashmir 118

Kivu provinces, North and South 57, 110, 122

Korea, Armistice Agreement 136

Korea, Democratic People’s Republic of (DPRK) 44, 50–51, 111–13, 393

Korea, Republic of 136

Kosovo 121, 212

Force 121

Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework 314, 321

Kuwait 110, 128–29

Kyoto Protocol 307, 316, 317

L

labour 322–23

Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) 126, 131

landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) 174, 175, 236–37, 410

Latin America 81, 148, 177–78, 403–05, 410

Latin American Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone 379

law

enforcement 53–54, 148

rule of 38, 121, 124, 128, 130, 131, 215, 235, 240–41, 286, 404

see also international law; legal affairs

law of the sea 75, 228

treaty bodies 301–06

least developed countries (LDCs) 174, 175, 186–87, 236–37, 260–61, 285, 410, 412, 415

Fund 321

Lebanon 111, 117, 119–20, 129, 212, 221, 222, 271, 272

legal affairs 24, 65, 228, 410

leprosy 47

Liberia 133

libraries 81, 86, 218

Libya 114, 129–30, 210, 221, 222

Lima Declaration 365

List of World Heritage in Danger 339

literary and artistic works 362

loans 363, 373, 374, 377–78, 402, 404, 405, 406, 407

Lord’s Resistance Army 126

Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement 121

M

macroeconomics 172, 173, 174, 251

Mali 44, 117

management 82, 87, 196–97, 215, 218–19, 285

information 195, 224

risk 73, 82, 197, 227, 373

Mano River Union 131

maritime activities 132, 189, 358–59

boundary disputes 132, 305–06

sanctions on 112–13

media 104, 218

mediation 90, 126, 129, 131, 214, 222, 242, 243–44

mercenaries 47

mercury 320

meteorology 353, 354, 394

Middle East 147, 271–72, 284

peace process 63, 130, 212, 222

Quartet 130

special and personal representatives, envoys and special advisors of the Secretary-General 130, 212–13

MIGA 372, 373, 375–76

migrants and migration 47, 148, 235, 295, 398–99

crisis 273

Military Staff Committee 102

militias 110, 111

Minamata Convention on Mercury 320, 321

mines (explosive) 220–21, 230

minority issues 36, 47

MINURSO 120, 211, 220, 221

MINUSCA 116, 124–25, 210, 220

MISCA 116, 124

missing persons 49–50, 128–29

Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer 309–10, 321, 365

MONUSCO 110, 121–22, 210, 220

Morocco 120

Mouvement de 23 mars (M23) 122

Multilateral Investment Fund (MIF) 405

Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) 372, 373, 375–76

Multinational Security Support (MSS) mission to Haiti 128

Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office 255, 261

Myanmar 44, 51–52, 212, 222

N

Nagoya–Kuala Lumpur Supplementary Protocol … to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety 313

Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits … 313, 321

Nairobi Declaration on the Role and Mandate of the UN Environment Programme 267

narcotic substances see drugs, illicit

natural disasters 113, 126, 143, 237, 271, 273, 278

natural resources 126, 173, 177, 339

navigation

air 345–46

maritime 358, 359

N’Djamena Ceasefire Agreement 111

Near East 74, 147, 270–72

Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission (NNSC) 136

New Arrangements to Borrow (NAB) 377

New Urban Agenda 273

New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants 269, 398

Nicaragua 55

Nigeria 132, 221

Nigeria Trust Fund (NTF) 402

non-governmental organizations (NGOs) 43, 182, 285, 321, 345, 349

Non-Self-Governing Territories (NSGTs) 70, 200

North America 176

North Korea see Korea, Democratic People’s Republic of (DPRK)

Norway 133

Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) 67, 379

nuclear technology 378–80

nuclear weapons 67, 72, 73, 104, 110, 111, 230, 286, 379–80, 393–94

terrorism using 59, 379

nuclear weapon free zones 379

nutrition 246, 328, 363

O

OAJ 90, 91

oceans 75–78, 213, 228, 302, 306, 307, 353, 393

see also law of the sea; maritime activities; UNCLOS

Occupied Palestinian Territory see Palestine

OCHA 208, 223–26

ODET 208, 226

Office at Geneva (UNOG) 209, 217, 232

Office at Nairobi (UNON) 209, 217, 234

Office at Vienna (UNOV) 209, 217, 234

Office for Digital and Emerging Technologies (ODET) 208, 226

Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) 67, 209, 230–31

Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) 209, 213, 233, 244

Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) 209, 236

Office for Partnerships (UN Partnerships) 244

Office for Project Services (UNOPS) 233, 247, 255, 259, 262, 283, 389

Office for South–South Cooperation 255

Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) 208, 223–26

Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) 131–32, 211, 222

Office of Administration of Justice (OAJ) 90, 91

Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) 209, 229–30

Office of Information and Communications Technology (OICT) 195, 219, 226, 411

Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) 82, 208, 215, 227

Office of Legal Affairs (OLA) 81, 208, 228

Office of Special Missions (OSM) 390

Office of Staff Legal Assistance (OSLA) 90, 91

Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS) 236–37

Office of the Ombudsperson 106, 108

Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA) 210, 237

Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict (OSRSG-CAAC) 213, 239

Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict (OSRSG-SVC) 214, 240–41

Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence Against Children (OSRSG-VAC) 214, 241–42

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) 32, 36, 43–44, 50–51, 55, 56, 57, 208, 225, 232, 240

Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) accountability project 50–51

Fact-Finding Mission on the situation in the North and South Kivu provinces of the Democratic Republic of Congo (OFFMK) 57

Sri Lanka accountability project 52

Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) 227, 268–70, 281

Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon (UNSCOL) 120, 129, 212, 222

Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process (UNSCO) 130, 212, 222

Office of the Victims’ Rights Advocate (OVRA) 242

Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) 109, 144, 168, 209, 234–35, 281, 395

Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect 237–39

Office on West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) 126

Office to the African Union (UNOAU) 210, 222

OFFMK 57

OHCHR 32, 36, 43–44, 50–51, 55, 56, 57, 208, 225, 232, 240

OIOS 82, 208, 215, 227

OLA 81, 208, 228

older persons 37, 47, 79

ombudsperson see Office of the Ombudsperson; UN Ombudsman and Mediation Services

OPCW 388–92

Open-ended intergovernmental working group on an optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the rights to early childhood education, free pre-primary education and free secondary education 43

Open-ended intergovernmental working group on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights 42

Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group to elaborate the content of an international regulatory framework relating to the activities of private military and security companies 42

Open-ended Working Group on Ageing for the purpose of strengthening the protection of the human rights of older persons 79

Open-ended Working Group on the Question of Equitable Representation and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council 79

operational support 128, 219, 229

open source 226

Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) 388–92

Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) 121

OSAA 210, 237

OSLA 90, 91

OSRSG-CAAC 213, 239

OSRSG-SVC 214, 240–41

OSRSG-VAC 214, 241–42

outer space 65, 67, 72, 236, 284, 410

oversight bodies 82, 87, 208, 227

see also auditing

OVRA 242

ozone layer 309–10, 321

Ozone Secretariat 309–10

P

Pacific region 81, 148, 174–75, 200, 405–07, 411

special and personal representatives, envoys and advisors of the Secretary-General 211–12

Pact for the Future 133, 286

Pakistan 118, 212

Palau 200

Palestine 45, 53, 63–64, 71–72, 94, 117, 130, 212, 211, 271

see also Gaza

Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) 119, 130, 212

Palestinian Authority 130, 212

Palestinian people 63–66, 71, 130, 222

refugees 74, 270–71, 411

pandemics 113, 278

see also COVID-19 pandemic

Panel of Experts on Somalia 107

Panel of External Auditors 83, 84

Papua New Guinea 133

Paris Agreement 307, 316, 317

Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property 362

partnership bodies 143, 171, 244

Patent Cooperation Treaty 362

PBC 132–34

peace 121, 136, 230, 231, 242, 261–62, 266, 273, 322, 333, 378

international 69, 96, 102, 105, 119, 200, 215, 221

see also development

peacebuilding 123, 125, 130, 131, 132–33, 221–22, 246

Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) 132–34

Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) 132, 133, 221

peacekeeping 68, 100, 101, 102, 116, 117–24, 127, 129, 220, 221–22, 227, 228, 243

past operations 124

UN budgets 26, 117, 227, 410, 415–17

Permanent Court of Arbitration 202

Permanent Forum on People of African Descent 38–39

Permanent Observer Mission of the State of Palestine to the UN 63

persistent organic pollutants (POPs) 312, 321

personnel see staff (UN)

piracy 85, 126, 132

plants 315–16, 396–97

political affairs 211, 212, 215, 221–12, 410

Political Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation 124

Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation to Counter the World Drug Problem 144

pollution 267, 320, 358, 356

population 148, 177, 238, 258–59

see also rural populations

postal services 348–49

poverty 37, 47, 126, 173, 240

reducing/eradicating 171, 174, 246, 254, 273, 333, 363, 368, 372, 373, 404, 405

Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) 393–94

Preparatory Commission for the entry into force of the Agreement on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) … 76

privacy 47

private sector

contributions from 133, 216, 233, 237, 260, 286, 321, 365, 375

support for 173, 283, 285, 315, 365, 375, 404, 405, 406, 407

procedural issues 17, 25–26, 34, 43–44, 96, 100–01, 143, 149, 184

programme matters 179, 196, 198, 218

Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunitions 235

Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air 235

Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children 235

Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees 269

psychotropic substances see drugs, illicit

public administration 191

public information services 60, 70

public sector 365, 404, 405, 407

publication services 59, 81, 89, 177, 197, 217

R

racism and racial discrimination 38, 40, 41, 47, 53, 54, 218, 293–94

radiation see atomic energy/radiation

Ramsar Convention 319

recognized funds and programmes of the UN 246–80

reconciliation 50, 51, 52, 107, 109, 125

reconstruction 121, 129, 273

Red Cross and Red Crescent 225

refugees 56, 72, 74, 121, 268–71, 411

regional development banks 321, 402–08

regional meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA) 148

Regulations concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Rail 189

religion 36, 41, 47, 53, 138, 242

Repertory of Practice of UN Organs 228

Republic of Korea (ROK) 136

research and training institutes 284–89

Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone (RSCSL) 387–88

responsibility to protect 123, 213, 238–40

Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC-EP) 127

rights 44–48, 63, 138, 156, 223, 232, 258, 269, 291, 292–93, 322

see also children; human rights

Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development 155, 267

Rohingya population 52

Rome Statute 382–85

Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade 310, 311–12

RSCSL 387–88

rural populations 47, 273, 328, 363

Russian Federation 45, 54

Rwanda 102, 134–35, 238

S

safety 62, 189, 229, 411

air 345

maritime 358

nuclear 379–80

road 213

see also staff (UN)

Sahel 130–31, 133, 211, 222

sanctions 105–17, 125

de-listing 105–06, 107, 108, 109

exemptions 105, 106, 109, 110, 112, 113, 114, 115

lists 105, 109, 112

violations 107, 114, 115, 128

sanctions committees 100, 101, 105–17, 128

terminated 117

sanitation 48, 246

São Tomé and Principe 133, 186

SC Res. 1267/1989/2253 Sanctions Committee (ISIL (Da’esh) and Al-Qaida) 106, 107–08, 109

SC Res. 1518 Sanctions Committee (Iraq) 110

SC Res. 1533 Sanctions Committee (Democratic Republic of the Congo) 110

SC Res. 1540 Committee (Non-proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction by non-state actors) 104–05

SC Res. 1566, Working Group established Pursuant to 101

SC Res. 1591 Sanctions Committee (Sudan) 111

SC Res. 1636 Sanctions Committee (Lebanon) 111

SC Res. 1718 Sanctions Committee (Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK)) 111–13

SC Res. 1970 Sanctions Committee (Libya) 114

SC Res. 1988 Sanctions Committee (Taliban) 108, 109

SC Res. 2048 Sanctions Committee (Guinea-Bissau) 114

SC Res. 2140 Sanctions Committee (Yemen) 115

SC Res. 2206 Sanctions Committee (South Sudan) 115

SC Res. 2374 Sanctions Committee (Mali) 117

SC Res. 2653 Sanctions Committee (Haiti) 116

SC Res. 2713 Sanctions Committee (Al-Shabaab) 106–07

SC Res. 2745 Sanctions Committee (Central African Republic) 116

scales of assessment 412–17

for UN peacekeeping budgets, ad hoc 415–17

for UN regular budget 412–14

science

advances in 230, 231, 309

and development 152, 156, 174, 236, 237

bodies 73–74, 77–78, 152–55, 288–89, 307–09, 333–38, 378–84

SDGs see Sustainable Development Goals

seabed 302, 306

Sea-Bed Treaty 67

Secretariat 206–44, 365

Charter provisions 206

office in Nairobi 234

offices and departments 206–09, 214–44

offices and departments in Geneva 232–33

offices and departments in New York 214–31

offices and departments in Vienna 234–36

other entities 242–44

special and personal representatives, envoys and advisers 236–42

structure and officers 206–14

Secretariat for the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (Ozone Secretariat) 309–10

Secretariat of the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm Conventions 310–12

Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) 313–14

Secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) 315–16

Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS or Bonn Convention) 318–19

Secretariat of the Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention) 319

Secretariat of the Minamata Convention on Mercury 320

Secretariat of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification in Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa (UNCCD) 314–15

Secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 316–18

Secretary-General 12, 206, 221

Executive Office of 206, 214–15, 244

special and personal representatives, envoys and advisers 118, 120, 121, 125, 129, 130, 131, 132, 210–14, 221, 222, 226, 231, 233, 236–42

security 125, 127, 128, 213, 231, 243, 261–62, 266, 333, 349

climate 131

international 23, 69, 72, 73, 80, 96, 102, 105, 119, 121, 200, 215, 217, 221, 231, 284

maritime 132, 358

sector 42, 122, 124, 130, 241

within UN 62, 197, 229, 234

security companies, private 42

Security Council 63, 96–136, 212, 220, 221, 222, 224, 239, 262, 385, 415

Charter provisions 96

commissions 132–34

Counter-Terrorism Committee 102–03

international tribunals 134–35

membership 79, 96–99

Military Staff Committee 102

other organizations 136

peacekeeping operations 117–24

sanctions committees 105–17

SC Res. 1540 Committee (Non-proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction) 104–05

special political missions 125–32, 243

standing committees 100

subsidiary bodies 100–36

working groups and ad hoc working groups 100–02

self-determination 47

Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 233

settlements see human settlements

sexual exploitation and abuse 47, 214, 242

sexual orientation 48

sexual violence 50, 115, 214, 240–41

Sierra Leone 387–88

Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs 145, 394

slavery 48, 53

small and medium enterprises (SMEs) 396

see also business enterprises

small island developing states (SIDS) 174, 175, 236–37, 260, 285, 406, 410

social affairs 196, 215, 217, 232, 285, 404, 410

bodies 23, 191, 216, 287–88, 292–93, 322–27

see also development

Social Forum 37

solidarity, international 47, 63, 64, 269

Somalia 45, 106–07, 130–31, 132, 210, 221, 222

South–South Cooperation 214, 241

South Korea 136

South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone 379

South Sudan 50, 115, 123–24, 133, 211, 221

Space2030 agenda 65

Space Mission Planning Advisory Group 236

Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide 213, 238

Special Adviser on the Responsibility to Protect 213, 238

Special Climate Change Fund 321

Special Committee on Decolonization 70–71, 222

Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C34) 68–69, 101

Special Committee on the Charter of the UN and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization 69–70

Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (C24) 70–71

Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories 71

Special Court for Sierra Leone (SCSL) 387

special political missions 125–32, 222, 227, 228

past 132

Special Procedures 29, 32, 34, 43–48, 54, 56, 232

specialized agencies and other related bodies 322–99

SPT 289, 290–91

Sri Lanka 52

SRSG-CAAC 213, 239

SRSG-SVC 214, 240–41

SRSG-VAC 214, 241–42

stability 109, 112, 115, 116, 121, 122, 126, 127, 128, 129

staff (UN) 84, 242, 412

education and training 284–85

services for 90–91, 243–44, 284–85

pensions 93

safety 62, 197

standard of living 46, 138, 271

standing committees see ECOSOC; General Assembly; Security Council

state-building 123, 130

stateless persons 268

see also refugees

Statistical Commission 161–63

statistics 161, 173, 174, 177, 179, 197, 354, 377

Steering Committee for Humanitarian Response (SCHR) 225

Stockholm Conference on the Human Environment 267

Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants 310, 312, 321, 365

strategic planning 198, 215, 333, 345

Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East 147–48

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals 188, 190

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods 188, 189–90

Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture (SPT) 289, 290–91

Sudan 56, 111, 123, 132, 211, 221, 222

see also South Sudan

sustainable development agenda 226

see also Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030)

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 32, 77, 156, 233, 237, 262, 286, 363

advancing 164, 174, 177, 191, 216, 244, 246, 254, 266, 273, 279, 315, 351, 363, 365, 368, 379, 396

bodies 143, 214, 244, 253–54

Sweden 136, 261

Switzerland 136, 261

Syrian Arab Republic 45, 49–50, 119, 212, 213, 221, 222, 271, 272, 389–90

Syrian Golan 71, 213

T

Taliban 101, 107–09, 125

taxation 184–85

TDB 251, 252

Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict 240–41

technology 173, 197, 230, 284, 285, 378–80

emerging 62, 73, 226, 231, 286

for development 152, 179, 237

space 236, 284

see also digital technology; information and communications technology

telecommunications 350–51

terrorism 59, 101, 102, 107, 111, 126, 131, 235, 240, 243, 379

counter-terrorism 48, 102–03, 229–30, 235, 286, 410

see also foreign terrorist fighters; nuclear weapons

Timor Leste 133

torture 48, 289–90

tourism 367–68

toxic substances 48, 312, 389

see also waste

trade 88–89, 173, 176, 177, 179, 184, 237, 349, 377

and development 174, 251–52, 410

in drugs 394–95

in endangered species 315–16

law 88–89, 228

Trade and Development Board 251, 252

trafficking 126, 131, 311, 379

arms 104, 235

drugs 132s, 235

in persons 48, 235

training institutes 284–89

transition economies 184, 251, 281, 288, 310, 321, 396

transnational corporations 37, 42, 45

transparency 67, 72, 101, 104, 197, 230, 236, 261, 274

transport 174, 176, 179, 237, 358–59

of dangerous goods 188–90

see also aviation

treaty and related bodies 23, 191, 289–322

Treaty of Bangkok 379

Treaty of Pelindaba 379

Treaty of Rarotonga 379

Treaty of Tlatelolco 379

Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) 67, 379

Treaty on the Prohibition of the Emplacement of Nuclear Weapons ... on the Sea-Bed and the Ocean Floor … (Sea-Bed Treaty) 67

tribunals 51

internal (UN) 90–92, 215

international 51, 102, 134–35, 305–06, 388

trust territories 200

Trusteeship Council 200

truth 48

U

Ukraine 54, 221

UN Action Against Sexual Violence in Conflict 241

UN Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) 213, 242–43

UN Appeals Tribunal (UNAT) 90, 91, 92, 215

UN Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) 128–29, 212, 222

UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) 109, 125–26, 211, 222

UN Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) 130, 132

UN Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) 255, 260–61

UN Charter 69

Economic and Social Council 138

General Assembly 12, 138

International Court of Justice 202

Secretariat 206, 226

Security Council 96, 124

Secretary-General 215

Trusteeship Council 200

UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) 225, 246–51, 259, 262, 281

UN Command in Korea (UNC) 136

UN Command Military Armistice Commission (UNCMAC) 136

UN Commission see Commission

UN Committee see Committee

UN Conciliation Commission for Palestine 72

UN Conference see Conference

UN Convention see Convention

UN Counter-Terrorism Centre (UNCCT) 230

UN Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network (PNI) 168

UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples 35, 192

UN Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities 36

UN Democracy Fund (UNDEF) 244

UN Department see Department

UN DESA see DESA

UN Development Coordination Office (DCO) 33, 208, 222–23, 253

UN Development Group (UNDG) 253

UN Development Programme (UNDP) 33, 210, 211, 240, 247, 253, 254–58, 259, 260, 261, 262, 281, 283, 321

UN Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of an International Criminal Court 385

UN Disarmament Commission (UNDC) 72–73, 230

UN Disarmament Information Programme 80

UN Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) 117, 119, 213, 220

UN Dispute Tribunal (UNDT) 90, 91, 92, 215

UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) 174–75

UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) 172–73

UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) 175–76, 188

UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) 281, 333–38, 339, 370

UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) 157, 244, 247, 259, 261–66, 281, 410

UN Environment Assembly (UNEA) 267

UN Environment Programme (UNEP) 73, 227, 234, 267–68, 307, 309, 311, 312, 313, 320, 321

UN Ethics Office 243

UN Fish Stocks Agreement 305

UN Forest Instrument 171

UN Forum on Business and Human Rights 37–38

UN Forum on Forests (UNFF) 170–72, 216

UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) 227, 307, 316–18, 321, 365

UN Fund for International Partnerships (UNFIP) 244

UN General Assembly see General Assembly

UN Global Compact 244, 365

UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact 103, 229, 230

UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy 103, 229–30

UN Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) 193–94

UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) 32, 36, 43–44, 50–51, 55, 56, 57, 208, 225, 232, 240

UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) 227, 268–70, 271, 281

UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) 227, 234, 272–78

UN India–Pakistan Observation Mission (UNIPOM) 118

UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) 321, 365–67

UN Information Centres 218

UN Information System on the Question of Palestine (UNISPAL) 64

UN Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) 80, 284

UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) 285–86

UN Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH) 127–28, 211, 222

UN Integrated Strategy for the Sahel (UNISS) 131

UN Integrated Transition Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS) 132

UN Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) 121, 212, 220

UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) 117, 119–20, 129, 212, 220

UN Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) 123, 211, 220, 221

UN Internal Justice System 90–92

UN International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) 144, 281

UN International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (IRMCT) 102, 134–35

UN International School (UNIS) 214

UN Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) 286–87

UN Joint Staff Pension Board 87, 93

UN Joint Staff Pension Fund (UNJSPF) 86, 93, 227

UN Library Endowment Fund 86

UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) 117, 118, 212, 220

UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) 220–21

UN Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH) 127

UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) 120, 211, 220, 221

UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) 115, 123–24, 211, 220

UN Mission to support the Hudaydah Agreement (UNMHA) 132, 213, 222

UN Model Double Taxation Convention between Developed and Developing Countries 184, 185

UN Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) 116, 124–25, 210, 220

UN Network on Migration 398

UN Office see Office

UN Ombudsman and Mediation Services (UNOMS) 243–44

UN Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea 75

UN Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) 110, 121–22, 210, 220

UN Partnerships 244

UN Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO) 132, 221

UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) 118–19, 212, 220

UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFII) 192–93

UN Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) 236

UN Population Award 259

UN Population Fund (UNFPA) 149, 247, 255, 258–60, 262, 281, 283

UN Recommendations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods (‘Orange Book’) 189

UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) 227, 268–70, 281

UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC) 231

UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (UNRCPD) 231

UN Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UN-LiREC) 231

UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) 126–27, 211, 222

UN Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA) 126, 210, 222

UN Register of Damage ... in the Occupied Palestinian Territory (UNRoD) 94

UN Register of Objects Launched into Outer Space 236

UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) 74, 270–72

UN Representative to the Geneva International Discussions (UNGRID) 212

UN Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) 287–88

UN Resident Coordination System (RCS) 234

UN Satellite Centre (UNOSAT) 285

UN Scientific Committee on the Effects of Atomic Radiation (UNSCEAR) 73–74

UN Security Management System (UNSMS) 229

UN Special Coordinator for Lebanon 120, 129, 212, 222

UN Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process 130, 212, 222

UN Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa (UNSAC) 126

UN Strategic Plan for Forests 171

UN Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech 239

UN Study on Violence Against Children 241

UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) 129–30, 210, 222

UN Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG) 222–23, 253–54, 255

UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) 196–97, 198, 215, 253

UN System Staff College (UNSSC) 284–85

UN Tourism 367–70

UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD) 153, 251–52, 396

UN Transitional Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNTMIS) 130–31, 210, 222

UN Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) 117–18, 212, 220

UN Trust Fund for Disaster Reduction 233

UN University (UNU) 288–89

UN Verification Mission in Colombia 127, 211, 222

UN Volunteers (UNV) 255, 266

UN Youth Office 209, 231, 244

UNAIDS 259, 281–82

UNAMA 109, 125–26, 211, 222

UNAMI 128–29, 212, 222

UNAOC 213, 242–43

UNAT 90, 91, 92, 215

UNC 136

UNCCD 227, 314–15, 321

UNCDF 255, 260–61

UNCED 155, 190, 313, 317

UNCITRAL 88–90, 228

UNCLOS 75, 76, 228, 301, 302, 305–06

UNCSGN 194

UNCTAD 153, 251–52, 396

UNDC 72–73, 230

UNDOF 117, 119, 213, 220

UNDP 33, 210, 211, 240, 247, 253, 254–58, 259, 260, 261, 262, 281, 283, 321

UNDRR 209, 213, 233, 244

UNDSS 209, 229

UNDT 90, 91, 92, 215

UNECE 175–76, 188

UNEP 73, 227, 234, 267–68, 307, 309, 311, 312, 313, 320, 321

UNESCO 281, 333–38, 339, 370

UNFF 170–72, 216

UNFCCC 227, 307, 316–18, 321, 365

UNFICYP 118–19, 212, 220

UNFPA 149, 247, 255, 258–60, 262, 281, 283

UNGEGN 193–94

UN-GGIM 194–95

UN-Habitat 227, 234, 272–78

UNHCR 227, 268–70, 271, 281

UNICEF 225, 246–51, 259, 262, 281

UNICRI 286–87

UNIDIR 80, 284

UNIDO 321, 365–67

UNIFIL 117, 119–20, 129, 212, 220

unilateral coercive measures 48

UNISFA 123, 211, 220, 221

UNITAR 285–86

Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) 262

Universal Periodic Review (UPR) 28, 32–33, 232

Universal Postal Congress 348, 349

Universal Postal Union (UPU) 348–50

UNJSPF 86, 93, 227

UNMAS 220–21

UNMHA 132, 213, 222

UNMIK 121, 212, 220

UNMISS 115, 123–24, 211, 220

UNMOGIP 117, 118, 212, 220

UNOCA 126, 210, 222

UN-Oceans 228

UNOCT 209, 229–30

UNODA 67, 209, 230–31

UNODC 109, 144, 168, 209, 234–35, 281, 395

UNOG 209, 217, 232, 234

UN-OHRLLS 236–37

UNOMS 243–44

UNON 209, 217

UNOOSA 209, 236

UNOP see UN Partnerships

UNOPS 233, 247, 255, 259, 262, 283, 389

UNOV 209, 217, 234

UNOWAS 131–32, 211, 222

UNPFII 192–93

UNRCCA 126–27, 211, 222

UNRISD 287–88

UNRoD 94

UNRWA 74, 270–72

UNSCEAR 73–74

UNSCO 130, 212, 222

UNSCOL 120, 129, 212, 222

UNSDG 222–23, 253–54, 255

UNSMIL 129–39, 210, 222

UNSSC 284–85

UN-Space 236

UNTMIS 130–31, 210, 222

UNTSO 117–18, 212, 220

UNU 288–89

UNV 255, 266

UN-Women 157, 244, 247, 259, 261–66, 281, 410

UPOV 396–97

UPR 28, 32–33, 232

UPU 348–50

urbanization 272–74

USA 102, 261

V

Vancouver Declaration on Human Settlements 273

Venezuela 52, 273

victims

rights for 214, 242

support for 49–50, 51, 52, 53, 101, 241, 242, 278, 387, 388

Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer 309–10

Vienna Convention on Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage 380

Optional Protocol concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes 380

violence 48, 50, 114, 128

see also children; extremism, violent; sexual violence; women and girls

Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) 216

volunteers 266

W

war crimes 49, 56, 239, 385

waste 267, 311, 320, 321, 358

electronic and electrical 285, 311

hazardous 48, 189, 311, 320

water 48, 77, 179, 246, 321, 353, 354

WBG 372–76

weapons 66–67, 72, 126, 230–31, 235, 284

of mass destruction 67, 104, 111, 230, 231, 284, 389

see also biological weapons; chemical weapons; nuclear weapons

West Africa 130–31, 132, 211, 222

West African Development Bank (BOAD) 322

West Bank (Palestine) 71, 271, 272

Western Asia 178–79, 411

Western Sahara 120, 211, 221, 222

wetlands 319

Wetlands International 319

WFP 247, 262, 278–80, 281

WHC 334, 339–40

WHO 73, 144, 259, 281, 332, 333, 340–45, 395

Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust 319

WIPO 362–63

WMO 233, 244, 307, 353–57

women and girls 55, 156–57, 179, 244, 273, 363

empowerment 126, 173, 244, 260, 261–62, 286, 367

participation of 121, 128, 133, 237, 261

trafficking in 48, 235

violence against 48, 261

see also discrimination; gender issues

workers 112, 295, 322–23

Working Group Established Pursuant to SC Res. 1566 (2004) 101

Working Group of Experts on people of African descent 45, 54

Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict (CAAC) 100, 239

Working Group on Communications (WGC) 34

Working Group on Communications on the Status of Women 157

Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations 101

Working Group on Situations (WGS) 34

Working Group on the Financing of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East 74–75

Working Group on the Right to Development 39

World Bank 225, 281, 321, 372

Group (WBG) 372–76

World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (2001) 40

World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction 233

World Conference on Human Rights (1993) 232

World Conferences on Women 156

World Customs Organization (WCO) 230, 395

World Export Development Forum (WEDF) 396

World Food Conference (1974) 279, 363

World Food Programme (WFP) 247, 262, 278–80, 281, 328

World Health Organization (WHO) 73, 144, 259, 281, 332, 333, 340–45, 395

World Heritage Committee (WHC) 334, 339–40

World Heritage Convention 339

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) 362–63

World Investment Forum 252

World Meteorological Organization (WMO) 233, 244, 307, 353–57

World Ocean Assessments 77–78

World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) 333

World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC) 351

World Summit for Social Development (1995) 164

World Summit on Sustainable Development (2002) 77

World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) 153

World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC) 351

World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) 351

World Tourism Organization (UN Tourism) 367–70

World Trade Organization (WTO) 333, 365, 396

World Wildlife Fund 319, 322

WTO 365, 396

Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures 333

X

xenophobia 38, 40, 41, 47, 54

Y

Yemen 115, 132, 213, 221, 222

youth 121, 133, 218, 237, 258–59, 273, 363, 367

bodies 133, 143, 231

Youth2030 231

Youth Forum 143

Yugoslavia, former 15, 102, 134