



# General Assembly

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## Fifty-fifth session

### **Report of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly in 2001 for Follow-up to the World Summit for Children on its organizational session\***

#### **I. Introduction**

1. At its fifty-fourth session, the General Assembly, in its resolution 54/93 of 7 December 1999, entitled "Special session of the General Assembly in 2001 for follow-up to the World Summit for Children", decided to establish an open-ended preparatory committee to prepare for the outcome of the special session.
2. The General Assembly further requested the preparatory committee to convene one organizational session on 7 and 8 February 2000 and one substantive session from 30 May to 2 June 2000.

#### **II. Organizational matters**

##### **A. Opening and duration of the organizational session**

3. The Preparatory Committee held its organizational session at Headquarters on 7 and 8 February 2000. In the course of its session, the Preparatory Committee held four meetings.
4. The session was opened by the President of the General Assembly, Theo-Ben Gurirab (Namibia), who also addressed the session.
5. The Chairman made an introductory statement after her election at the 1st meeting, on 7 February.

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\* The present document contains the report of the Preparatory Committee on its organizational session. The report on the substantive session will be issued separately in document A/55/43 (Part II). The final report will be issued as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-fifth Session, Supplement No. 43 (A/55/43)*.

6. The Executive Director and the Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) also made statements.

## **B. Officers**

7. At its 1st and 3rd meetings, on 7 and 8 February, the Preparatory Committee elected the following officers by acclamation:

*Chairman:*

Patricia **Durrant** (Jamaica)

*Vice-Chairmen:*

Madina Ly **Tall** (Mali)

Anwarul Karim **Chowdhury** (Bangladesh)

Lidija **Topic** (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Hanns **Schumacher** (Germany)

8. At its 3rd meeting on 8 February, the Preparatory Committee designated Lidija Topic (Bosnia and Herzegovina) Vice-Chairman with rapporteurial responsibilities.

## **C. Agenda**

9. At its 1st meeting, on 7 February, the Preparatory Committee adopted the agenda for its organizational session, contained in document A/AC.256/1/Rev.1, as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Preparations for the special session.
4. Participation of non-governmental organizations.
5. Arrangements for future sessions of the Preparatory Committee.
6. Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee on its organizational session.

## **D. Documentation**

10. The Preparatory Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Provisional agenda (A/AC.256/1/Rev.1);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General entitled "Proposals on the preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly in 2001 for follow-up to the World Summit for Children" (A/AC.256/2).

## **III. Work of the organizational session**

11. At its 1st meeting, on 7 February, the Preparatory Committee approved the programme of work for its organizational session proposed by the Chairman.

12. At the same meeting, the Deputy Executive Director of UNICEF introduced the report of the Secretary-General entitled "Proposals on the preparatory process for the special session of the General Assembly in 2001 for follow-up to the World Summit for Children" (A/AC.256/2).

13. The Preparatory Committee held a general exchange of views on agenda items 3, 4, 5 and 6 during the course of its organizational session. Various proposals were put forward by delegations.

14. At its 4th meeting, on 8 February, the Preparatory Committee considered the draft report on its organizational session (A/AC.256/L.1).

## IV. Decisions

15. At its 4th meeting, on 8 February, the Preparatory Committee adopted the following decisions:

### **Decision 1 Provisional organization of work for the first substantive session of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session of the General Assembly in 2001 for Follow-up to the World Summit for Children**

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#### *Date/time*

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#### **30 May-2 June 2000**

##### **Tuesday, 30 May**

10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Opening of the session Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters Introduction of the report of the Secretary-General (see resolution 54/93, para. 9)
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	General discussion Panel discussion I: review and assessment, including constraints encountered in implementing the goals of the World Summit

##### **Wednesday, 31 May**

10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Draft proposed outline of the outcome of the special session: identification of key issues and trends General discussion
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	Panel discussion II: (a) emerging issues; (b) future action for children

##### **Thursday, 1 June**

10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Participation of non-governmental organizations in the special session General discussion Organizational arrangements for the special session General discussion
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*Date/time*

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	Introduction of proposals
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	Informal consultations
<b>Friday, 2 June</b>	
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	Provisional agenda for the second substantive session of the Preparatory Committee
	Informal consultations
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	Action on proposals
	Adoption of the report of the Preparatory Committee
	Closure of the session

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## **Decision 2**

### **Participation of non-governmental organizations**

The Preparatory Committee, recalling General Assembly resolution 54/93, paragraph 14 in which the Assembly recognized the important role of all relevant actors, including non-governmental organizations, in the preparatory process, including in the preparatory committee:

(a) Decides that the work of the Preparatory Committee should be open to the participation of non-governmental organizations that are accredited in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996 or are accredited with UNICEF;

(b) Also decides that, in addition, other non-governmental organizations that are not accredited either to the Economic and Social Council or to UNICEF but that have a collaborative relationship and partnership with UNICEF pursuant to its mandate to obtain from non-governmental organizations having a special interest in child and family welfare the advice and technical assistance which it may require for the implementation of its programmes,<sup>1</sup> will also be invited to participate in the meetings of the Preparatory Committee. A list of those non-governmental organizations should be provided to the Preparatory Committee by 31 March 2000. The non-governmental organizations on the list will be approved by the Preparatory Committee on a no-objection basis by 30 April 2000;

(c) Encourages Governments to include representatives of civil society in their national and regional preparatory processes;

(d) Decides to defer any decision on accreditation and modalities for the participation of non-governmental organizations in the special session of the General Assembly to future sessions of the Preparatory Committee.

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<sup>1</sup> General Assembly resolution 417 (V).

**Decision 3**  
**Arrangements for future sessions of the Preparatory Committee**

The Preparatory Committee decides to defer its decision on arrangements for future sessions to its first substantive session, to be held from 30 May to 2 June 2000.

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