

Volume 3 – Number 2

N e w s f r o m **E C O S O C**

Newsletter on the work of the United Nations Economic and Social Council

ECOSOC -- The 54-member Economic and Social Council serves as the central forum for discussing international economic and social issues, and for formulating policy recommendations addressed to Member States and to the United Nations. It makes or initiates studies and reports; makes recommendations on international economic, social, cultural, educational, health and related matters; and promotes respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms. Subsidiary bodies, commissions and committees of ECOSOC carry out its year-round work. ECOSOC strengthens cooperation within the UN system, coordinates the work of the specialized agencies and consults with non-governmental organizations. A substantive session of the Council is convened annually in July, and supplementary formal meetings as well as informal panels on topical issues are held throughout the year.

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This year, the High-Level segment of the Economic and Social Council, to be held from 28-30 June in New York, will address: “Resources Mobilization and Enabling Environment for Poverty Eradication in the Context of the Implementation of the Programme

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**igh Level segment preparatory
meetings (continued)**

The meeting featured keynote addresses by Mr. Carlos Magariños, Director-General of UNIDO; Mr. Raghuram G. Rajan, Chief Economist of IMF; Mr. Jean-

civil society in governance arrangements. The Forum will constitute an important contribution to the Secretary-General's consultations on Internet governance, leading up to the formation of a Working Group on the subject.

Resumed Organizational Session

The resumed organization session of the Council was held on 4 May. During the session, the Council elected members to a number of its subsidiary body.

The Council completed its Statistical Commission with the election, by acclamation, of China and Japan from the Asian States; Hungary from the Eastern European States; Colombia and Mexico from the Latin American and Caribbean States; and Germany, Netherlands and the United Kingdom from the Western European and Other States. They will all serve four-year terms beginning on 1 January 2005.

Also by acclamation, the Council then elected the following countries to the Commission on Population and Development for four-year terms beginning on 1 January 2005: Cameroon, Comoros and Morocco from the Group of African States; Bangladesh, Indonesia and Malaysia from the Group of Asian States; Bulgaria from the Group of Eastern European States; Brazil, Guyana and Peru from the Group of Latin American and Caribbean States; and Canada and Germany from the Group of Western European and Other States. The Council postponed the election of two members from the Western European and Other States.

Addressing the Commission's outstanding six vacancies, the Council elected, without a vote, Pakistan from the Asian Group, to fill one of them. The remaining outstanding vacancies were postponed. They included: one member from the Latin

American and Caribbean States, expiring on 31 December 2004; two members from the Asian States, expiring on 31 December 2005; one member each from the Eastern European States and the Latin American and Caribbean States, both expiring on 31 December 2007.

Turning to the Commission for Social Development, the Council elected, also by acclamation, the following countries for four-year terms, beginning in 2005: Angola, Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Africa and the United Republic of Tanzania from the African Group; Bangladesh, China, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Myanmar from the Asian Group; the Czech Republic from the Eastern European States; Bolivia, Paraguay and Venezuela from the Latin American and Caribbean Group; and Finland, Italy and the Netherlands from the Western European and Other States.

The Council decided to postpone elections for the following vacancies, which were also supposed to begin in 2005: one African member; one Eastern European member; and one Western European member. Also, the Republic of Moldova was elected to fill an outstanding vacancy that would begin today and expire in 2008.

Taking up elections for the Commission on Human Rights, the Council elected the following members by acclamation for three-year terms beginning on 1 January 2005: Guinea, Kenya, the Sudan and Togo from the African States; Armenia and Romania from the Eastern European States; and Ecuador and Mexico from the Latin American and Caribbean States.

A secret ballot was used to elect the remaining members. From the Asian States, the results of the vote were as follows: Malaysia, 51; Republic of Korea, 45; Pakistan, 43; and Viet Nam, 23. Thus, Malaysia,

Turning to the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Marjatta Rasi (Finland), Council President, announced that in accordance with resolution 2000/22, she had appointed eight experts, based on diversity and geographical distribution, to three-year terms, beginning on 1 January 2005. They were: Michael Dodson (Australia); Hassan Id Balkassm (Morocco); Wilton Littlechild (Canada); Aqqaluk Lynge (Denmark); Nina Pacari Vega (Ecuador); Pavel Sulyandziga (Russian Federation); Victoria Tauli-Corpuz (Philippines); and Parshuram Tamang (Nepal).

The following eight candidates were elected, by acclamation, to the same term: Njuma Ekundanayo (Democratic Republic of the Congo) and William Ralph Joey Langeveldt (South Africa) from the African States; Qin Xiaomei (China) from the Asian States; Yuri Boychenko (Russian Federation) from the Eastern European States; Eduardo Aguiar de Almeida (Brazil) and Otilia Lux de Coti (Guatemala) from the Latin American and Caribbean States; and Ida Nicolaisen (Denmark) from the Western European and Other States.

The Council decided to postpone the election of one member from the Eastern European States for the same term.

For three-year terms beginning on 1 January 2005, the Council elected the following to the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund by acclamation: Mozambique from the Group of African States; China and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea from the Group of Asian States; the Russian Federation and Ukraine from the Eastern European States; Argentina and Bolivia from the Latin American and Caribbean States; and Australia, Germany, Japan, and the Netherlands from the Western European and Other States.

Because Denmark and Canada were resigning, the Council elected by acclamation: Finland to complete Denmark's term, which would end on 31 December 2006; and Norway to complete Canada's term, which would end on 31 December 2005.

The Council then elected, by acclamation, Egypt and Zambia to the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Turning to the Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme/United Nations Population Fund,

the Council elected by acclamation, the 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 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the African States; India and Nepal from the Asian States; the Russian Federation from the Eastern European States; and Brazil from the Latin American and Caribbean States. Elections to the same term, for two members from the Western European and other States, were postponed.

Elected by acclamation to four-year terms, beginning on 1 January 2005, for the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, were the following members: Ghana, Libya, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania from the African States; Bangladesh, China and the United Arab Emirates from the Asian States; the Czech Republic from the Eastern European States; and Belgium, Canada and France from the Western European and Other States.

Elections to the same term for one Asian member, one Eastern European member, three Latin American and Caribbean members and two Western European members were postponed.

The Council then took up a vacancy on the International Narcotics Control Board, which had arisen, owing to the resignation of Jacques Franquet (France). The election was conducted by secret ballot and involved a term beginning today and expiring on 1 March 2007. The results were expected this afternoon.

The Council then conducted one more election by secret ballot. It was intended to choose one additional member of the International Narcotics Control Board from a list of three nominees provided by the World Health Organization. The post entailed a five-year term beginning on 2 March 2005. The results were expected this afternoon.

Committee on Non-Governmental organizations 2004 Regular Session

Committee on Non-Governmental organizations 2004 Regular Session

At its 2004 regular session, from 10 to 28 May 2004, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations had before it 170 applications for consultative status, including applications deferred from its 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001 sessions. Of those applications, the Committee recommended 114 applications for consultative status of which 19 were recommended ad referendum, deferred 41 organizations for further consideration at a later date, did not recommend four organizations, close consideration of three organizations and closed consideration of one complaint by a member state. The Committee had also before it seven requests of reclassification of consultative status which it recommended. In addition, it reviewed 63 quadrennial reports. The Committee heard 22 representatives of seven requ (Th

tive status of the Transnational Radical Party for three years.

By draft decision IV, the Economic and Social Council would take note of the present report. The report also brings to the attention of the ECOSOC the decision to: (i) reinstate the organization “Reporters Without Borders”; and (ii) request the “Organization for Peace (ASOPAZCO)” to produce a special report on their activities during the last three years before considering its reinstatement.

On 23rd June, the committee decided that it will not have a resumed session in 2004. Its regular and resumed 2005 sessions will be held respectively on 5-

13 July: Panel discussion on “strengthening preparedness and response to natural disasters, with an emphasis on capacity building”

13 July: Panel discussion on “field-level coordination for the purpose of continuing the presence and operations of the United Nations humanitarian assistance in higher risk environments”

General segment: 15-22 July

19 July: Interactive panel discussion between the chairpersons of the functional commissions and ECOSOC

Concluding session: 23 July