



Economic and Social Council

Distr.: Limited
13 April 2017

Original: English

2017 session

28 July 2016-27 July 2017

Agenda item 17

Non-governmental organizations

**Albania*, Australia, Austria*, Belgium, Bulgaria*, Chile, Colombia, Croatia*, Cyprus*, Czechia, Estonia, Finland*, France, Germany, Greece*, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia*, Lithuania*, Malta*, Mexico*, Netherlands*, Peru, Poland*, Republic of Korea, Slovakia*, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Uruguay*:
draft decision**

Improving the work of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

The Economic and Social Council,

- (a) Recalling Article 71 of the Charter of the United Nations,
- (b) Acknowledging the breadth of expertise of non-governmental organizations and their capacity to support the work of the United Nations,
- (c) Recalling that the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations should ensure, to the extent possible, the participation of non-governmental organizations from all regions, and in particular from developing countries, in order to help to achieve a just, balanced, effective and genuine involvement of non-governmental organizations from all regions and areas of the world,
- (d) Taking into account that the webcast of meetings would provide civil society with access to the work of the Committee and thereby allow for broader participation worldwide and greater transparency in achieving and implementing initiatives, in particular those related to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,
- (e) Recalling that the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requires the engagement and full participation of civil society,
- (f) Recalling also its resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996 on the consultative relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations,

Decides that the public meetings of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations will be webcast.

* In accordance with rule 72 of the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council.

