

## **Process for placing draft resolutions under the silence procedure**

### **Process for negotiation of draft resolutions**

#### **Step-by-step process of the Informal Working Group on Draft Resolutions for the seventy-eighth session of the Commission for placing draft resolutions and decisions under the silence procedure**

The Informal Working Group on Draft Resolutions will facilitate consultations among member States in relation to the draft resolutions to be adopted by the Commission at its seventy-eighth session on 27 May 2022, as per usual practice of the Commission. In addition, the Informal Working Group shall also consider the list of draft decisions to be adopted at the Commission, in order to facilitate the decision-making process at the session. Only when a text nears consensus the Chair of the Informal Working Group on Draft Resolutions may invoke the silence procedure.

When the Chair of the Informal Working Group on Draft Resolutions intends to circulate a draft resolution to the members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific via silence procedure in accordance with the practices established by the parent body of ESCAP, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), as applicable *mutatis mutandis*, the following steps will be followed:

1. Once the consultations yield a draft text that is nearing consensus, the Chair of the Informal Working Group on Draft Resolutions may propose that a draft resolution be placed under silence procedure. Information about this will be posted on the website of the Advisory Committee of Permanent Representatives and Other Representatives Designated by Members of the Commission (ACPR), to which all delegations will be given access to, before a proposal is sent on silence procedure.

2. The Chair of the Informal Working Group on Draft Resolutions will, via the secretariat, circulate a letter and the draft resolution to all members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, under a silence procedure of at least 72 hours.

(a) The letter will indicate the specific time by which any written objections should be raised;

(b) The letter will attach the following:

- The English text of the draft resolution;<sup>1</sup>
- Any information available from the secretariat on programme budgetary implications;

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<sup>1</sup> Please note that the draft resolutions and decisions will be available in all ESCAP official languages prior to adoption at the seventy-eighth session of the Commission, on 27 May 2022, as per usual practice.

- Outline the procedure for explanations of position or general statements in connection with the proposed text by member States (see below).

3. Members of the Commission wishing to make an explanation of position or a general statement in connection with the proposed draft resolution, may do so in the following way:

- Electronic versions of the statements in explanation or general statements in connection with the proposed draft resolutions and decisions will be posted on the ACPR website and circulated to all member States. (contact information to be provided at the time of circulation of the draft proposal).

4. If there are no objections within the specified time period, the Chair will circulate a letter, via the secretariat, confirming agreement on the text and that it will be transmitted to the Commission for final adoption.

5. If there are objections, the Chair will circulate, via the secretariat, a letter informing that the silence has been broken.

6. The Chair may choose to refer the draft resolution and the objections to the proponent, the co-sponsors or to the Informal Working Group on Draft Resolutions, to undertake further consultations.

7. If there is a revised draft, this can be put to another round of silence procedure.

8. At the seventy-eighth session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific meeting, during the adoption of the report on 27 May 2022, the Commission will be informed of draft resolutions and decisions that have undergone silent procedure in the context of the Informal Working Group on Draft Resolutions. The Commission will also be informed of additional co-sponsors communicated to the secretariat and will have the draft resolutions and decisions, along with the statement of programme budget implications of actions and proposals of the Commission before itself for adoption. At that meeting, delegations will also have the opportunity to deliver their statements in explanation of position or general statements in connection with the proposed resolution, in accordance with the rules of procedure and practice of the Commission.