



## Economic and Social Council

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**Economic Commission for Africa  
Committee on Social Policy, Poverty and Gender**

Fourth session  
Online, 17 and 18 November 2021

Item 3 of the provisional agenda\*

**Consideration and adoption of the agenda and programme of work**

### **Provisional annotated agenda**

#### **1. Opening of the session**

The Executive Secretary will deliver the opening address, followed by a statement by the Director of the Gender, Poverty and Social Policy Division.

#### **Presentation of the terms of reference of the Committee on Social Policy, Poverty and Gender**

The presentation will provide an overview of the terms of reference in order to guide the Committee on Social Policy, Poverty and Gender in its work.

#### **2. Election of the Bureau**

Consultations will be undertaken on the basis of clear guidelines to ensure representation of each subregion with a view to electing the Bureau of the fourth session.

#### **3. Consideration and adoption of the agenda and programme of work**

The provisional agenda and programme of work of the fourth session of the Committee will be presented by the Chair, discussed and adopted.

#### **4. Reports to the Committee on Social Policy, Poverty and Gender – reporting and discussion:**

##### **(a) Subprogramme 9 – poverty, inequality and social policy**

The presentation will focus on activities undertaken during the past two years in the context of subprogramme 9 in the areas of social policy and urbanization. It will highlight the policy influence, results achieved, lessons learned and main challenges faced in implementing the subprogramme. In addition, the presentation will provide an overview of planned activities for the 2022–2023 biennium.

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\* E/ECA/CSPPG/4/1.



**(b) Subprogramme 6 – gender equality and women’s empowerment**

The presentation will focus on activities undertaken during the past two years in the context of subprogramme 6. It will highlight the policy influence, results achieved, lessons learned and main challenges faced in implementing the subprogramme in terms of supporting efforts by member States to advance gender equality and women’s empowerment. The presentation will also provide an overview of planned activities for the 2022–2023 biennium.

**5. Parallel sessions:**

**(a) Harnessing productive jobs: equipping women and girls with skills of tomorrow**

The presentation will provide an opportunity for the Committee to explore ways to ensure that women and girls learn the professional skills they will need in tomorrow’s job market. This will enable women and girls to take up the productive jobs emerging as a result of digital transformation, which is rapidly changing labour market needs and the nature of employment.

**(b) Promoting inclusive and resilient youth employment in Africa, now and beyond COVID-19**

The presentation will provide an opportunity for the Committee to discuss what can be done to mitigate the impact of the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic on young people, aid recovery and strengthen the resilience of young people against future shocks.

**(c) Inclusive and resilient growth in Africa: the role of spatial planning**

The presentation will provide an opportunity for the Committee to consider the critical role of spatial planning in national economic planning initiatives and discuss how spatial planning can promote inclusive and resilient growth in Africa. The presentation will highlight the activities undertaken by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) to help African member States incorporate spatial planning into their economic planning initiatives, and will help identify priorities to inform future work by ECA in that regard.

**6. General discussion on the theme of the fourth session  
“Building forward better towards an inclusive and resilient future  
in the context of COVID-19”:**

- (a) Presentation of the issues paper;
- (b) Breakout sessions;
- (c) Reporting back on the breakout sessions and discussion on the way forward.

The session will provide, on the basis of a brief presentation, an opportunity for the Committee to engage in a critical analysis of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on social, gender and development policies, and discuss potential strategies and priority policy interventions for building forward better towards an inclusive and resilient Africa in the post-COVID-19 period.

**7. Consideration and adoption of conclusions and recommendations of the fourth session**

The Committee will consider the conclusions and recommendations to be adopted at the fourth session.

**8. Closing of the session**

The major outcomes of the session will be highlighted and attention will be drawn to the future directions and works of the Committee.

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