

**Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)**

Thirty-first session
Cairo, 16–18 December 2023



Item 3 of the provisional agenda

Organization of work

Note by the secretariat

1. The secretariat has prepared the proposed organization of work for the thirty-first session of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) to facilitate the consideration of the agenda items within time limitations. The Commission will be presented with the proposed organization of work contained in the present document and shall adopt it in that or an amended form.
2. The senior officials segment will start with an inaugural meeting at 1.30 p.m. on Saturday, 16 December 2023, and resume at 9 a.m. on Sunday, 17 December 2023, according to the organization of work. The senior officials segment will end at 6 p.m. on Sunday, 17 December 2023 upon agreement by the participants on the recommendations and resolutions to be submitted for adoption at the ministerial segment.
3. Each presentation made by the secretariat will last for 10–15 minutes and the related discussion for 20–45 minutes. Should the discussion of one item be completed before the specified time, the meeting will move on to the next item.
4. The ministerial segment of the session will open at 10 a.m. on Monday, 18 December 2023, at the League of Arab States headquarters in Cairo. Participants will debate the ministerial segment's main theme "Arab Vision 2045: striving to fulfil aspirations through deliberation, determination and action" in two round-table discussions. The Commission will conclude its thirty-first session at 2 p.m. on Monday, with the adoption of the recommendations and resolutions submitted to it, after discussion and amendment.

Proposed organization of work

Date/time	Agenda item and documentation	
A. Senior officials segment (16–17 December 2023)		
<u>Saturday, 16 December 2023</u>		
Afternoon		
1–1.30 p.m.		Registration of participants
1.30–1.45 p.m.	<u>Item 1</u>	Opening of the senior officials segment Address by the representative of the Chair of the thirtieth session Address by the representative of the ESCWA secretariat
1.45–2.45 p.m.		First meeting
	<u>Item 2</u>	Election of officers
	<u>Item 3</u>	Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters <i>For discussion</i> Documents E/ESCWA/31/L.1 and E/ESCWA/31/L.2
	<u>Item 4</u>	Consideration of requests by States Members of the United Nations and/or its specialized agencies that are not members of ESCWA to participate as observers in the thirty-first session of the Commission <i>For discussion</i> Document E/ESCWA/31/3
2.45–5 p.m.		Second meeting: Governance in the light of global and regional developments
	<u>Item 5</u>	The governance challenge of the Arab region <i>For discussion</i> Document E/ESCWA/31/4
	<u>Item 6</u>	Governance of natural resources: extractive industries as an engine for sustainable development <i>For discussion</i> Document E/ESCWA/31/5

Date/time	Agenda item and documentation
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Saturday, 16 December 2023 (continued)

- Item 7 Economic governance: market competition challenges in the Arab region
For discussion
Document E/ESCWA/31/6
- Item 8 Governance of recovery and prevention: essential State functions and processes
For discussion
Document E/ESCWA/31/7

Sunday, 17 December 2023

Morning

9 a.m.–1 p.m.

Third meeting: War on Gaza

- Item 9 War on Gaza: social and economic repercussions
For discussion
Document E/ESCWA/31/8
- Item 10 War on Gaza: tenets and essential elements for sustainable recovery
For discussion
Document E/ESCWA/31/9
- Fourth meeting: Work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies**
- Item 11 Outcomes of the 2023 Arab Forum for Sustainable Development
For discussion
Document E/ESCWA/31/10
- Item 12 Implementation of resolutions and recommendations made by the Commission at its seventh special session and adoption of reports on Executive Committee meetings held since the thirtieth session
For discussion
Document E/ESCWA/31/11

Date/time	Agenda item and documentation
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Sunday, 17 December 2023 (*continued*)

Afternoon

2–5 p.m.

Fourth meeting: Work of the Commission and its subsidiary bodies (*continued*)

Item 13

Reports of the Commission's subsidiary bodies

For discussion

Document E/ESCWA/31/12

Fourth meeting: Management issues

Item 14

Programme performance in the period 2020–2023

For discussion

Document E/ESCWA/31/13

Item 15

Financial status of the Commission

For discussion

Document E/ESCWA/31/14

Item 16

Proposed programme plan for 2025

For discussion

Document E/ESCWA/31/15

B. Ministerial segment (18 December 2023)

Monday, 18 December 2023

Morning

9.30–10 a.m.

Registration of participants

10–10.30 a.m.

Item 17

Opening of the ministerial segment

Address by Ms. Rola Dashti,

Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of ESCWA

Address by Mr. Ahmed Aboul-Gheit,

Secretary-General of the League of Arab States

Date/time	Agenda item and documentation
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Monday, 18 December 2023 (*continued*)

**Main theme of the session: Arab Vision 2045: striving to fulfil aspirations
through deliberation, determination and action**

Document E/ESCWA/31/16

10.45 a.m.–12 p.m.

First meeting

Item 18

First round-table discussion

(a) Premises and pillars of the Arab Vision 2045

For discussion

Documents E/ESCWA/31/16 and E/ESCWA/31/16/CRP.1

12.15–1.30 p.m.

Second meeting

Item 18

Second round-table discussion

(*continued*)

(b) Initiatives and projects of the Arab Vision 2045

For discussion

Documents E/ESCWA/31/16 and E/ESCWA/31/16/CRP.2

1.30–2 p.m.

Third meeting (closed meeting)

Item 19

Date and venue of the thirty-second session of the Commission

Item 20

Other matters

Item 21

Adoption of the recommendations and resolutions of the Commission

The Commission will consider the draft recommendations and resolutions for adoption
