

ECOSOC Decision 2008/218

Participation of academic entities in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development

At its 34th plenary meeting, on 18 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council, recalling paragraphs 14 to 16 of its resolution 2006/46 of 28 July 2006, entitled “Follow-up to the World Summit on the Information Society and review of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development”, recognizing that academic entities that had been accredited to the World Summit on the Information Society under the category of non-governmental organizations and civil society entities could not be granted consultative status with the Council in accordance with its resolution 1996/31 of 25 July 1996 and that their participation in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in accordance with Council decision 2007/215 of 26 April 2007 was therefore limited to the tenth and eleventh sessions of the Commission, and recognizing also that those academic entities were important stakeholders in the information society and made an important contribution to the achievement of the goals and objectives of the World Summit on the Information Society and its follow-up:

(a) Decided, on an exceptional basis and without prejudice to existing rules of procedure, that academic entities accredited to the World Summit on the Information Society might participate in the work of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council;

(b) Requested the secretariat of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development to submit to the Economic and Social Council for its consideration and approval in a timely manner the names of academic entities, including academies of science and engineering, that had not been accredited to the World Summit on the Information Society and that had expressed or were expressing the wish to participate in the work of the Commission, with a view to enabling them to participate, on an exceptional basis, in the work of the Commission in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Council;

(c) Emphasized that the present decision had been taken on an exceptional basis and without prejudice to the established rules of procedure of the Economic and Social Council, in particular the provisions of Council resolution 1996/31 concerning the accreditation and participation of non-governmental organizations and other major groups in the work of the Council and its subsidiary bodies, and that it should not be construed as creating a precedent;

(d) Decided to review in 2010 the list of academic entities and the modalities for their participation in the work of the Commission.