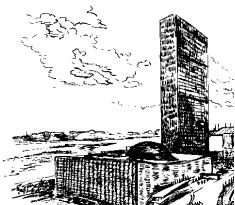


Part 3



Economic and Social Affairs

The principal UN bodies which have responsibility for economic and social issues are the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the UN General Assembly Second and Third Committees. [More detailed treatment of economic and social programs, operational activities, and U.S. participation therein, is found in subsequent sections of Parts 3 and 4.]

Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Responsibility

ECOSOC is composed of 54 member states elected to three-year terms, with seats allotted according to geographical distribution. The Council holds one substantive session annually between May and July, taking place in alternate years in New York and Geneva, Switzerland. ECOSOC considers issues related to international economic, social, cultural, educational, and health matters, and makes recommendations to the General Assembly. The United States is a member of ECOSOC, elected from the Western European and Other States Group to serve a three-year (2000–2003) term. Ambassador Betty King was the U.S. Representative to ECOSOC during 2001.

The 2001 ECOSOC session, held July 2–27 in Geneva, consisted of five segments. The High-Level Segment dealt with sustainable development in Africa. The Operational Activities for Development Segment focused on the Triennial Policy Review; Executive Board reports of the UN Development Program/UN Population Fund, UN Children's Fund, and World Food Program; and economic and technical cooperation among developing countries. Coordination on information and communication technologies through partnerships was the topic for the Coordination Segment. The Humanitarian Affairs Segment took up the general topic of humanitarian assistance. The General Segment included wide-ranging subjects involving the environment, HIV/AIDS and other diseases, UN institutional reform, social development and the advancement of women, population, crime, narcotics, refugees, and human rights.

Subsidiary bodies reporting to ECOSOC include regional economic and functional commissions. In 2001, the United States was a member of

key functional commissions, including the Commission on Sustainable Development, Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Commission for Social Development, Commission on Population and Development, Commission on the Status of Women, and the Statistical Commission. In 2001, however, the United States lost its seat on the Commission on Human Rights. The United States belongs to three of the five regional economic commissions—the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)—and has observer status in the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

General Assembly Responsibility

The General Assembly's Second Committee is responsible for economic and environmental issues. The United States did not sponsor any Second Committee resolutions during the fall 2001 UN General Assembly. The United States joined consensus on most of the Second Committee resolutions, including those on international trade and development, commodities, industrial development and cooperation, business and development, poverty, disaster reduction, biodiversity, desertification, and global partnerships. The United States also joined consensus with an Explanation of Position on a resolution concerning the World Summit for Sustainable Development. The United States voted against two resolutions on Palestinians.

The General Assembly's Third Committee is responsible for social, humanitarian, and cultural issues, including human rights issues. Details on noteworthy human rights resolutions appear in the section Human Rights. The United States was also involved with Third Committee resolutions on social development, advancement of women, international drug control, children's rights, aging, indigenous people, and racism and racial discrimination.

UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

The UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is a permanent intergovernmental body that conducts discussions on issues of trade and development; carries out research, data collection, and analysis to provide substantive inputs to such discussions; and provides technical assistance on trade-related issues to developing countries, in coordination with other relevant organizations. UNCTAD's overall objective is to facilitate the integration of developing countries into the world economy, with a particular focus on the least developed countries (LDCs). UNCTAD also provides technical assistance to developing countries, in areas such as customs reform, trade capacity building, and preparations for negotiations in the World Trade Organization (WTO). The United States regards

UNCTAD as a useful forum for discussing urgent development questions in a relatively informal setting.

UNCTAD is based in Geneva, Switzerland and currently has 190 members. Since 1995, UNCTAD has been led by Secretary General Rubens Ricupero, former Finance Minister of Brazil. UNCTAD's \$85 million biennial budget is funded from the regular budget of the United Nations. The United States is assessed 22 percent of the UN regular budget. UNCTAD's technical assistance activities are funded separately through voluntary contributions. UNCTAD received around \$20 million in voluntary contributions in 2001, funding technical assistance projects in 83 developing countries. The United States did not make extra-budgetary contributions to UNCTAD in 2001. UNCTAD's 2001 staffing level was 367 employees (18 of whom were U.S. citizens).

As the coordinating body for LDC issues in the UN system, UNCTAD was the organizing secretariat for the Third UN Conference on Least Developed Countries (LDC III), held in Brussels, Belgium in May 2001. The United States was an active participant in the conference, which produced a Program of Action for LDCs over the next decade, with agreed commitments by LDCs and their development partners (other countries and multilateral development organizations) to work together on solving problems of poverty, hunger, health, education, and development. The conference also included side events that brought together business representatives and local officials from LDCs with their counterparts in developed countries to discuss partnership initiatives. UNCTAD assisted the 49 LDCs— 35 of them in Africa—in producing national development plans for the conference, building on existing World Bank and UN Development Program initiatives to guide LDC development strategies.

Working with like-minded developing states, the United States encouraged UNCTAD to organize an expert group meeting on energy services in June 2001 that produced a framework for possible future negotiations at the WTO. An expert group on consumer protection produced concrete, market-oriented options to help developing countries improve competitiveness, while offering increased protection to their consumers.

Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD)

The Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), a functional commission of the UN Economic and Social Council, was established in December 1992 to ensure effective follow-up of the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development ("Rio Earth Summit"). Its functions relate broadly to monitoring and reporting on progress in implementation of Agenda 21, the Program of Action for Sustainable Development agreed to at the 1992 Summit.

The Commission, based at UN Headquarters in New York, comprises 53 members elected from member states of the United Nations and UN

specialized agencies for three-year terms. The United States has been a member since the Commission's inception.

The CSD meets for four weeks every year (plus inter-sessional negotiations) to consider specific sustainable development issues. In April 2001, at the CSD's ninth session, delegations agreed to texts on five themes: energy, transport, atmosphere, information for decision-making and participation, and international cooperation for an enabling environment.

Since May 2001, the CSD has functioned as the Preparatory Committee for the August/September 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg, South Africa. The CSD convened the first of four preparatory meetings for the Summit in May 2001, with the remainder scheduled for 2002. The United States took an active role in helping shape the WSSD agenda, stressing the importance of partnerships between government, the private sector, and civil society, and of sound domestic governance as the foundation for sustainable development.

Commission for Social Development (CSocD)

The Commission for Social Development (CSocD) met for its 39th session in New York on February 13–23. The overall theme for the session was “Follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development.” The priority theme was “Enhancing Social Protection and Reducing Vulnerability in a Globalizing World” and the sub-theme was “The Role of Volunteerism in the Promotion of Social Development.” The United States cosponsored a resolution on volunteering (ultimately adopted) which welcomed the work of the UN Volunteers as the focal point for the International Year of Volunteers, encouraged governments to create a favorable environment for volunteering, and encouraged organizations of the UN system to support voluntary action for social development.

After devoting a week to line-by-line negotiations on draft agreed conclusions on the priority theme, the 46 CSocD member states were unable to reach agreement. Consequently, the Commission adopted a resolution stating that it recognized the need for further analysis, research, and discussion. The United States strongly supported the European Union's plea at the beginning of the session that the Commission should return to its traditional role of being a body of experts, rather than engaging in politically-charged negotiations of texts. This matter remains on the U.S agenda.

The United States joined consensus on a resolution for the preparation and observance of the tenth anniversary of the International Year of the Family. The resolution urged governments to view 2004 as a target year to identify issues of direct concern to the family, requested the Commission to continue to review annually preparations for the tenth anniversary, and asked member states to consider organizing activities at the national level.

The Commission recommended to the Economic and Social Council adoption of a resolution on the multi-year program of work for 2002–2006, based upon follow-up to the World Summit for Social Development and the 24th special session of the General Assembly. The United States joined consensus on this recommendation after successfully working to change one proposed sub-theme from “Impact of Policies of International Financial Institutions and Official Development Assistance on Social Development” to “Policies and Role of International Financial Institutions and Their Effect on National Social Development Strategies,” to emphasize the important role of national governments, as well as donors, in social development.

The Commission reviewed the proposed program of work of the Division for Social Policy and Development for 2002–2003, and the report of the Board of the UN Research Institute for Social Development for the period 1999–2000. It renominated three current members, including an American, and nominated six new members to the Board, including an American, for confirmation by the Economic and Social Council.

Regional Economic Commissions

The United Nations has five regional economic commissions: Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA). They are charged with “raising the level of economic activity” within their respective regions and “maintaining and strengthening the economic relations” of the countries within their scopes, “both among themselves and with other countries of the world.” The regional commissions are funded out of the regular UN budget, but many of their activities are financed by extrabudgetary grants from bilateral and multilateral donors. The United States is a member of three of the regional commissions: ECE, ECLAC, and ESCAP.

Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)

The ECE was established in 1947 to encourage economic cooperation in Europe. ECE membership today consists of 55 member nations, including the United States, Canada, Switzerland, Israel, and the Central Asian and Caucasian states of the former Soviet Union. The ECE is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.

The ECE receives biennial funding from the UN regular budget of approximately \$37.41 million. The U.S. share of the UN regular budget is 22 percent. Out of the total staff at ECE headquarters, Americans have 10 positions, of which 7 are at the professional level.

The ECE is traditionally a “standards-setting” and coordination body in many technical fields. Its ongoing standards work includes fields such

as energy, environment, vehicle construction and road safety, timber, and perishable produce. ECE standards often become *de facto* standards around the world. Many U.S. Government agencies, such as the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Departments of Commerce, Energy, Transportation, and Agriculture, regularly participate in this work. U.S. participation in ECE activities serves to advance and safeguard U.S. national and business interests.

In 2001, the United States actively participated in the ECE's work on a global vehicles construction standards agreement, and negotiated a protocol for implementation of the Convention on Long-Range Trans-Boundary Air Pollution. At the 2001 Commission meeting, ECE members explored ways to undertake development-related work in the region. A key topic of discussion was the impact of corruption on countries with economies in transition (i.e. Eastern European countries and former Soviet Republics). Member states also discussed expanding ECE's technical assistance programs to those transition economies.

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)

ECLAC was established in 1948 and has 41 member states. The United States is a full member with voting privileges. The Commission is headquartered in Santiago, Chile, with two sub-regional offices for Mexico and for the Caribbean. It also has offices in Bogota, Brasilia, Buenos Aires, Montevideo, and Washington, D.C. Executive Secretary Jose Antonio Ocampo (Colombia) has headed the organization since January 1998. ECLAC meetings occur biennially in the spring. ECLAC's most recent biennial session took place in April 2000 in Mexico City, therefore, there was no session in 2001.

ECLAC receives annual funding from the UN regular budget of approximately \$35 million. The United States provides 22 percent of the UN regular budget. ECLAC also receives approximately \$46 million each year in extra-budgetary contributions. The United States has never made a voluntary contribution to ECLAC. At the beginning of 2001, there were 8 Americans out of a total of 197 professional staff members, or 4 percent.

ECLAC's mission is to improve coordination and cooperation among member states and international entities in an effort to advance social and economic development in the region. Although previously it advocated closed markets and state-run economies, ECLAC now supports trade liberalization and privatization. Its main products are sector studies and statistical compilations. Topics include projects on food and agriculture; industrial, scientific, and technological development; international trade; development financing; sustainable development; population; women and development; statistics and economic projections; transport; transnational corporations; and regional cooperation.

As a member of the Tripartite Committee, along with the Organization of American States and the Inter-American Development Bank, ECLAC contributes to the Summit of the Americas process in five areas: the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), which is a U.S. priority; transportation; small enterprises; education; and women's issues. In the FTAA process, ECLAC provides the FTAA working groups with analytical support, technical assistance, and studies as requested. ECLAC was active in the FTAA process during 2001 in connection with preparations for the April 2001 Summit of the Americas in Quebec.

ECLAC is a useful coordinating mechanism for regional and sub-regional views for larger meetings. During 2001, ECLAC coordinated regional input to follow-ups to major UN global conferences and special sessions on social issues, women, housing and human settlements, HIV/AIDS, children, development financing, and the environment. The United States effectively participated in these regional consultations, articulating U.S. views on the entire range of issues.

ECLAC publications generally fall into two categories: original products prepared by scholars with respectable credentials, and work that complements rather than duplicates work being done elsewhere. ECLAC's targeted distribution to key organizations helps maximize the impact of its publications. The United States regularly makes use of ECLAC's annual economic and social overviews and statistical compilations.

From July–September 2001, the UN Office of Internal Oversight Services conducted an inspection of ECLAC's program management and administrative practices. The United States praised ECLAC's contributions to the Summit of the Americas process, internal reform efforts, role as a coordinator of regional and subregional views for larger UN meetings, and the quality of its publications. Despite such positive assessments, ECLAC continues to examine ways to improve its operational efficiency through its Ad Hoc Working Group on Priorities.

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

ESCAP was established in 1947 and is based in Bangkok, Thailand. It consists of 52 member nations (including non-regional members France, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom) and 9 associate members. The United States is a full ESCAP member with voting privileges.

ESCAP receives annual funding from the UN regular budget of approximately \$26.7 million. The United States provides 22 percent of the UN regular budget. ESCAP also receives approximately \$11.2 million in extra-budgetary contributions; the United States did not contribute to this account in 2001. Of 175 professional posts, 11 are held by Americans.

ESCAP works in pursuit of social and economic development with expertise in the following areas: regional economic cooperation; environment and natural resources development; development research and policy

analysis; social development; population and rural and urban development; transportation, communications, tourism, and infrastructure; and statistics. ESCAP gives technical support to member governments regarding a wide array of socio-economic development issues. Activities include direct advisory services, training and sharing of regional experiences, and dissemination of knowledge and data through meetings, seminars, publications, and inter-country networks.

Since his appointment in July 2000, Executive Secretary Dr. Kim Hak-Su (Republic of Korea) has focused ESCAP on poverty alleviation, a dominant concern for many countries in the region. With strong support from the United States and others, he has also initiated significant institutional reforms. Under his leadership, some of ESCAP's accomplishments included rationalizing the organizational structure and staffing pattern, paring down ESCAP's overextended publications program, and identifying how ESCAP could better meet member state needs.

The April 2001 Commission meeting focused on "Balanced Development of Urban and Rural Areas." The U.S. delegate drew attention to the following issues: the need for democratic governance and decentralization as sound first steps toward balanced development; the benefits of integration into the world economy and World Trade Organization membership; ESCAP institutional reform, particularly Dr. Kim's success with the publications program reforms; and streamlining the decision-making process for funding of extra-budgetary projects, with an emphasis on concentrating resources on fewer projects and doing them well.

Human Rights

The United States continued its active participation in UN human rights fora throughout 2001. The UN Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR) and the UN General Assembly provided opportunities for the United States to highlight its concern about both new and continued violations of human rights around the world. In 2001, the UNCHR adopted 82 resolutions and 19 decisions. The General Assembly adopted more than 70 human rights resolutions. The United States worked closely with like-minded delegations in both bodies to secure adoption of resolutions condemning human rights violations in specific countries of concern and fending off negative amendments.

However, these successes were offset by the loss of the U.S. seat on the Commission at the May 2001 ECOSOC elections and by the failure of the UN World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia, and Related Intolerance, which took place in Durban, South Africa, August 31-September 7. The U.S. departure from the Commission resulted from the failure of the Western European and Others Group to put forward an agreed slate. It is regrettable that so many candidates for the Commission are elected on the basis of vote-trading or rotational schemes, without reference to their commitment to human rights. With

regard to the Conference Against Racism, the United States withdrew its participation and did not endorse the final declaration because the Durban meeting deviated from its stated purpose and focused unfairly on a single country, Israel.

UN Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR)

The UN Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR) is the principal organ in the United Nations for achieving the Charter objective of promoting respect for human rights. It is composed of 53 members, including in 2001 the United States, elected for three-year terms. (With its loss of a Commission seat, the United States will not be a voting member at the 2002 Commission.) Ambassador Shirin Tahir-Kehli led the U.S. delegation to the 57th session of the Commission as the U.S. Representative.

The UNCHR held its annual session in Geneva, Switzerland, March 19–April 26. Significant differences continued in 2001 among regional groups within the UNCHR. Particular points of contention were the World Conference Against Racism and human rights in the Middle East (namely, efforts to pass unbalanced and inflammatory resolutions on Israel). Views also diverged on the Commission's shifting from a focus on civil and political rights, an emphasis traditionally supported by the United States, in favor of economic, social, and cultural rights. The tendency for nations with poor human rights records to seek membership in the UNCHR in an effort to avoid being identified as human rights violators continued, with Vietnam, Libya and Cuba serving as members in 2001.

Nevertheless, the United States achieved some important voting successes in the Commission. It drafted and introduced a Parts of Southeast Europe (POSE) resolution, which recognized positive developments in Croatia and Yugoslavia. This resolution was adopted by a vote of 41 (U.S.) to 0, with 11 abstentions (Resolution 2001/12). The United States worked with like-minded delegations to adopt resolutions condemning human rights violations in Cuba, Chechnya, Iran, Iraq, Burundi, Sierra Leone, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Afghanistan, and Burma. The United States was instrumental in achieving compromise language in resolutions on housing (Resolution 2001/28), education (Resolution 2001/29), and poverty (Resolution 2001/31), all of which were adopted without a vote. In addition, the United States prevented consensus on six resolutions on the Middle East situation by calling for a vote and then voting against them, in some cases joined by others and in other cases standing alone with a few abstentions. The resolutions nevertheless were adopted by an overwhelming majority.

The United States introduced a resolution on the human rights situation in China, which was not brought to a vote as a result of a no-action procedural motion (an argument by a country that the issues proposed for discussion do not fall within the scope of what the body should be consid-

ering) raised by China, which carried by a vote of 23 to 17 (U.S.), with 12 abstentions.

The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), with headquarters in Geneva, was headed by Mary Robinson (Ireland). The High Commissioner is responsible for administration of the Office and works in support of the Secretary-General, advising him on UN policies in the area of human rights, representing him at meetings and events, and carrying out special assignments as decided by the Secretary-General. Permanent staff in Geneva work closely with the human rights treaty bodies and the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights. On several occasions, OHCHR hired experts (sometimes referred to as rapporteurs) to investigate and to report on allegations of human rights abuses. During 2001, OHCHR had seven field offices operating in countries which had been the scene of gross human rights abuses, including Burundi, Colombia, and Bosnia. OHCHR worked closely with the UN Department of Political Affairs to promote respect for human rights in post-conflict situations such as in Angola, Liberia, and East Timor.

For the 2000–2001 biennium, out of a total UN budget of \$2.561 billion, the OHCHR portion was approximately \$38 million, or \$19 million per year. The U.S. assessment rate for the UN budget is 22 percent. At the beginning of 2001, out of a total staff of 170, the United States held 16 positions, or 9.4 percent. Of 105 professional staff, the United States had 9 positions, or 8.6 percent.

ECOSOC Consideration

ECOSOC adopted the UNCHR report and four draft decisions that the UNCHR recommended for ECOSOC adoption. Much of the discussion focused on promoting investment and development in Africa. U.S. Representative Betty King delivered a statement demonstrating the commitment of the United States to assist African nations in overcoming debilitating problems like HIV/AIDS and ethnic conflict.

The UN Sub-Commission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights held its annual session in Geneva, July 30–August 17. U.S. independent expert David Weissbrodt participated in his sixth year on the Sub-Commission and chaired the proceedings in 2001. The Sub-Commission considered, in confidential proceedings, cases filed by individuals and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) against countries alleged to display consistent patterns of gross violations of human rights. The Sub-Commission adopted 24 resolutions, including resolutions on human rights in Afghanistan, slavery and racism, and women's issues.

Pursuant to treaty obligations, the United States presented its third periodic report under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, the treaty monitoring body for the Convention, during its July 30–August 17 meeting.

Controversy surrounded the UN World Conference Against Racism, which in the end was a big disappointment to the United States. The United States was heavily involved in the preparations and expected to participate fully in the conference. However, conference participants appeared determined to deviate from the stated purpose of the Conference and to focus inappropriately on the Middle East situation. In preparatory sessions, it became clear that participants would produce a declaration containing prejudicial and intolerant language, singling out one country, Israel, for censure and abuse. When the same pattern developed after the Conference began, the United States, which had sent a working level delegation to Durban, decided that the conference could not be salvaged and Secretary of State Powell instructed the U.S. delegation to return home. The UN High Commissioner for Human Rights played a particularly unhelpful role, including helping to bring about the situation that forced the U.S. to withdraw.

The final report was delayed for several months before receiving approval in early 2002. The United States was not a party to the agreement, informally brokered by the High Commissioner, to adopt the Durban Declaration and the Program of Action. The United States also disagreed with proposed follow-up plans, including Mary Robinson's creating an anti-discrimination unit in the High Commissioner's office, and the establishment of a body to monitor implementation of the Durban documents. A UN-sponsored NGO conference, held parallel to the Conference Against Racism, prepared an associated paper that was also unbalanced and inflammatory. In an unusual move, High Commissioner Robinson rejected the NGO document. Overall, the United States was frustrated by the disappointing record of the OHCHR and its failure to focus its resources on rectifying the most egregious human rights abuses in the international system.

General Assembly Consideration

During the 56th General Assembly, the United States played an active role in obtaining the adoption of updated resolutions addressing the human rights situation of specific countries and rejecting last-minute negative amendments. A highlight of the General Assembly was a U.S.-sponsored resolution that reflected the improved human rights situation in Southeast Europe (adopted without a vote). A U.S.-sponsored resolution to strengthen the United Nations in promoting elections and democratization was adopted over Cuba's objections (adopted 146 (U.S.) to 0, with 6 abstentions). The United States also worked closely with like-minded delegations to adopt resolutions condemning human rights violations in Cuba, Burma, Iraq, Cambodia, Iran, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Afghanistan, and Sudan.

The United States also cosponsored a number of thematic human rights resolutions, including on religious intolerance, human rights

defenders, disabled persons, a summit for social development, literacy, youth, volunteerism, the UN Year for Cultural Heritage, international cooperation in the fight against world drug problems, internally displaced persons, the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, and refugees in Africa.

Status of Women

Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)

The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) convened its 45th session in New York, March 6–16, and May 9–11, 2001. The main agenda items were: “Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the Special Session of the General Assembly entitled ‘Women 2000: Gender Equality, Development and Peace for the Twenty-first Century’”; “Women, the Girl Child and Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (HIV/AIDS)”; and “Gender and All Forms of Discrimination, in Particular Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance.”

The Commission took action on seven resolutions and six decisions; all but two were adopted by consensus. Among them, the United States introduced a resolution entitled “Discrimination Against Women and Girls in Afghanistan,” which gathered 57 cosponsors and was adopted by consensus. The resolution condemned the continuing grave violations of the human rights of women and girls.

The United States cosponsored the Canadian resolution on “Mainstreaming a Gender Perspective into all Policies and Programs in the United Nations System,” which, *inter alia*, recommended that the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) establish, in the context of its general segment, a regular agenda item on gender mainstreaming in order to monitor and evaluate achievements and obstacles.

The United States called for a vote on, and voted against, the resolution sponsored by the G-77 (Group of 77, now 133 developing countries) entitled “The Situation of and Assistance to Palestinian Women,” because the United States believed it addressed a number of issues (including refugees and Jerusalem) that the two parties had agreed to resolve between themselves in negotiations. The resolution was adopted by a vote of 31 to 1 (U.S.), with 1 abstention. The United States also called for a vote on a resolution entitled “Release of Women and Children Taken Hostage, Including Those Subsequently Imprisoned, in Armed Conflicts.” The resolution inaccurately defined international humanitarian law by stating that all violence committed against civilian populations in areas of armed conflict contravenes international humanitarian law. The resolution was adopted by a vote of 31 to 0, with 2 abstentions (U.S.).

In Resolution 1983/27, ECOSOC reaffirmed the CSW’s mandate to consider confidential and non-confidential communications on the status

of women and to make recommendations to ECOSOC as to what action should be taken on emerging trends and patterns of discrimination against women as revealed by such communications. It authorized the CSW to establish a five-member working group to consider the communications with a view to bringing to the Commission's attention such information that appeared to reveal a consistent pattern of reliably attested injustice and discriminatory practices against women.

The Commission also considered how the CSW communications procedure could be improved, taking into account the "Report of the Secretary-General assessing the implications of the reforms of mechanisms in the human rights area (1503 procedure) for communications concerning the status of women." The CSW decided to request an additional report from the Secretary-General for consideration at its 46th session.

Economic and Social Council Consideration

During its general segment, ECOSOC adopted the report of the Commission on the Status of Women and took action on the CSW draft resolutions and decisions that had been referred to it for adoption. All were adopted by consensus except for the resolution on Palestinian women, which was adopted by a vote of 39 to 1 (U.S.), with 1 abstention. Because this was the same resolution the United States voted against in the CSW, the United States maintained the same position. ECOSOC also adopted by consensus resolutions on the "Revitalization and Strengthening of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women" and on "Mainstreaming a Gender Perspective into all Policies and Programs of the United Nations System." The United States cosponsored the latter.

General Assembly Consideration

The General Assembly adopted nine resolutions under agenda items on "Advancement of Women" and "Implementation of the Outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women." The United States joined consensus in adopting eight of the resolutions. The United States dissociated itself from the resolution entitled "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women" (56/229) because of unacceptable budgetary implications.

Crime Prevention and Control

The 40-member UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Crime Commission) is the principal intergovernmental policy-making body of the United Nations in this field. This functional UN commission falls under the Economic and Social Council's Third Committee. It acts as the UN's policy-making organ on criminal justice issues, and convenes once a year at the UN Office in Vienna, Austria (UNOV). High-level delegations from member states gather at this annual commission to discuss and review policies and activities to combat crime, to draft

resolutions and plans of action for the UN Center for International Crime Prevention (Crime Center). The Crime Commission forwards some decisions from these annual meetings to ECOSOC (or occasionally to the UN General Assembly) for endorsement.

The 10th Session of the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice convened in Vienna May 8–17, and reconvened September 6–7, 2001. The United States joined consensus on a Plan of Action for future work of the UN's Vienna-based Crime Center from 2001–2005. The Crime Center is the operational organization that provides anti-crime technical assistance to member states and serves as Secretariat to the Crime Commission. The detailed Action Plan provided guidance to the Crime Center and member states on 15 crime-related issues ranging from prison overcrowding and computer-related crime to terrorism. Implementation of all Crime Center technical assistance projects will remain contingent upon prior guarantees of adequate financing.

In addition, the Commission urged all member states to ratify and implement as soon as possible the Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and its three supplemental protocols. A major part of the Crime Center's work over the next few years will be to provide technical support to states requesting assistance to comply with the Convention's provisions against racketeering, money laundering, human trafficking, and other crimes. The United States strongly supported the goals of the Convention and its protocols, urged member states to ratify them, and will contribute funding towards Crime Center technical assistance projects in the coming year.

The Commission also adopted the report of the experts group meeting on terms of reference for negotiating an anti-corruption convention. With U.S. participation, the *ad hoc* committee will convene its first formal negotiating session in Vienna from January 21–February 2, 2002.

Since 1997, U.S. contributions to the Crime Center have ranged between \$500,000 to \$1 million annually. In fiscal year 2001, U.S. support to the Center expanded significantly to \$1.8 million, including \$300,000 to support negotiations on the anti-corruption convention. A majority of the contribution (\$1,175,000) will go towards the Center's efforts to assist member states with the ratification and implementation of the Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and its three protocols. Remaining funds will assist Crime Center projects to combat trafficking in persons, organized crime, and corruption.

Drug Abuse Control

The UN International Drug Control Program (UNDCP) and the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), both based in Vienna, Austria in the UN Office of Drug Control and Crime Prevention, support U.S. drug control objectives. The UN drug control conventions (the 1961 Sin-

gle Convention on Narcotic Drugs, the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances, and the 1988 UN Convention Against the Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances) provide the framework for international drug control, including prohibiting cultivation of opium, coca, and marijuana; targeting drug traffickers and their proceeds; promoting national campaigns on drug abuse prevention and treatment; and regulating precursor chemicals used in the production of illicit drugs.

In 2001, work continued on follow-up to the “Special Session of the UN General Assembly on Countering the World Drug Problem,” held June 8–10, 1998. This Special Session highlighted the need for shared responsibility in combating the global drug problem and the need for multilateral cooperation. In 2001, the international community renewed its commitment against drugs through the adoption of the 1998 Special Session Political Declaration on Countering the World Drug Problem, as well as through concrete actions to implement the UN drug control conventions. Further, efforts were maintained to achieve the agreed Special Session goals, including eradication of drug crops, demand reduction, money laundering, judicial cooperation, and control of precursors and amphetamine-type stimulants.

UN International Drug Control Program (UNDCP)

The UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) comprises 53 member states and is the central policy-making body within the UN system for dealing with drug-related matters. At the CND’s annual meeting in Vienna, Austria, in March 2001, the United States achieved its major objectives, including reduction of the 2002 session to five days.

The CND adopted a U.S. maritime resolution that will allow UNDCP to maintain its role of facilitating multilateral cooperation in maritime law enforcement. The United States supported the Commission’s decision to place three so-called “party drugs” and one sedative under the control regime of the 1971 UN Convention on Psychotropic Substances and to tighten controls over two common chemicals that are often diverted into illicit channels for processing heroin and cocaine.

The CND adopted a joint U.S./European Union resolution on synthetic drug chemicals, laying the foundation for greater international cooperation in controlling these chemicals. The United States cosponsored a Bolivia/Peru resolution on alternative development and crop elimination that called for “preventing the relocation of illicit crop cultivation to other zones.” It also supported a Colombian judicial cooperation resolution that promoted more timely response to requests for mutual legal assistance. In addition, the United States supported resolutions on demand reduction, demand/supply for licit opiates, and regional initiatives in Central Asia and the Far East.

UNDCP’s management was an underlying theme of the CND meeting, with many delegates expressing concern over poor management by

UNDCP Executive Director Pino Arlacchi (Italy). Some countries withheld contributions from UNDCP and others gave only earmarked funds because of these concerns. Some major donors, including the United States, pushed for a strongly worded resolution on management concerns, while others, including the G-77, supported a milder one. In the end, the resolutions were combined into a neutral compromise that both sides could accept. The debate and frank statements on management deficiencies sent a clear message to UNDCP's Executive Director that he must adhere to promised reforms and restore his credibility through transparency and accountability.

On June 11, 2001, the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) issued a report which strongly critiqued Arlacchi's leadership and called for immediate change. The United States persistently urged Arlacchi to implement and sustain reforms. In the following months, the OIOS closely monitored the situation for improvement. On December 7, 2001, OIOS released a separate study, known as the "boat report." This document focused on the impropriety of a UNDCP proposal to finance as a budgeted project an around-the-world sailing trip to promote anti-drug awareness. Arlacchi announced his departure from UNDCP effective December 31, 2001, having lost the support of many donors following the release of the two reports.

The UNDCP staff enhanced international cooperation during 2001 on issues such as chemical control, money laundering, and maritime cooperation. UNDCP worked to ensure that governments complied with UN drug control conventions by assisting countries in developing their national drug control plans and in taking appropriate legal measures. UNDCP also continued its drug control partnerships in 2001 with other UN agencies.

For the biennium 2000-2001, UNDCP's total budget (programs, support, and agencies) was \$187.6 million. The program (or project) budget was \$148.3 million. Some 150 projects were grouped into 8 national, 13 regional, and 4 global programs. The Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention has 217 professional employees in Vienna and the field, of which 14 (approximately 6 percent) are American citizens.

U.S. support during the year had significant impact on the operations and expansion of UN counternarcotics programs and policy. The United States supported UNDCP's balanced approach in counternarcotics and was particularly encouraged by UNDCP's efforts to eliminate the illicit cultivation of opium and coca. The United States contributed \$9.412 million for fiscal year 2001. The contribution was used to support major UNDCP alternative development projects in Laos, Pakistan, and the Wa territories of Burma, as well as chemical control projects in South America and Central Asia, and judicial/prosecutorial training in Africa, Latin America, and East Asia. Global programs on money laundering, maritime cooperation, precursor control, and legal advice on treaty implementation

were also funded. Additionally, the United States provided funding for a new financial system that will allow donor states access to real-time project information.

U.S. funding for the above activities included: Drug Control/Alternative Development Projects, Wa Area, Burma: \$1,825,000; Chemical Control Program, Caribbean–American Region, Bolivia, and Colombia: \$550,000 each; and Judicial/Prosecutorial Training, South Africa/Kenya: \$700,000. Further, the United States spent \$1,450,000 for 1999–2001 on global programs including a legal advisory program, data bank for precursor control, program against money laundering, maritime cooperation, and UNDCP financial management.

International Narcotics Control Board (INCB)

The 13-member International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) is the independent, quasi-judicial control body for the implementation of the UN conventions. INCB is independent of governments as well as the United Nations; its members serve in their individual capacity. The board meets periodically to implement its mandate to monitor the implementation of several international drug control treaties and the international movement of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. At the November 2001 meeting, the board reviewed how modern technologies such as the Internet have changed the face of drug trafficking and examined how governments address the problem. Among other activities, the Board reviewed opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan.

In its 2001 report, the INCB examined the challenges that new technologies and increasing globalization pose to drug law enforcement, reviewed the operations of the international drug control system, and presented an analysis of the world situation with regard to illicit drugs.

The Economic and Social Affairs Council, in the spring of 2001, received 32 candidacies for 5 vacancies on the INCB among the government-nominated positions. The U.S. citizen member of the board, who served in his individual capacity and not as a U.S. representative, sought a third term but was not re-elected.

NGO Committee

The United States recognizes that nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) have made valuable contributions to the work of the United Nations. The United States believes that civil society, in particular NGOs, play an important role in the international community and the work of the United Nations. NGOs may be granted consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) if they can demonstrate substantial interest in the work of the Council or its subsidiary bodies, and fulfill certain criteria.

Article 71 of the UN charter provides that ECOSOC may make arrangements for consultation with NGOs that have interests in the issues

within the Council's purview. ECOSOC Resolution 1996/31 establishes the framework for NGO participation in the Council and its subsidiary bodies. The United States is a member of the ECOSOC Committee on Nongovernmental Organizations, a UN standing Committee, which regulates NGO participation in ECOSOC. The Committee meets twice a year, for 2–3 weeks, to consider NGO applications and to discuss other matters relating to NGO participation. The Committee approved 100 applications for consultative status during its 2001 sessions. More than 2,000 NGOs have received ECOSOC consultative status as of the end of 2001.

Three members of the NGO Committee—China, Cuba, and Sudan—challenged the consultative status of a prominent U.S. NGO, Freedom House, at the May 2001 session and again at the resumed 2001 session in January 2002. Cuba maintained that Freedom House was a CIA front. China objected to Freedom House's listing of Taiwan as a separate nation in its annual world survey, and Sudan characterized Freedom House's claims of genocide in Sudan as imaginary. The United States, along with other like-minded nations on the Committee, argued in favor of Freedom House, and succeeded in getting action deferred to the May 2002 NGO Committee session.

In 2001, the United States was active at the Committee in obtaining consultative status for several U.S. NGOs, having verified their competency, independence, and the absence of links to crime or terrorism. They are: Concerned Women for America, the Family Research Council, the World Forum on the Future of Sport Shooting Activities, and the National Congress of American Indians. The United States joined consensus in denying the reclassification request of the U.S. NGO Armenian Relief Society because credible evidence provided to the Committee linked it to the Armenian Youth Federation, which endorses armed struggle for a "greater Armenia."