ARTICLE 69

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ARTICLE 69

TEXT OF ARTICLE 69

The Economic and Social Council shall invite any Member of the United Nations to participate, without vote, in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that Member.

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

1. The cases of the application of Article 69 during the period under review reveal no significant changes in the practice of the Economic and Social Council as described in the previous studies of this Article in the Repertory and its Supplements Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. The headings established in the earlier studies are accordingly maintained.

2. The account in the general survey is limited to the general conditions governing the application of Article 69 that are relevant to the specific cases which occurred during the period under review.

3. In the past Supplements, the sessional committees of the Council were referred to by the session numbers. However, pursuant to the 1978 modifications to the symbol series for documents, this supplement will refer to the sessional committees by calendar year.1

I. GENERAL SURVEY

4. During the period under review, 118 States Members of the United Nations, which were not members of the Council, were invited to participate, without vote, in the plenary sessions of the Economic and Social Council.

5. The past practice regarding the mention of observers in the summary records of the Council and the issuance of invitations to observers was maintained. States which were not Members of the United Nations continued to send observers to attend sessions of the Council.

6. The following table shows, by session, the number of States that were not members of the Council that were invited to participate in the deliberations of the Council or its Committees of the Whole. It covers the period from 1 January 1979 to 31 December 1984.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Invitation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>Seven invitations by the Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>Seventeen invitations by the Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>Nine invitations by the Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>Sixteen invitations by the Council, five by the Social Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Seven invitations by the Council, four by the Social Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Seventeen invitations by the Council, five by the Social Committee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


2See Repertory, Supplement No. 1, vol. II, under Article 69, paras. 6 and 8; and Supplement No. 2, vol. III, under Article 69, para. 4. The inclusion of the list of participants (Council members and non-members) in individual summary records was resumed with the forty-ninth session.

II. ANALYTICAL SUMMARY OF PRACTICE

**A. Competence of the Council to decide whether a matter is of “particular concern” to a Member of the United Nations**

**B. Meaning of the phrase “matter of particular concern” to a Member of the United Nations**

**C. Scope of the invitations issued by the Council**

**D. Scope of the participation of non-members in the deliberations of the Council**

**E. Extension of the provision of Article 69 to the subsidiary organs of the Council**

1. REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

7. On 3 August 1979, by its resolution 1979/62, the Council adopted an amendment to the terms of reference of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and noted that Fiji and the Solomon Islands had become members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

8. On 24 July 1981, by its decision 1981/188, the Council, having considered the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation and noting that Zimbabwe had become a full member of the Economic Commission for Africa, decided to amend the terms of reference of the Commission to take account of the admission of the above-mentioned member.

**Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific**

**Thirty-fourth session:** Representatives of the Holy See and Liechtenstein participated under article 8 of the Commission’s terms of reference.

A representative of Israel participated under article 11 of the Commission’s terms of reference.

**Thirty-fifth session:** Representatives of the Holy See and Liechtenstein participated under article 8 of the Commission’s terms of reference.

Representatives of Algeria, Argentina and Israel were also present under article 11 of the Commission’s terms of reference.

**Economic Commission for Europe**

**Thirty-fourth session:** Representatives of the Holy See and Liechtenstein participated under article 8 of the Commission’s terms of reference.

A representative of Israel participated under article 11 of the Commission’s terms of reference.

**Thirty-fifth session:** Representatives of the Holy See and Liechtenstein participated under article 8 of the Commission’s terms of reference.

Representatives of Israel and Jamaica participated under article 11 of the Commission’s terms of reference.

**Thirty-sixth session:** Representatives of the Holy See and Liechtenstein participated under article 8 of the Commission’s terms of reference.

Representatives of the Holy See and Liechtenstein participated under article 8 of the Commission’s terms of reference.

Representatives of Algeria, Argentina and Israel were also present under article 11 of the Commission’s terms of reference.

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9 E S C (1982), Suppl. No. 9.
10 E S C (1983), Suppl. No. 11.
12 E S C (1979), Suppl. No. 13, para. 367.
13 E S C (1980), Suppl. No. 6, para. 375.
14 E S C (1981), Suppl. No. 12, para. 185.
15 E S C (1982), Suppl. No. 10, para. 264.
16 E S C (1983), Suppl. No. 12, para. 251.
Observers of Switzerland and the Holy See, States not Members of the United Nations, were also present.

Fortieth session: Austria, Belgium, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kenya, Madagascar, Morocco, Panama, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Turkey, Uganda, Uruguay and Yugoslavia.

Observers of Switzerland and the Holy See, States not Members of the United Nations, were also present.

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Nineteenth session: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Norway, Romania, Sweden and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Twentieth session: Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Norway, Philippines, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Yugoslavia. The Holy See, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland attended meetings in a consultative capacity.

Economic Commission for Africa

Fourteenth session: Austria, Canada, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and United States of America.

The Holy See, a State not a Member of the United Nations, was represented by an observer.

Fifteenth session: Austria, Belgium, Canada, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and United States of America.

Observers for the Holy See and Switzerland, States not Members of the United Nations, were also present.

Sixteenth session: Cuba, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, India, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Yugoslavia.

The Holy See, a State not a member of the United Nations, was represented by an observer.

Seventeenth session: Argentina, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Democratic Yemen, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yemen and Yugoslavia.

Observers for the Holy See, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland, States not Members of the United Nations, were also present.

Eighteenth session: Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela, Viet Nam and Yugoslavia.

Observers for the Holy See, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland, States not Members of the United Nations, were also present.

Nineteenth session: Austria, Canada, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Mexico, Spain, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Venezuela, Viet Nam.

Observers for the Holy See, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland, States not Members of the United Nations, were also present.

Economic Commission for Western Asia

Sixth session: France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, Morocco, Netherlands, Tunisia, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.

Seventh session: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Hungary, India, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and United States of America.


Ninth session: Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, India, Italy, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco, Netherlands, Tunisia and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

18 E S C (1985), Suppl. No. 12, para. 506.
19 E S C (1984), Suppl. No. 12, chap. III, paras. 4 and 5, E/1981/56 (ECLA resolution 432 (XIX), calendar of conferences).
20 E S C (1979), Suppl. No. 15, Part II, para. 6.
21 E S C (1980), Suppl. No. 7, Part II, para. 5.
23 E S C (1982), Suppl. No. 11, chap. III, para. 3.
29 E S C (1982), Suppl. No. 12, chap. III, para. 22.
The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America participated in a consultative capacity in the work of the ninth session.

Tenth session: Algeria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, India, Japan, Morocco, Netherlands, Philippines, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The United States of America participated in a consultative capacity in the work of the tenth session. Switzerland also participated in the meetings in the same capacity.

Eleventh session: Algeria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Philippines, Poland, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America and Yugoslavia.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Switzerland also participated in the meetings in a consultative capacity.

2. COMMITTEES AND FUNCTIONAL COMMISSIONS

9. During the period under review, the following functional commissions extended an invitation, in accordance with their past practice, to States not members of the body in question to participate in its deliberations: Commission on Human Rights, Population Commission, Commission on the Status of Women, Commission for Social Development, Commission on Narcotic Drugs and Statistical Commission.

**F. Participation of States not Members of the United Nations in the deliberations of the Council and its subsidiary organs**

**1. THE COUNCIL AND ITS COMMITTEES**

2. REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS

10. On 3 August 1979, by its resolution 1979/62, the Economic and Social Council decided that New Hebrides and Niue should be admitted as associate members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and Pacific.

11. At its 41st plenary meeting, on 24 July 1981, the Council, having considered the report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation, noted that the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and the Economic Commission for Latin America had admitted Guam and the Netherlands Antilles, respectively, to associate membership in their commissions and decided to amend the terms of reference of the commissions concerned to take account of the admission of the above-mentioned associate members.

3. FUNCTIONAL COMMISSIONS

12. During the period under review, the following functional commissions invited States that were not Members of the United Nations to participate in their respective sessions: Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Population Commission, Commission for Social Development, Commission on the Status of Women and Commission on Human Rights.

**G. Question of the interpretation of Article 69 in connection with the admission to membership in regional commissions of States not Members of the United Nations**

32 Forty-seven such States sent observers to take part in the proceedings of the Commission at its thirty-fifth session; 39 at the thirty-sixth session; 50 at the thirty-seventh session; 57 at the thirty-eighth session; 63 at the thirty-ninth session; and 62 at the fortieth session.
33 Two such States sent observers to take part in the proceedings of the Commission at its twentieth session; two at the twenty-first session; and 16 at the twenty-second session.
34 Twenty-three such States sent observers to take part in the proceedings of the Commission at its twenty-eighth session; 28 at the twenty-ninth session; and 25 at the thirtieth session.
35 Twenty-one such States sent observers to take part in the proceedings of the Commission at its twenty-sixth session; 20 at the twenty-seventh session; 26 at the twenty-eighth session; and 26 at the twenty-ninth session.
36 Thirty-seven such States sent observers to take part in the proceedings of the Commission at its twenty-sixth session; 36 at the sixth special session; 35 at the twenty-ninth session; 32 at the seventh special session; 36 at the thirtieth session; and 23 at the eight special session.
37 Six such States sent observers to take part in the proceedings of the Commission at its twentieth session; three at the twenty-first session; five at the twenty-second session; and four at the twenty-third session.