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 (the Council) as described in the previous studies of this Article in the Repertory and its Supplements Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7. 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 past supplements, the Council’s sessional committees were referred to by the session numbers. However, pursuant to 1978 modifications to the symbol series for documents, this Supplement refers to the sessional committees by calendar year through the 1993 substantive session of the Council. Starting from the 1994 substantive session, the work of the sessional committees was subsumed into the plenary of the Council in pursuance of a directive in paragraph 17 of annex I to General Assembly resolution 48/162 of 20 December 1993.

I. GENERAL SURVEY

4. During the period under review, the practice was continued of inviting all States Members of the United Nations that are not members of the Economic and Social Council to participate, without a vote, in the plenary sessions of the Council.

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

II. ANALYTICAL SUMMARY OF PRACTICE

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

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

**C. The scope of the invitations by the Council

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

E. The extension of the provision of Article 69 to the subsidiary organs of the Council

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2 See 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.
6. At its second regular session of 1990, the Economic and Social Council decided\(^4\) to approve the admission of Italy as a member of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean and to amend the first sentence of paragraph 3 (a) of the terms of reference of the Commission accordingly.

7. At its second regular session of 1991, the Economic and Social Council decided\(^5\) to amend paragraph 7 of the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Europe by adding Israel to the list of members of the Commission.

8. At the same session, the Economic and Social Council, noting that Kiribati had become a member of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, decided\(^6\) to amend paragraphs 3 and 4 of the terms of reference of the Commission accordingly.

9. At its substantive session of 1992, the Economic and Social Council recommended\(^7\) that Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan be included in the geographical scope of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and be admitted as members of the Commission, and decided to amend paragraphs 2 and 3 of the terms of reference of the Commission accordingly.

\(^3\) *Ibid.*, paras. 7, 9 and 10; *ibid.*, para. 4, respectively.
10. At the same session, the Economic and Social Council, having noted that the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea had become a member of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, decided\(^8\) to amend paragraph 3 of the terms of reference of the Commission accordingly.

11. Also at the same session, the Economic and Social Council, having noted that the Federated States of Micronesia and the Marshall Islands had become members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, decided\(^9\) to amend paragraphs 3 and 4 of the terms of reference of the Commission accordingly.

12. At the same session, the Economic and Social Council approved\(^10\) the recommendation of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific that Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan be included in the geographical scope of the Commission and be admitted as members of the Commission, and decided to amend paragraphs 2 and 3 of the terms of reference of the Commission accordingly.

13. At its substantive session of 1993, the Economic and Social Council decided\(^11\) to approve the amendment of articles 3, 7, 9 and 10 of the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Europe, as contained in Commission decision N (48) of 26 April 1993\(^12\) and to modify the terms of reference of the Commission accordingly.

14. At its substantive session of 1994, the Economic and Social Council approved\(^13\) the recommendation of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific that Armenia be

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\(^12\) Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1993, Supplement No. 17 (E/1993/37), chap. IV.
included within the geographical scope of the Commission and be admitted as a member of the
Commission, and decided to amend paragraphs 2 and 3 of the terms of reference of the Commission
accordingly.

15. At the same session, the Economic and Social Council, taking into account Security Council
resolution 683 (1990) of 22 December 1990 and General Assembly resolutions 46/2 and 46/3 of 17
and the Pacific should be amended as follows:

(a) In paragraph 1 (d), the words “United Nations Technical Assistance Administration”
should be replaced by the words “relevant United Nations bodies”;

(b) In paragraph 2, the following should be added: Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated
States of) and Northern Mariana Islands (Commonwealth of).

16. Also at the same session, the Economic and Social Council decided\footnote{ESC decision 1994/303 of 29 July 1994; E/1994/SR.48.} to readmit South Africa as a
member of the Economic Commission for Africa.

17. As in the past, a number of States that are not members of the regional commissions participated
in a consultative capacity in those bodies in accordance with their respective rules of procedure:

\textit{Economic Commission for Europe}
**Forty-fourth session**:\(^\text{16}\) Israel and Japan were represented under article 11 of the terms of reference of the Commission.

**Forty-fifth session**:\(^\text{17}\) Egypt, Israel, Japan, the Philippines and Tunisia were represented under article 11 of the terms of reference of the Commission.

**Forty-sixth session**:\(^\text{18}\) Egypt, Israel and Morocco were represented under article 11 of the terms of reference of the Commission.

**Forty-seventh session**:\(^\text{19}\) Chile, Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia were represented under article 11 of the terms of reference of the Commission.

**Forty-eighth session**:\(^\text{20}\) Egypt and Morocco were represented under article 11 of the terms of reference of the Commission.

**Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**

**Forty-fifth session**:\(^\text{21}\) Chile, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Federal Republic of, Israel, Romania, Sweden and Turkey.

**Forty-sixth session**:\(^\text{22}\) Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, Israel, Norway and Sweden.

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\(^{16}\) E/1989/34 and Add.1.  
\(^{17}\) E/1990/41 and Add.1.  
\(^{19}\) E/1992/32.  
\(^{20}\) E/1993/37.  
\(^{21}\) E/1989/33.
Forty-seventh session: Germany and Israel.

Forty-eighth session: Czechoslovakia, Germany, Israel, Mexico, Norway, Sweden and Turkey.

Forty-ninth session: Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Germany, Israel and Sweden.

Fiftieth session: Germany and Italy.

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Twenty-third session: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, China, Egypt, Germany, Federal Republic of, Finland, Gabon, Greece, Hungary, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Lebanon, Malta, Nigeria, Norway, Poland, Romania, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Yugoslavia.

Twenty-fourth session: Belgium, Bulgaria, China, Czechoslovakia, Egypt, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Malaysia, Malta, Norway, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, South Africa and Sweden.

Twenty-fifth session: Austria, Belgium, China, Czech Republic, Germany, India, Japan, Malta, Republic of Korea and Russian Federation.

22 E/1990/40.  
23 E/1991/35.  
27 E/1990/43.
Economic Commission for Africa

Twenty-fourth session. Argentinia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Romania, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

Twenty-fifth session. Argentinia, Austria, Bulgaria, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Greece, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Romania, Sweden, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, Venezuela and Viet Nam.

Twenty-sixth session. Afghanistan, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, Germany, Federal Republic of, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Sweden, Turkey, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Yugoslavia and Venezuela.

Twenty-seventh session. Bulgaria, Canada, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yugoslavia and Venezuela.
Twenty-eighth session: 34 Austria, Belgium, Canada, China, Cuba, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, France, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Yemen and Yugoslavia.

Twenty-ninth session: 35 Belgium, Canada, China, Cuba, Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, France, Germany, Greece, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Japan, Norway, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sweden, United States of America and Yugoslavia.

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Fifteenth session: 36 Algeria, Bulgaria, China, Czechoslovakia, France, German Democratic Republic, Germany, Federal Republic of, Hungary, Japan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Turkey and Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Sixteenth session: 37 Australia, Chile, France, Germany, Greece, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Philippines, Romania, Russian Federation, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Tunisia and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

Seventeenth session: 38 Armenia, China, France, Germany, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Morocco, Poland, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Yugoslavia.

34 E/1993/38.
36 E/1989/36.
37 E/1992/34.
2. FUNCTIONAL COMMISSIONS

18. During the period under review, the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council continued their practice of extending invitations to all States Members of the United Nations that were not members of the respective commission to participate in the work of the commission without a vote.

3. Participation of States not Members of the United Nations and other entities in the deliberations of the Council and its subsidiary organs

**1. THE COUNCIL AND ITS COMMITTEES

2. REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

19. At its second regular session of 1991, the Economic and Social Council, having noted that Macau had become an associate member of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, decided\(^{39}\) to amend paragraphs 2 and 4 of the terms of reference of the Commission accordingly.

20. At its substantive session of 1992, the Economic and Social Council, having noted that French Polynesia and New Caledonia had become associate members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, decided\(^{40}\) to amend paragraphs 2 and 4 of the terms of reference of the Commission accordingly.

21. As in the past, a number of States that are not members of the United Nations participated in a consultative capacity in the work of the regional commissions in accordance with their respective rules of procedure:

_Economic Commission for Europe_

_Forty-fourth session:_\textsuperscript{41} Representatives of the Holy See participated under article 8 of the terms of reference of the Commission.

_Forty-fifth session:_\textsuperscript{42} Representatives of the Holy See participated under article 8 of the terms of reference of the Commission.

_Forty-sixth session:_\textsuperscript{43} Representatives of the Holy See participated under article 8 of the terms of reference of the Commission.

_Forty-seventh session:_\textsuperscript{44} Representatives of the Holy See participated under article 8 of the terms of reference of the Commission.

_Forty-eighth session:_\textsuperscript{45} Representatives of the Holy See participated under article 8 of the terms of reference of the Commission.

_Forty-ninth session:_\textsuperscript{46} Representatives of the Holy See participated under article 8 of the terms of reference of the Commission.

\textsuperscript{41} E/1989/34 and Add.1.  
\textsuperscript{42} E/1990/41 and Add.1.  
\textsuperscript{43} E/1991/36.  
\textsuperscript{44} E/1992/32.
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Forty-fifth session: 47 Switzerland and Holy See.

Forty-sixth session: 48 Holy See.

Forty-seventh session: 49 Holy See.

Forty-eighth session: 50 Holy See.

Forty-ninth session: 51 Holy See.

Fiftieth session: 52 Holy See.

Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

Twenty-third session: 53 Holy See and Switzerland.

Twenty-fourth session: 54 Holy See and Switzerland.

45 E/1993/37.
47 E/1989/33.
49 E/1991/35.
51 E/1993/36.
53 E/1990/43.
Twenty-fifth session: Holy See and Switzerland.

Economic Commission for Africa

Twenty-fourth session: Holy See, Republic of Korea and Switzerland.

Twenty-fifth session: Holy See, Republic of Korea and Switzerland.

Twenty-sixth session: Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, Holy See and Switzerland.

Twenty-seventh session: Holy See and Switzerland.

Twenty-eighth session: Holy See.

Twenty-ninth session: Holy See.

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

Seventeenth session: Holy See.

54 E/1992/35.
56 E/1989/35.
57 E/1990/42.
60 E/1993/38.
3. FUNCTIONAL COMMISSIONS

22. During the period under review, the following functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council invited States that were not Members of the United Nations to participate in their respective sessions: Commission on Human Rights,\(^63\) Population Commission,\(^64\) Commission on Social Development,\(^65\) Commission on the Status of Women,\(^66\) Statistical Commission,\(^67\) Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,\(^68\) Commission on Sustainable Development,\(^69\) and Commission on Narcotic Drugs.\(^70\)

**G. The 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

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\(^63\) Observers for the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, the Holy See, the Republic of Korea, and Switzerland attended the forty-fifth, forty-sixth, and forty-seventh sessions of the Commission; observers for the Holy See and Switzerland attended the forty-eighth, forty-ninth sessions, fiftieth and third special sessions.

\(^64\) An observer for the Holy See attended the twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth sessions of the Commission; observers for the Holy See and Switzerland attended the twenty-seventh and twenty-eighth sessions.

\(^65\) Observers for the Holy See and Switzerland attended the thirty-first, thirty-second and thirty-third sessions of the Commission.

\(^66\) Observers for the Holy See, the Republic of Korea and Switzerland attended the thirty-third, thirty-fourth and thirty-fifth sessions of the Commission; observers for the Holy See and Switzerland also attended the thirty-sixth, thirty-seventh and thirty-eighth sessions.

\(^67\) An observer for Switzerland attended the twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh sessions of the Commission.

\(^68\) Observers for the Holy See and Switzerland attended the first, second and third sessions of the Commission.

\(^69\) An observer for Switzerland attended the organizational session of the Commission; observers for the Holy See and Switzerland attended the first and second sessions of the Commission.

\(^70\) Observers for the Holy See and the Republic of Korea attended the eleventh special session and the thirty-fourth session of the Commission; observers for the Holy See and Monaco attended the thirty-fifth session; and observers for the Holy See also attended the first and second parts of the thirty-sixth session and the thirty-seventh session.