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### Committee of Experts on Public Administration

#### Twenty-fourth session

New York, 7-11 April 2025

Item 2 of the provisional agenda

#### Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

### Annotated provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Institutional aspects of the theme of the 2025 session of the Economic and Social Council and the 2025 high-level political forum on sustainable development.
4. Peer exchange with voluntary national review countries and voluntary local review cities on experiences and promising practices in implementing Sustainable Development Goals 16 and 17.
5. Principles of effective governance for delivery of equitable and sustainable development for all.
6. Role of Governments in ensuring transparency and accountability of artificial intelligence systems in public administration.
7. Sustainable public finance.
8. Strategies for changing mindsets in the public sector, retaining talent and attracting younger workers.
9. Leveraging key advances in building strong institutions and governance for climate action, focusing on clean energy transition.
10. Institution-building in post-conflict countries.
11. Dedicated consultation with observers.
12. Provisional agenda of the twenty-fifth session of the Committee.
13. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its twenty-fourth session.

### Annotations

#### 1. Election of officers



The Committee will elect a Chair, three Vice-Chairs and a Rapporteur for the twenty-fourth session. The Chair, Vice-Chairs and Rapporteur constitute the Bureau. In accordance with established practice, the officers will continue to act as the Bureau for the duration of the current term and will consult with newly appointed Committee members in preparation for the twenty-fifth session.

**2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters**

The Committee will be invited to adopt the agenda of the twenty-fourth session on the basis of the provisional agenda approved by the Economic and Social Council in its decision 2024/331. In the same decision, the Council decided that the twenty-fourth session of the Committee would be held at United Nations Headquarters from 7 to 11 April 2025. The morning meetings will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the afternoon meetings from 3 to 6 p.m. Informal meetings and events may be held at other times.

*Documentation*

Annotated provisional agenda ([E/C.16/2025/1](#))

**3. Institutional aspects of the theme of the 2025 session of the Economic and Social Council and the 2025 high-level political forum on sustainable development**

The theme of the high-level political forum on sustainable development for 2025 and of the Council for the 2025 session will be “Advancing sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for leaving no one behind”. Without prejudice to the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of all the Sustainable Development Goals, participants in the forum will also review in depth Goal 3 (good health and well-being), Goal 5 (gender equality), Goal 8 (decent work and economic growth), Goal 14 (life below water) and Goal 17 (strengthening the means of implementation and revitalizing global partnerships). The 2025 forum will further support the implementation of the political declaration of the 2023 Sustainable Development Goals Summit and result in a negotiated ministerial declaration.

The Committee will consider the theme and the Goals under review, as well as the follow-up to the political declaration of the 2023 Sustainable Development Goals Summit and outcomes of the Summit of the Future, from a governance and public administration perspective, and adopt its contribution to the forum under this agenda item.

*Documentation*

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the expert paper on governance and institutional perspectives on advancing sustainable, inclusive, science and evidence-based solutions for the Sustainable Development Goals ([E/C.16/2025/2](#))

Contribution of the Committee to the 2025 high-level political forum on sustainable development

**4. Peer exchange with voluntary national review countries and voluntary local review cities on experiences and promising practices in implementing Sustainable Development Goals 16 and 17**

As its twenty-fourth session, the Committee may again invite a small number of voluntary national review countries and voluntary local review cities to engage in an interactive exchange on the institutional aspects of Goals 16 and 17, taking into account the interlinkages with the other Goals. This could include reflections on the

use of the principles of effective governance for sustainable development, endorsed by the Council in July 2018, as a guide to advancing sustainable, inclusive, science and evidence-based solutions for the SDGs. The experts would be invited to prepare insights for consideration based on country inputs, identify challenges, pose questions and provide proposals that could contribute to accelerated actions to achieve the Goals. The Committee may also reflect on how best to support the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions to advance the decade of action to deliver the Goals, building on the process of voluntary national reviews conducted by the high-level political forum.

*Documentation*

Conference room paper on peer exchange with voluntary national review countries and voluntary local review cities on Goals 16 and 17

**5. Principles of effective governance for delivery of equitable and sustainable development for all**

At its twenty-third session, the Committee continued its work on the application of the principles of effective governance and emphasized that the principle of leaving no one behind required a deep understanding of its significance in any given context, the identification and mapping of vulnerable groups and the development of integrated, people-centred strategies that take into account the needs and aspirations of all segments of society. This further called for inclusive, targeted interventions that engage all relevant stakeholders in addition to equity-based, responsive laws and policies that address systemic inequalities, discrimination and exclusion, based on existing good practices.

At the twenty-fourth session, the Committee will turn its attention to the application of the principles for delivery of equitable and sustainable development, discuss targeted policies to achieve equitable, responsive and effective governance, and consider cases that illustrate how the concept of equitable governance can be applied in different contexts to achieve sustainable development outcomes for all.

*Documentation*

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the expert paper on principles of effective governance for delivery of equitable and sustainable development for all ([E/C.16/2025/3](#))

**6. Role of Governments in ensuring transparency and accountability of artificial intelligence systems in public administration**

At its twenty-third session, the Committee examined issues related to the emergence of artificial intelligence, emphasized that Governments play a central role in ensuring equal access to the benefits of digital technology and preventing harm, and underscored the need for Governments, in collaboration with the relevant entities and forums of the United Nations system, to identify guiding principles and policy priorities for the regulation and use of artificial intelligence by the public sector so that the diffusion of the technology reinforces implementation of the 2030 Agenda and leaves no one behind.

At the twenty-fourth session, the Committee will expand on its study of potential ethical, regulatory, and operational risks and challenges associated with the deployment of artificial intelligence in public administration with a focus on matters pertaining to oversight and regulation, the role of Supreme Audit Institutions within a broader framework of accountability, and practices that promote strategic and responsible deployment of artificial intelligence across the public sector.

*Documentation*

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the expert paper on ensuring transparency and accountability of artificial intelligence systems in public administration ([E/C.16/2025/4](#))

**7. Sustainable public finance**

In recent years, the Committee has explored a wide range of issues in public financial management for sustainable development, among them strategic public procurement, financial oversight, budget credibility and digitalization of public financial management to increase efficiency, transparency and public trust.

At the twenty-fourth session, the Committee will examine institutional approaches to addressing SDG financing gaps, including through more rigorous medium and long-term financial planning, strengthened transparency and integrity of fiscal and budgetary processes, reform of selected financing policy areas, public sector workforce capacity-building, and enhanced stakeholder engagement. The proper management and use of emergency funding will also be considered. Building on the work of previous sessions, the Committee will conclude with a review of a broad set of recommendations for achieving sound, inclusive, science- and evidence-based public financial management to accelerate the achievement of the Goals by 2030.

*Documentation*

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the expert paper on sound, inclusive, science- and evidence-based public financial management for the Sustainable Development Goals ([E/C.16/2025/5](#))

**8. Strategies for changing mindsets in the public sector, retaining talent and attracting younger workers**

At its twenty-third session, the Committee called for sustaining the momentum of innovation in the public sector prompted by the COVID-19 pandemic, while elaborating on the need for comprehensive human resources development strategies premised on national development objectives, a change of mindsets in the public sector, raising awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals, promoting public sector workforce diversity, and building the human resource capacities of subnational authorities. Investing and building capacities in emerging areas, such as artificial intelligence, could encourage young professionals to join the public sector and motivate and retain them once hired.

At the twenty-fourth session, the Committee will consider further strategies for attracting and retaining a qualified public sector workforce, including by fostering conditions of employment that appeal to younger generations. The role of social dialogue among governments, employers, workers and civil society organizations in promoting a sense of shared responsibility for sustainable development outcomes may also feature.

*Documentation*

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the expert paper on strategies for attracting and retaining a qualified public sector workforce and leaving no one behind ([E/C.16/2025/6](#))

**9. Leveraging key advances in building strong institutions and governance for climate action, focusing on clean energy transition**

Recognizing that climate change mitigation and adaptation call for technical and programmatic shifts as well as reform of institutional structures, cultures, and capacities, the Committee decided to study the institutional challenges and opportunities related to climate action and the protection of natural resources, both on land and under water, for the first time at its twenty-first session. The Committee has observed that poor performance can often be attributed to institutional factors, such as the fragmentation of responsibility for combating climate change and for the sustainable management, protection and restoration of natural resources in many countries. Recommended actions have included strengthening the use and capacity of the public sector in natural capital accounting, increasing training for governments in developing countries to analyse climate data and design projects that can attract investments at all levels, and strengthening collaboration between government and the insurance industry to better mitigate the risks associated with climate change and address insurance gaps.

At the twenty-fourth session, the Committee will continue its discussion of institutions, climate action and environment, focussing on the role of robust governance structures, policy coordination and strong institutions to manage the dual challenge of extreme heat and a clean energy transition.

#### *Documentation*

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the expert paper on effective governance for extreme heat: integrating institutional frameworks with the clean energy transition ([E/C.16/2025/7](#))

### **10. Institution-building in post-conflict countries**

In its resolution [70/262](#) on the review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture, the General Assembly stressed the importance of closer cooperation between the Economic and Social Council and the Peacebuilding Commission and encouraged the Commission to draw on the expertise of relevant subsidiary bodies of the Council, with a view to contributing to the work of the Commission from a medium- to long-term perspective. The Committee has considered the question of institution-building in conflict-affected countries for the past several years. At its most recent session, in 2024, the Committee underscored the need to strengthen public financial management frameworks in such settings to accelerate poverty eradication in all its forms, rebuild public trust and manage long-term financial stressors so that short- and medium-term gains in peacebuilding and sustainable development could be secured and deepened.

At the twenty-fourth session, the Committee will continue its study of institution-building in post-conflict countries with a discussion of the governance of mental health to leave no one behind amidst a rising number of armed conflicts and the long-term economic and social impacts that mental health disorders can have on society.

#### *Documentation*

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the expert paper on the governance of mental health to leave no one behind in post-conflict countries ([E/C.16/2025/8](#))

### **11. Dedicated consultation with observers**

The Committee welcomes the engagement of observers representing Governments, permanent observers, United Nations system entities, public administration institutes and non-governmental organizations from all regions of the world in its work. In addition to entertaining ad hoc requests to take the floor during the session, time permitting, the Committee may invite observers to participate in a dedicated

consultation on the substantive items on its agenda, with an emphasis on new governance insights to advance the Goals and eradicate poverty. Speakers would be selected in advance, taking into account geographic, institutional and gender balance, as well as the relevance of proposed interventions to the Committee's deliberations.

**12. Provisional agenda of the twenty-fifth session of the Committee**

In accordance with General Assembly resolution [72/305](#), the Committee should adopt a theme for its twenty-fifth session that is aligned with the main theme of the high-level political forum and the Council for 2026, while continuing to address issues necessary to discharge its other functions. The main theme for 2026 will be "Transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for a sustainable future for all". The Goals to be reviewed in depth in 2026 are: Goal 6 (clean water and sanitation), Goal 7 (affordable and clean energy), Goal 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), Goal 11 (sustainable cities and communities), and Goal 17 (strengthening the means of implementation and revitalizing global partnerships).

In discussing the draft provisional agenda of its twenty-fifth session, the Committee may wish to build on the experience and accomplishments of previous years. Members could consider whether doing so would contribute to the work of the Committee and further enhance its profile through the forward-looking study of critical issues in governance and public administration relevant to the implementation of and follow-up to the 2030 Agenda.

**13. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its twenty-fourth session**

The Committee will adopt a report to be submitted to the Council on the work of its twenty-fourth session. In accordance with General Assembly resolution [72/305](#), the work of the Committee should reflect the need for an integrated and action-oriented approach to the Goals and build on a solid evidence-based review of progress on the 2030 Agenda.

In accordance with General Assembly resolution [68/1](#), the Committee should include in its report an executive summary, and the report should be concise and clearly identify the conclusions and recommendations and issues that might require attention and/or action by the Council.

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