Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural) of the General Assembly
Role and main responsibilities of the technical secretariat (what do we do?)

- Provide technical secretariat support to the Committee focusing on procedural and organizational matters.
- Ensure all services are in place and are used efficiently and effectively.
- Work closely with other offices involved in the substantive work of the Committee.
- Support the Chair and the Bureau.
1) Programme of work (proposed modalities)- Interactive dialogues, general debate.
2) Documentation and draft proposals (i.e. resolutions or decisions - including introduction and action).
3) The Bureau.
4) Tools.
Programme of work

• Programme of work - circulated on the e-deleGATE portal and the Committee website.
• 14 items considered annually – 2 of which are organizational.
• General Committee to recommend items for inclusions and allocation on 14 September – GA plenary to adopt the agenda on 16 September.
Programme of work, cont’d

- 8 weeks of deliberations (5 weeks of deliberations and 3 weeks of action).
- List of speakers for general discussions with a deadline (opens on 16 September).
- Time limits: 5 minutes for individual delegations and 8 minutes for groups.
- For interactive dialogues: 2-3 minutes.
Programme of work, cont’d

• Human rights item (item 69) includes presentations by special procedure mandate-holders and other experts (around 70 expected for 77th session).
• Up to 3 experts presenting per meeting followed by an interactive dialogue with each presenter.
## DRAFT PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF WORK OF THE THIRD COMMITTEE - 77th session

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<th>Session</th>
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### Schedule

- **Monday:** AM (8:30-10:30) Social Development PM (8:30-10:30) Children Rights
- **Tuesday:** AM (8:30-10:30) Children Rights PM (8:30-10:30) Children Rights
- **Wednesday:** AM (8:30-10:30) Children Rights PM (8:30-10:30) Children Rights
- **Thursday:** AM (8:30-10:30) Children Rights PM (8:30-10:30) Children Rights
- **Friday:** AM (8:30-10:30) Children Rights PM (8:30-10:30) Children Rights

### Meetings

- **Ad Hoc Committee Meeting:** New meeting
- **Special Committee Meeting:** New meeting
Documentation and draft proposals

Useful documents:
• Historical information on items: GA annotated agenda (A/77/100)
• Working methods of the 3rd Committee: A/C.3/76/CRP.3

Pre-session
• Organization of work (A/C.3/77/L.1)
• Status of documentation – (A/C.3/77/L.1/Add.1)

In-session
• Draft resolutions and decisions (L documents A/C.3/77/L._)

Post-session
• Reports under each item with technical proceedings and action taken (to be reflected in the checklist A/C.3/77/INF/1)
Submission of draft proposals

- Submission of draft proposals (Res. and Dec.) should follow the guidelines.

- Important: use A/RES document as basis when based on previous text.

- Submission at least 4 working days in advance of action – processing and budget review.

- USE E-SUBMISSIONS.
• Sponsorship: through e-Sponsorship module in e-delegate or in room prior to action during in-person formal meetings.

• e-Sponsorship will close at the start of the consideration of a draft proposal during the meeting.
Formal and informal meetings

- Formal meetings: Plenaries of up to 3-hours in duration, with interpretation services, summary records and a press release.

- Punctuality and utilization important.

- Informal consultations do not have services mentioned above.

- All meetings announced in the UN Journal.
Bureau

• **Chair:** His Excellency José Alfonso Blanco Conde, Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic.

• **Vice-Chairs:**
  – Ms. Almaha Mubarak Althani of Qatar;
  – Ms. Marta Kaczmarska of Poland;
  – Mr. Stefano Guerra of Portugal.

• **Rapporteur:** Ms. Salini Gungaram of Mauritius.
Bureau cont’d

Functions:

• Organize the work of the Committee.

• Divides the responsibilities for draft resolutions by regions.

• Reviews the progress of work and coordinate action in the plenary.
Tools

- e-deleGATE portal (edelegate.un.int).
Social, Humanitarian & Cultural Issues (Third Committee)

Third Committee

The Third Committee of the General Assembly at its seventy-seventh session, is chaired by His Excellency José Alfonso Blanco Conde (Dominican Republic).

The General Assembly allocates to the Third Committee, agenda items relating to a range of social, humanitarian affairs and human rights issues that affect people all over the world.

As in previous sessions, an important part of the work of the Committee will focus on the examination of human rights questions, including reports of the special procedures of the Human Rights Council which was established in 2006. In October 2020, the Committee will hear and interact with special rapporteurs, independent experts, and chairs of working groups as mandated by the Human Rights Council.

The Committee also discusses questions relating to the advancement of women, the protection of children, indigenous issues, the treatment of refugees, the promotion of fundamental freedoms through the elimination of racism and racial discrimination, and the right to self-determination. The Committee also addresses important social development questions such as issues related to youth, family, ageing, persons with disabilities, crime prevention, criminal justice, and international drug control.

At the seventy-sixth session of the General Assembly, the Third Committee considered 68 draft resolutions, more than half of which were submitted under the human rights agenda item alone. These included three so-called country-specific resolutions on human rights situations.

The Third Committee is expected to consider a similar number of draft resolutions during the present session of the General Assembly.

In line with General Assembly resolution 66/246, the formal meetings of the Third Committee are webcast live on UN Web TV. Live coverage of the formal meetings is available in the six official languages of the United Nations, including the original language of the speaker. Past meetings of the session will also be available from the Committee’s dedicated video archives.
E-deleGATE portal
https://edelegate.un.int/
E-deleGATE portal (cont’d)

Third Committee Menu
The Third Committee Menu can be found by clicking on the "General Assembly" title in the main menu tab, you will be able to select the "Third Committee" title for all information on all formal or informal THIRD COMMITTEE meetings throughout the session.

Speakers List
The speakers list sections contains the link to the e-speakers module and the Live Speakers List for the General Debate.

Documents
The documents section contains links to the status of documentation, the documentation per agenda item.

Contact list
The contact list section contains links to the delegates of the Committee contact list as well as the Secretariat contact list.

Draft Proposals
The draft proposals section contains the link to e-Sponsorship and e-Submission, e-voting intentions module, the procedure for submission of draft proposals, as well as links to the list of draft proposals and the status of action on draft proposals at the current session.

Documents
The documents section contains links to the status of documentation, the documentation per agenda item, the list of draft proposals, the status of action on draft proposals, and the voting records of the current session.

e-list of participants
The e-list of participants is a module that allows delegations to enter the names of the participants that will be attending the session.

Third Committee Place
The Committee Place is a module in which informal documents such as zero draft proposals are shared under each specific agenda items. Request for posting on the Committee Place should be sent to thirdcommittee@un.org.

Third Committee Website
Also available under the Third Committee menu are the links to the Committee Website, the Press Releases, and the Webcast Videos.

Instructional Videos
Instructional videos with more detailed instructions on how to use the various modules are also available on the e-deleGATE portal under the Third Committee Menu.

For additional information, please email thirdcommittee@un.org
Thank you

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