

COMMISSION for SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

United Nations Headquarters, New York



United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Division for Inclusive Social Development



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Sixty-fourth Session of the Commission for Social Development

Ministerial Forum on “Leveraging the outcomes of the Second World Summit for Social Development from Copenhagen to Doha: Mobilizing national action towards 2030 and beyond”

Tuesday, 3 February 2026, 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Conference Room 4, UNHQ

Concept Note



1. Background

The World Summit for Social Development, held in 1995, laid the foundation for a global pursuit of social development. Its Copenhagen Declaration and Programme of Action represented a new consensus on the need to put people at the centre of development and included ten core commitments, focusing on eradicating poverty, achieving full employment, promoting social integration, and ensuring gender equality and universal access to education and healthcare, all within an enabling environment. In the Declaration, Member States also agreed to promote international peace and security, accelerate development in Africa and the least developed countries, and mobilize resources for achieving social progress.

The Second World Summit for Social Development, held in 2025, reaffirmed these global commitments to social development and delivered the Doha Political Declaration, which built on the Copenhagen commitments by reaffirming the three interrelated and mutually reinforcing pillars of social development – poverty eradication, full and productive employment and decent work for all, and social integration – while aligning them with the evolving international development agenda, including the Sustainable Development Goals, and acknowledging today’s new realities. Persistent inequalities, climate-related vulnerabilities, digital divides and the impacts of global crises, for instance, demand renewed political will and innovative strategies to ensure inclusive and sustainable social development.

With 2030 fast approaching, the urgency to translate these commitments into concrete national actions has intensified. As the body with the primary responsibility for the follow-up to the Doha Summit, the Commission for Social Development will build on the renewed political momentum to deliberate on the next steps.

The Commission for Social Development will convene its sixty-fourth session from 2 to 10 February 2026. On 3 February 2026, a Ministerial Forum will be convened to examine the theme “*Leveraging the outcomes of the Second World Summit for Social Development from Copenhagen to Doha: Mobilizing national action towards 2030 and beyond*”, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

2. Objective and structure

The forum will provide Ministers the opportunity to present and discuss national actions and policies that can translate the vision and commitments of Copenhagen and Doha into reality.

Panellists are invited to structure their presentations around the following guiding questions to stimulate reflection, accountability, and forward-looking strategies, while connecting the historical commitments of Copenhagen with the renewed momentum from Doha: What practical steps can governments take to advance the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda? What practical steps can governments take to align national development strategies with the Doha Political Declaration? How can national policies ensure inclusivity, especially for marginalized groups, in the face of rising inequality? What does “social development beyond 2030” look like, and how can nations prepare for emerging vulnerabilities?

The outcome of the discussions will be reflected in the Chair’s summary.

Proposed time allocation for the panel discussion

Speaker	Suggested speaking time
Chair: Opening remarks and introduction	5 minutes
5 Panellists: Presentations and Q&A from the chair	10-minute presentation per panellist, followed by one or two questions each from the chair with a 2–3-minute response per panellist
Q & A: From the floor	60 minutes
Chair: Giving the floor to panel	2 minutes
Panellists: Concluding remarks	2–3 minutes per panellist
Chair: Summary, conclusion and closing	5 minutes