

PLENARY SESSION

December 2024

Detailed draft agenda

Plenary session No	592
Date	4-5/12/2024
Venue	European Commission Charlemagne building
Room	Alcide De Gasperi room
First day of plenary session	4/12/2024, 14:30 – 18:30
Second day of plenary session	5/12/2024, 9:00 – 13:00

DEBATES

Priorities of the upcoming presidency of the European Council: presentation and exchange of views, with António Costa, President of the European Council, at 15:00 on Wednesday 4 December 2024.

EESC Housing Forum linked to the adoption of the opinion TEN/841 *Social housing in the EU – decent, sustainable and affordable* at 11:30 on Thursday 5 December 2024.

Democracy in Africa with **Nana Kyeretwie Osei**, Head of Programs at African Union Economic Social and Cultural Council; **Louis Cheick Sissoko**, Chair of the ECOSOCC Cluster on Political Affairs; and **Sifa Chiyoge Buchekabiri**, Regional Director and CEO of the International Cooperative Alliance-Africa (ICA-Africa), linked to the adoption of the opinion REX/584 *Democracy in Africa – current situation and future perspectives. What role for the EESC?* at 16:30 on Wednesday 4 December 2024.

International Day of Persons with Disabilities, and celebration of the Olympic spirit at 9:00 on Thursday 5 December 2024.

Deadlines for amendments:

- Individual amendments had to be submitted no later than **18:00 on Thursday 28 November**;
- Compromises are to be submitted no later than **13:00 on Tuesday 3 December**;
- Group amendments are to be submitted no later than **noon on Wednesday 4 December**.

Please remember to sign the attendance list at the entrance to the meeting room.

N.B.: This is not the final version of the draft agenda, which will be approved by the Bureau on 3 December 2024.

This meeting will be recorded following the procedure set out in Decision No 206/17A. [Privacy statement](#)

Wednesday, 4 December 2024

14:30

OPENING OF THE PLENARY SESSION

1. Presence of a quorum
2. Adoption of the draft agenda
3. Approval of the minutes of the 591st plenary session, held on 23 and 24 October 2024
4. Statement by the President
5. **CATEGORY C OPINION**

NAT/943*

Amendment – Forest reproductive material: "tested" category, its labelling and the names of the authorities responsible for the approval and control of the production (category C opinion)

Amended proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Council Decision 2008/971/EC as regards the forest reproductive material of the "tested" category, its labelling and the names of the authorities responsible for the approval and control of the production

COM(2024) 517 final - 2024/0214 COD
EESC-2024-04230-00-00-PAC-TRA

6. **OPINIONS WITHOUT DEBATE**

CCMI/233

Sector-specific industrial policies supporting greater strategic autonomy (own-initiative opinion)

EESC-2024-02005-00-00-AS-TRA

Rapporteur: Alain COHEUR (BE-III)

Co-rapporteur: Antonello PEZZINI (IT-Cat. 1)

CCMI/235

Industrial changes in the health sector in the face of multiplying crises

(own-initiative opinion)

EESC-2024-02033-00-00-AS-TRA

Rapporteur: Florian MARIN (RO-II)

Co-rapporteur: Antonello PEZZINI (IT-Cat. 1)

* Subject to Bureau's approval

CCMI/231

Professional services in the green transition

(own-initiative opinion)

EESC-2024-01953-00-00-AS-TRA

Rapporteur: Violeta JELIĆ (HR-I)

Co-rapporteur: Gaetano STELLA (IT-Cat. 3)

INT/1058

Single market / Future enlargement of the Union

(own-initiative opinion)

EESC-2024-02187-00-00-AS-TRA

Rapporteur: Stoyan TCHOUKANOV (BG-III)

REX/593

Decision on the interpretation and application of the Energy Charter Treaty

Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council on the adoption by the Union of the Agreement on the interpretation and application of the Energy Charter Treaty between the European Union, the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States

COM(2024) 257 final - 2024/0148 COD

EESC-2024-03646-00-00-AS-TRA

Rapporteur: Christophe QUAREZ (FR-II)

REX/585

Water politics: Empowering youth, women, and indigenous and local communities

(own-initiative opinion)

EESC-2024-00874-00-00-AS-TRA

Rapporteur: Milena ANGELOVA (BG-I)

Co-rapporteur: Ioannis VARDAKASTANIS (EL-III)

DEBATE

7. **Priorities of the upcoming presidency of the European Council:** presentation and exchange of views, with **António Costa**, *President of the European Council*
- Introduction by **Oliver Röpke**, President of the EESC
 - Statement by **António Costa**, President of the European Council
 - General debate with EESC members
 - Response by **Mr Costa**
 - Conclusion by **Mr Röpke**

OPINIONS WITH DEBATE

8. **Resolution on *the European Economic and Social Committee's contribution to the 2025 European Commission's work programme***[†]
EESC-2024-03700-00-02-PRES-TRA
Rapporteurs: Christa SCHWENG (AT-I), Cinzia DEL RIO (IT-II), Ioannis VARDAKASTANIS (EL-III)

[†] Subject to Bureau's approval

DEBATE

9. **Democracy in Africa** with **Nana Kyeretwie Osei**, Head of Programs at African Union Economic Social and Cultural Council; **Louis Cheick Sissoko**, Chair of the ECOSOCC Cluster on Political Affairs; and **Sifa Chiyoge Buchekabiri**, Regional Director and CEO of the International Cooperative Alliance-Africa (ICA-Africa), linked to the adoption of the opinion REX/584 *Democracy in Africa – current situation and future perspectives. What role for the EESC?*

- Introduction by **Oliver Röpke**, President of the EESC
- Statement by **Nana Kyeretwie Osei**, Head of Programs at African Union Economic Social and Cultural Council
- Statement by **Louis Cheick Sissoko**, Chair of the ECOSOCC Cluster on Political Affairs
- Statement by **Sifa Chiyoge Buchekabiri**, Regional Director and CEO of the International Co-operative Alliance-Africa (ICA-Africa)
- Presentation of the opinion REX/584 *Democracy in Africa – current situation and future perspectives. What role for the EESC?* by the rapporteur **Carlos Manuel Trindade**
- General debate with EESC members
- Response by **Mr Trindade**
- Response by **Ms Chiyoge Buchekabiri**
- Response by **Mr Cheick Sissoko**
- Response by **Mr Osei**
- Conclusion by **Mr Röpke**

10. **REX/584**
Democracy in Africa – current situation and future perspectives. What role for the EESC?
(own-initiative opinion)
EESC-2024-01631-00-00-AS-TRA
Rapporteur: Carlos Manuel TRINDADE (PT-II)

11. **ECO/658**
Regional Emergency Support - RESTORE
Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council RESTORE – Regional Emergency Support to Reconstruction amending Regulation (EU) 2021/1058 and Regulation (EU) 2021/1057
COM(2024) 496 final - 2024/0275 COD
EESC-2024-03939-00-00-PAC-TRA
Rapporteur-General: Ioannis VARDAKASTANIS (EL-III)

12. **NAT/942**
Amendment to EAFRD to provide additional assistance to Member States affected by natural disasters
Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulation (EU) 2020/2220 as regards specific measures under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) to provide additional assistance to Member States affected by natural disasters
COM(2024) 495 final - 2024/0274 COD
EESC-2024-04085-00-03-PAC-TRA
Rapporteur-General: Peter SCHMIDT (DE-II)
13. **INT/1064**
The cost of non-Schengen for the single market / Bulgaria and Romania
(own-initiative opinion)
EESC-2024-01449-00-00-AS-TRA
Rapporteur: Mariya MINCHEVA (BG-I)
14. **ECO/644**
Review of the legal framework for securitisation in the EU
(own-initiative opinion)
EESC-2024-00531-00-00-AS-TRA
Rapporteur: Philip VON BROCKDORFF (MT-II)
Co-rapporteur: Antonio GARCÍA DEL RIEGO (ES-I)

18:30

ADJOURNMENT

RESUMPTION

09:00

15. International Day of Persons with Disabilities and celebration of the Olympic spirit
- Introduction by **Oliver Röpke**, President of the EESC
 - Statement by **Anne d'Ieteren**, President of the *French-Speaking League for Disability Sports*
 - Statement by **Joachim Gérard**, Belgian athlete
 - Statement by **representatives of the EESC permanent group on disability rights**
 - General debate with EESC members
 - Response by **representatives of the EESC permanent group on disability rights**
 - Response by **Mr Gérard**
 - Response by **Ms d'Ieteren**
 - Conclusion by **Mr Röpke**

OPINIONS WITH DEBATE

16. **NAT/933**
Towards a just transition legislative proposal and EU policy tools that enable a more social European Green Deal
(own-initiative opinion)
EESC-2024-01077-00-01-AS-TRA
Rapporteur: Dirk BERGRATH (DE-II)
17. **TEN/836**
Labour and skills shortages in transport, energy, infrastructure and the digital sector
(own-initiative opinion)
EESC-2024-01463-00-00-AS-TRA
Rapporteur: Thomas KATTNIG (AT-II)
18. **ECO/640**
Revision of the Territorial Agenda 2030
(own-initiative opinion)
EESC-2024-01368-00-01-AS-TRA
Rapporteur: Stefano PALMIERI (IT-II)

19. **SOC/794**

Factual and legislative analysis of the migration flows' integration in the EU labour market

(own-initiative opinion)

EESC-2024-01017-00-00-AS-TRA

Rapporteur: Panagiotis GKOFAS (EL-III)

Co-rapporteur: José Antonio MORENO DÍAZ (ES-II)

+/- 11:00

BREAK

DEBATE

20. **EESC Housing Forum** linked to the adoption of the opinion TEN/841 *Social housing in the EU – decent, sustainable and affordable*

- Introduction by **Oliver Röpke**, President of the EESC

Round 1: Building an EU-wide strategy for affordable and decent housing

- Keynote speech: **Ditte Juul Jørgensen**, Director-General of Directorate-General for Energy of the European Commission (*tbc*)

Introductory statements by panellists:

- **Sorcha Edwards**, Secretary-General of *Housing Europe*
- **Carlotta Ferri**, Vice-President of the European Youth Energy Network (EYEN)
- **Pablo Panzer**, Mortgage Victims Platform (PAH) (*remotely*)
- Presentation of the opinion TEN/841 *Social housing in the EU – decent, sustainable and affordable* by the rapporteurs **Thomas Kattnig** and **Rudolf Kolbe**
- General debate with EESC members
- Response by the rapporteurs
- Response by **Mr Panzer** (*remotely*)
- Response by **Ms Ferri**
- Response by **Ms Edwards**
- Response by **Ms Juul Jørgensen**

Round 2: Increasing funding for housing

- Keynote speech: **Ioannis Tsakiris**, Vice-President of the European Investment Bank for energy efficiency in buildings and affordable housing and urban development (*tbc*)

Introductory statements by panellists:

- **Cécile Neven**, Walloon Minister for Energy, Airports, the Air-Climate Plan and Housing (*tbc*)
- **Marcos Ros Sempere**, Member of the European Parliament, S&D coordinator in the European Parliament's Committee on Regional Development
- **Andres Jaadla**, rapporteur on housing, European Committee of the Regions
- **Council of Europe Development Bank** (*name of representative tbc*)
- General debate with EESC members
- Response by **Council of Europe Development Bank** (*name of representative tbc*)
- Response by **Mr Jaadla**
- Response by **Mr Ros Sempere**
- Response by **Ms Neven** (*tbc*)
- Response by **Mr Tsakiris** (*tbc*)

21. **TEN/841**
Social housing in the EU – decent, sustainable and affordable
(own-initiative opinion)
EESC-2024-01187-00-01-AS-TRA
Rapporteur: Thomas KATTNIG (AT-II)
Co-rapporteur: Rudolf KOLBE (AT-III)
22. Decisions to be taken by the assembly
23. Any other business
24. Date of the next plenary session

± 13:00

END OF THE PLENARY SESSION

All documents are available on the Members' Portal.

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