ECOSOC Decision 2001/243

**Functioning of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and duration of its forty-fifth session**

At its 40th plenary meeting, on 24 July 2001, the Economic and Social Council decided that:

(a) The Commission on Narcotic Drugs should meet for a period not exceeding five working days at its forty-fifth session with a view to reviewing the duration of subsequent sessions;

(b) The Commission should establish a Committee of the Whole with membership open to all its States members with a view to providing assistance in dealing with the agenda and facilitating its work;

(c) The Committee of the Whole should consider specific items on the agenda, as requested by the Commission, and should submit its comments and recommendations, including draft decisions and draft resolutions, to the Commission for consideration;

(d) The Committee of the Whole should meet concurrently with the annual session of the Commission for a period not exceeding four working days;

(e) The Committee of the Whole should review and, if appropriate, adapt the modalities governing the functioning of the Committee in the light of experience, taking into account the development of the activities of the United Nations International Drug Control Programme;

(f) Simultaneous interpretation in all six official languages of the United Nations should be ensured for both the Commission and the Committee of the Whole.