

The Committee has established a voluntary national review subgroup that has been analysing the reviews presented at the high-level political forum every year since 2017. The Committee report provides points for consideration by Governments and other stakeholders participating in the reviews. Its recommendations are aimed at enhancing the role of the voluntary national reviews as an effective instrument in accelerating the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Guided by the Council s theme, the Committee produces reports and policy papers with analysis to inform its recommendations. The Committee has consistently advocated for the centrality of productive capacity to achieve the Goals, both in least developed countries and other developing countries. In response to the theme for 2022, chapter II discusses how industrial policy can help to address multiple and simultaneous challenges related to climate change, inequality and recovery from the COVID-19 crisis. The Committee intends to work on green transition and issues of debt and international finance in response to the Council s theme for 2023.

The Committee is actively involved and in contact with the Council and its subsidiary bodies and other United Nations entities. Committee members have participated in the high-level segment and the integration segment in the past and, since 2022, the coordination segment, the Development Cooperation Forum, the high-level political forum and its side events, and other Council events as well as other forums within the United Nations. The Committee has engaged in collaboration with the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, the United Conference on Trade and Development, resident coordinator offices, regional commissions, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction and, outside the United Nations system, the World Trade Organization, the International Trade Centre, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Enhanced Integrated Framework and multiple other partners in the area of coordination of support to graduating countries and policy analysis. Since 2018, it has conducted briefings on least developed country issues for Council members. In 2021, the Committee also introduced a Council interaction held after the conclusion of its plenary, which allowed for a more open discussion between Council members and the Committee. Concrete feedback on these events could assist the Committee in effective dissemination of its findings and recommendations as well as enhanced engagement with the Council.

In terms of good practices with respect to its working arrangements, the Committee notes that activities are undertaken in subgroups, thereby allowing members to focus on certain aspects of the workplan (Council theme, least developed country issues and voluntary national reviews). In its work on one of the key mandates, namely, identifying countries for graduation from the least developed country category, the Committee appoints, among its members, country rapporteurs to ensure continuity of participation in the graduation process during the years leading to a country s exit from the least developed country category and closer engagement at the country level.

Through the establishment of the least developed country graduation assessment, the Committee fostered closer interaction with the least developed countries and regional coordinator offices, allowing the graduation process to be more inclusive and transparent. The Committee has also been organizing virtual webinars and expert group meetings over the past two years and has found them to be an efficient, effective, transparent and inclusive means of disseminating work and engaging with Member States and other stakeholders.

The Committee integrates its analytical work with the intergovernmental process and through its secretariat undertakes important capacity development work that informs the analysis and recommendations of the Committee to the Council.

With respect to the Council's reform and review of subsidiary bodies, the Committee is looking forward to receiving additional guidance and to learning fromgeg