



**The President
of the
Economic and Social Council**

12 May 2006

Dear Mr. Nougá,

I have the pleasure to invite you or your representative to participate in an open consultation meeting on the future role of the Commission of Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) in the follow up to the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS).

This meeting will be convened by me, in my capacity as President of the Economic and Social Council, in preparation of the implementation of the mandate given to ECOSOC by the Summit and endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution (A/60/252) adopted by consensus on 27 March 2006. As you may recall, the Tunis Agenda for the Information Society requested “that ECOSOC oversees the system-wide follow-up of the Geneva and Tunis outcomes of WSIS. To this end, we request that ECOSOC, at its substantive session of 2006, reviews the mandate, agenda and composition of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD), including considering the strengthening of the Commission, taking into account the multi-stakeholder approach”.

I look forward to an open exchange of views, perspectives and proposals from participants on the issues related to the CSTD as outlined by the Summit in its decision quoted above. I am confident that this diversity of inputs will enrich the intergovernmental deliberations at the forthcoming substantive session of ECOSOC in July 2006 in Geneva.

The meeting will take place on 16 May 2006 from 10:00 to 1:00 pm, and from 3:00 to 6:00 pm in room XXVI of the Palais de Nations, Geneva.

For additional information on the meeting, please contact my office c/o the Office of ECOSOC Support and Coordination, UN/DESA (phone +1 212 963-4628, fax +1 212 963-1712; email simonb@un.org). Advance registration of participants and issuance of badges is done by the CSTD Secretariat (phone +41 22 917-5069, fax + 41 22 917-0122, stdev@unctad.org). We should be grateful if a confirmation of your participation is received as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Ali Hachani

Mr. Adalbert Nougá
Village Suisse ONG
Administrateur

PROGRAMME

Opening session

1. Opening statement by the President of ECOSOC.
2. Statement by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD.
3. Statement by the Secretary-General of WSIS.

Discussion

1. Chairman of CSTD.
2. Representative of DESA.
3. Statements by member states and their groupings, and by members of CSTD.
4. Statement by the President of CONGO.
5. Statement by a representative of the private sector.
6. Statements by entities of the United Nations system.

Closing statement by the President of ECOSOC