

# UN Economic and Social Development Division for Sustainable Development

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## About the UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD)

### Establishing the CSD

The United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) was **established** by the UN General Assembly in December 1992 to ensure effective follow-up of United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (**UNCED**), also known as the Earth Summit.

### CSD Responsibilities

The Commission is responsible for reviewing progress in the implementation of **Agenda 21** and the **Rio Declaration on Environment and Development**; as well as providing policy guidance to follow up the **Johannesburg Plan of Implementation (JPOI)** at the local, national, regional and international levels. The JPOI reaffirmed that the CSD is the high-level forum for sustainable development within the United Nations system.

### CSD Meetings

The CSD meets annually in New York, in two-year cycles, with each cycle focusing on clusters of specific thematic and cross-sectoral issues, outlined in its new **multi-year programme of work (2003-2017)** ([E/CN.17/2003/6](#))



The CSD has opened its sessions to broad participation from both governmental and non-governmental actors, and it supports a number of innovative activities, such as the **Partnerships Fair**, the Learning Centre and a series of panels, roundtables and side events. The **High-level segment** features dialogue among Ministers, and Ministers also hold a special dialogue session with **Major Groups**.

### CSD Membership & Bureau

As a functional commission of the **UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)**, CSD has 53 **member States** (about one third of the members are elected on a yearly basis). Each session of the CSD elects a **Bureau**, comprised of a Chair and four Vice-Chairs.

### Additional Resources

- ◆ [UN Inter-agency Coordination](#)

