

TASC granted consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) was established by the United Nations Charter, under the authority of the General Assembly, to promote:

- (a) higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of economic and social progress and development;
- (b) solutions of international economic, social, health, and related problems; and international cultural and educational cooperation; and
- (c) universal respect for, and observance of, human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction as to race, sex, language, or religion.¹

Under the Charter, ECOSOC may consult with non-governmental organisations (NGOs) concerned with matters within the Council's competence. The Council recognised that NGO's should have the opportunity to express their views, and that they possess special experience or technical knowledge of the Council's work.² Under ECOSOC resolution 1996/31,³ NGOs that wish to consult with ECOSOC can seek consultative status to facilitate this work.⁴

On **06.06.2019**, TASC National gained special consultative status. TASC representatives will now be able to actively engage with ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies in activities, conferences and events of the UN and sit as observers at ECOSOC public meetings, the Human Rights Council and other intergovernmental UN bodies. Additionally TASC will be able to make written submissions or oral presentations relevant to ECOSOC's work.

Consultative status is important for TASC's future human rights advocacy, as it will allow us to influence decision-makers at the highest international level by delivering statements, participating in negotiations and holding side events at the UN. Additionally TASC will have broader opportunities to network and lobby.

Having consultative status also means the UN regularly reviews the quality of our work, ensuring that TASC maintains set standards in order to continue to have this level of access. This review occurs in the form of a Quadrennial Report in which TASC provides a brief report of activities undertaken and how this contributes to the work of the UN.

¹ Article 55, Chapter IX, *International Economic and Social Cooperation*, Charter of the United Nations, accessed 27.06.19 at <http://www.un.org/en/sections/un-charter/chapter-ix/index.html>

² <https://www.ngocongo.org/membership/ecosoc-and-ngo-consultative-status>

³ Resolution 1996/31, *Consultative relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations*, accessed 27.06.19 at <http://www.un.org/documents/ecosoc/res/1996/eres1996-31.htm>

⁴ *ECOSOC and NGO Consultative Status*, Congo The Conference of NGO's in Consultative with the United Nations, accessed 27.06.19 <https://www.ngocongo.org/membership/ecosoc-and-ngo-consultative-status>