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HOW TO IDENTIFY UN DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT
COLLECTION

A Brief Guide to UN Document Symbols and to UN Official Records

I

Symbols of United Nations documents are composed of capital letters, combined with Arabic numerals. Roman numerals when used designate the number of the session. A slash (/) separates the components of the symbol.

The first letter(s) indicates the main organ of the UN to which the document was submitted:

A/-	General Assembly
E/-	Economic and Social Council
S/-	Security Council
T/-	Trusteeship Council
ST/-	Secretariat

Documents from the International Court of Justice do not carry symbols but do carry the initials of the Court - I.C.J.

Special symbols have also been designated for certain subsidiary organs of the UN, for instance:

CERD/-	Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
DP/-	UN Development Programme
DC/-	Disarmament Commission
TD/-	UN Conference on Trade and Development
ID/-	UN Industrial Development Organization
UNEP/-	UN Environment Programme

After the first slash, the second series of symbols indicates the sub-body within the main organ which produced the document:

-/AC. /-	Ad Hoc Committee or similar body
-/C. /-	Standing, permanent, main committee
-/CN. /-	Commission
-/CONF. /-	Conference
-/GC /-	Governing Council
-/PC. /-	Preparatory Committee
-/SC. /-	Sub-committee
-/Sub. /-	Sub-commission
-/WG. /-	Working Group
-/WP. /-	Working party

Subsidiary bodies are given an Arabic numeral which usually is assigned in order of their establishment. General Assembly main committees, for example, may be identified by the following symbols:

A/C.1/-	First Committee (Political and Security)
A/C.2/-	Second Committee (Economic and Financial)
A/C.3/-	Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian and Cultural)
A/C.4/-	Fourth Committee (Trusteeship)
A/C.5/-	Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary)
A/C.6/-	Sixth Committee (Legal)
A/SPC/-	Special Political Committee

NOTE:

Beginning with the 31st session of the General Assembly - 1 January 1976 - a new system of numbering the Assembly documentation was adopted. From that session on, instead of the consecutive numbering as previously in use, (Ex.: A/10115) the documents and the meeting records of the Assembly are numbered in separate series by session. The session is given in the symbol in Arabic numeral immediately following the indication of the body concerned, and the final element is given the serial number within the particular series concerned. For example, A/31/2 is the second in the series of main documents of the General Assembly at its thirty-first session, and A/C.5/31/12 is the twelfth in the series of documents for the Fifth Committee at that session. The numbering of the meetings is adjusted in a similar way. Thus, A/31/PV.1 is the first plenary meeting of the 31st session of the General Assembly, while the 10th meeting of the Second Committee at that same session is cited as A/C.2/31/SR.10.

Other examples of symbols designating special General Assembly bodies are:

A/CN.4/-	International Law Commission
A/CN.9/-	Commission on International Trade Law
A/CONF.62/-	Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea
A/CONF.78/-	United Nations Conference on Territorial Asylum
A/AC.179/-	Ad Hoc Committee on the Restructuring of the Economic and Social Sectors of the United Nations System
A/AC.181/-	Ad Hoc Committee on the Review of the Role of the United Nations in the Field of Disarmament
A/AC.182/-	Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization

Some Economic and Social Council symbols of special interest are:

E/C.6/	Committee on Housing, Building and Planning
E/C.7/	Committee on Natural Resources
E/C.8/	Committee on Science and Technology
E/CN.4/	Commission on Human Rights
E/CN.5/	Commission for Social Development

E/CN.11/	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
E/CN.12/	Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA)
E/CN.14/	Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
E/ECE/	Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)
E/ECWA/	Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA)

The following letters are added to the basic series symbols to denote the nature of the document. Examples:

-/INF/-	Information series
-/L.	Limited distribution documents, such as draft resolutions and amendments
-/MIN.	Minutes
-/NGO/-	Statements by non-governmental organizations
-/PET/-	Petitions
-/PV.	Procès-verbaux - Verbatim records of meetings. NOTE: These are not available to the public until they appear in final printed form, about one year after the meeting has taken place. At that time they are sales items.
-/RES/-	Mimeographed texts of adopted resolutions
-/SR.	Summary records of meetings
-/WP.	Working Paper

To indicate modifications of the text of the main documents, the following are used:

-/Add.	(Addendum) Indicates an addition to the main document
-/Amend.	(Amendment) Indicates the alteration, by decision of the competent authority, of a portion of an adopted formal text. (Not used to correct technical errors.)
-/Corr.	(Corrigendum) Corrects errors in the text of the main document
-/Excerpt	Indicates the reissue of an excerpt from a document when only that portion is required
-/Rev.	(Revision) Indicates new version of a document, replacing texts previously issued
-/Summary	Indicates a summary of a report, prepared specifically to facilitate its consideration by an organ

Reports of main bodies are reproduced in the official records, which are sales publications, after which the mimeographed documents are no longer available. Reports of committees and other sub-bodies may be included in the volumes of annexes to the official records of the United Nations organ to which they report, or they may be reprinted in sales form separately.

SERIES RECORDING

MICROPRINT + MICROFICHE CARDS
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UNITED NATIONS		MICROPRINT	
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	880 - 881		Box 10 - 1981
	882	SEE: TDBOR, 23 rd Jan 84	
also: 882 microfiche 1982	883 - 884		Box 10 - 1981
	885 - 892		Microfiche 1982
	893		Microfiche 1982
	894 - 906		Microfiche 1982
	907		Microfiche 1982
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990	26 Mar 84	999	25 Jun 84
991	26 Mar 84	1000	25 Jun 84
992	26 Mar 84	1001	22 Jun 84
993	27 Mar 84	1002	22 Jun 84
994	5 Apr 84		
		1003	1 Aug 84
996*	See TDBOR 23 rd Jan 84	1004	26 Jun 84
* 996 also Suppl 1A		1005	6 July 84

← TD/B/1007
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UNITED NATIONS SALES PUBLICATIONS CATEGORIES

ALL CATALOGED IN MIRLYN

- I. General (handbooks, rules of procedure)
- II.A. Economics
- II.B. Economic development
- II.C. World economy and Western Asia
- II.D. Trade, finance and commerce
- II.E. European economy
- II.F. Asian economy
- II.G. Latin American economy
- II.H. Public administration (formerly Technical assistance)
- II.K. African economy
- IV. Social questions (especially housing and women)
- V. International law
- VI.A. Trusteeship (inactive)
- VI.B. Non-self-governing territories (inactive)
- VII. Political and Security Council affairs
- VIII. Transport and communications
- IX. Atomic energy
- X. International administration
- XI. Narcotic drugs
- XII. Education, science and culture (inactive)
- XIII. Demography
- XIV. Human rights
- XV. United Nations Institute for Training and Research
- XVI. Public finance and fiscal questions
- XVII. International statistics
 - United Nations Statistical Yearbook
 - ST/STAT/SER.A/ - Population and vital statistics
 - ST/STAT/SER.B/ - Statistical notes
 - ST/STAT/SER.C/ - Sampling studies
 - ST/STAT/SER.D/ - Commodity trade statistics
 - ST/STAT/SER.E/ - National income statistics
 - ST/STAT/SER.F/ - Studies in statistical methods
 - ST/STAT/SER.G/ - Yearbook of international trade statistics
 - ST/STAT/SER.H/ - Statistics of national income and expenditure
 - ST/STAT/SER.J/ - World energy supplies
 - ST/STAT/SER.K/ - Social statistics
 - ST/STAT/SER.N/ - Miscellaneous statistical papers
(Includes SITC code and Directory of international statistics)
 - ST/STAT/SER.N/ - Compendium of housing statistics
 - ST/STAT/SER.O/ - Yearbook of national accounts statistics
 - ST/STAT/SER.P/ - Growth of world industry
Yearbook of industrial statistics
 - ST/STAT/SER.T/ - Direction of international trade

E/F/R.76.II.E.16 = Annual Bulletin of Trade in Chemical Products, 1974

E/F/R = Tri-lingual, English, French and Russian

76 = 1976, publication year

II.E. = European economy

16 = Publication number 16 of 1976

UNITED NATIONS OFFICIAL RECORDS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OFFICIAL RECORDS are published by session and contain:

- (a) Verbatim records of plenary meetings (A/PV.-; A/32/PV.-)
- (b) Main Committee Meeting Records
 - First Committee (Political and Security) A/C.1/PV.-; A/C.1/32/PV.-
 - Second Committee (Economic and Financial) A/C.2/32/SR.-
 - Third Committee (Social, Humanitarian, and Cultural) A/C.3/32/SR.-
 - Fourth Committee (Trusteeship) A/C.4/32/SR.-
 - Fifth Committee (Administrative and Budgetary) A/C.5/32/SR.-
 - Sixth Committee (Legal) A/C.6/32/SR.-
 - Special Political Committee A/SPC/32/SR.-
 - General Committee A/BUR/32/SR.-
- (c) Annexes -- reprints of major documents arranged by the appropriate agenda item number, also includes a checklist of documents pertaining to each item.
- (d) Supplements -- reports (usually recurrent) of bodies and special committees, and a supplement containing the resolutions adopted at that session. See attached list.
- (e) Index to the proceedings, 5th session, 1950-

SECURITY COUNCIL OFFICIAL RECORDS are published by year and consist of:

- (a) Verbatim records of meetings (S/PV.-)
- (b) Supplements, issued quarterly, containing compilations arranged by series symbol of the main documents issued during the period and a listing of other documents issued.
- (c) Special supplements containing individual reports.
- (d) A volume of resolutions and decisions adopted during the year.
- (e) Index to the proceedings, 1964-

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL RECORDS were issued by session (2 per year) through 1977. Beginning in 1978 they are issued by year and consist of:

- (a) Summary records of plenary meetings (E/SR.-; E/1978/SR.-)
- (b) Annexes (no annexes issued after the 55th session, 1974)
- (c) Supplements -- annual reports of subsidiary and related bodies and a volume of resolutions adopted.
- (d) Index to proceedings, 14th session, 1952-

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL OFFICIAL RECORDS are published by session and include:

- (a) Verbatim records of meetings (T/PV.-) -- Only the mimeographed version with corrections has been issued since 1969.
- (b) Sessional fascicle (issued since 1970) containing the annexes, checklist of documents and list of delegations. Annexes were issued separately prior to 1970.
- (c) Numbered supplements containing reports and a volume of resolutions adopted during the session.
- (d) Index to the proceedings, 1952-

SELECTIVE LIST OF SUPPLEMENTS TO THE OFFICIAL RECORDS
FOR THE 32ND SESSION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

<u>Supplement No.</u>	<u>TITLE</u>
I	Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization. (16 June 1976 - 15 June 1977)
IA	Addendum to the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization.
2	Report of the Security Council (16 June 1976 - 15 June 1977)
3	Report of the Economic and Social Council
6A	Programme budget for the biennium 1978-1979
7B	United Nations Children's Fund. Financial report and accounts for the year 1976.
10	Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its twenty-ninth session.
15 Vol. I,II	Report of the Trade and Development Board
19	Report of the World Food Council on the work of its third session.
22	Report of the Special Committee against <u>Apartheid</u>
27 Vol. I,II	Report of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament
37	Report of the <u>Ad Hoc</u> Committee on International Terrorism
44	Report of the Human Rights Committee
49	Resolutions adopted by the General Assembly during its thirty-second session

OFFICIAL RECORD RECORDING

A/C.3/39/SR.1-

See

General Assembly. Official Records. 39th Sess.
Third Committee Summary Records.

← CROSS-REF.
IN SERIES
FILE TO
OFFICIAL RECORD
FILE

GAOR
MEETING
RECORDS

GAOR
41th Sess
THIRD COMMITTEE
Meeting Records 1-27

1	17 SEPT 85	10	14 OCTOBER 85	19	22 OCTOBER 85
2	23 SEPT 85	11	15 OCTOBER 85	20	24 OCTOBER 85
3	7 OCTOBER 85	12	16 OCTOBER 85	21	24 OCTOBER 85
4	8 OCTOBER 85	13	16 OCTOBER 85		
5	7 OCTOBER 85	14	17 OCTOBER 85		
6	10 OCTOBER 85	15	17 OCTOBER 85	24	28 OCTOBER 85
7	11 OCTOBER 85	16			
8	11 OCTOBER 85	17	21 OCTOBER 85		
9	14 OCTOBER 85	18	22 OCTOBER 85		

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Supplements

1. Resolutions and decisions of the Economic and Social Council (E/1983/83) 34th regular session, 4th and 5th regular sessions.
2. Statistical Commission, Report on the 22nd Session (7-16 March 1983) (E/1983/12) (E/CN.3/1983/30)
3. Commission on Human Rights, Report on the 39th Session (31 Jan - 11 March 1983) (E/1983/13) (E/CN.4/1983/60)
4. Commission for Social Development, Report on the 29th Session (E/1983/14) (E/PN.5/1983/23) 7-16 Feb 1983
5. Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Report on the 30th Session 7-12 Feb 1983 (E/1983/15) (E/CN.7/1983/18)
- 1A Resolutions and Decisions of the Econ. & Social Council 2nd regular session, 6-29 July, 1983 (E/1983/83/Add.1)

← ESCOR
SUPPLEMENTS