Statute of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development

Note by the Secretary-General

1. The United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) is an autonomous research institute within the United Nations that undertakes interdisciplinary research and policy analysis in relation to the social dimensions of contemporary development issues.

2. UNRISD was established in 1963 by the Secretary-General. The Secretary-General’s bulletin on UNRISD (ST/SGB/126 and ST/SGB/126/Amend.1) sets out how the Institute will be managed, governed and supported. It has not been updated since 1973 and is out of date in several respects, including the membership of the UNRISD Board, the operating procedures in the United Nations relating to administrative and financial arrangements, and personnel arrangements.

3. It is therefore proposed that the Secretary-General be authorized to issue a statute for UNRISD. Accordingly, the Commission may wish to consider recommending to the Economic and Social Council a draft decision by which the Secretary-General would be authorized to prepare, in consultation with the UNRISD Board, a draft statute and subsequently to promulgate it. The Council could also request the Secretary-General to keep the Commission informed about the steps taken in that regard.