Youth Employment

73. The Committee considered the issue of youth employment on the basis of a note on the subject (CEB/2003/HLCP/CRP.3/Rev.1), which was introduced by the Head of the Secretariat of the Youth Employment Network (YEN) at ILO.

74. Recognizing that youth employment was both an integral part of the Millennium Declaration and a key contribution to meeting the Millennium Development Goals, including those related to poverty reduction, the Committee confirmed its strong support of the Secretary-General’s initiative on the creation of the Youth Employment Network (YEN).

75. The Committee noted that the YEN provided the United Nations system with an opportunity to influence the international development agenda and policy debate with a positive message in support of the aspirations of the world’s young people. Given the political and inter-sectoral dimensions of youth employment, the Committee underscored the necessity of an integrated, system-wide approach that would address a range of related issues within the purview of the system, including young people and armed conflict, HIV/AIDS, the root causes of terrorism and gender equality.

76. The Committee called on its members to contribute actively to governments’ efforts for the elaboration of national reviews and action plans, as well as to provide inputs for the Secretary-General’s forthcoming report to the 58th session of the General Assembly on the implementation of General Assembly resolution 57/165, particularly the provisions contained in its operative paragraph 3.