

**Statement delivered on 30 June 2014 at the High-Level Political Forum, United Nations by
Professor Gordon McBean, President-elect of the International Council for Science**

Thank you Mister Moderator and President of ECOSOC for convening this session.
Excellencies, Distinguished Delegates and Colleagues.

As President-elect of the International Council for Science, I am pleased to speak briefly on behalf of the Scientific and Technological Community. The speakers today have identified many challenges and opportunities for the Sustainable Development Goals. The Science and Technology Alliance for Global Sustainability is sponsoring a new international research program - Future Earth: Research for Global Sustainability with the Goal of providing the knowledge required for all societies around the world to face the risks and to seize opportunities in a transition to global sustainability. Future Earth has adopted an integrative and transformative solutions-oriented approach to ensure that the science meets policy needs of all societies and addresses universality. We define science to include natural, socio-economic, health, legal, and engineering sciences

The Science and Technology Alliance includes the International Council for Science, the International Social Sciences Council, the Belmont Forum, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Environmental Programme, the United Nations University and the World Meteorological Organization.

We call upon all here and organizations around the world to work together to achieve the sustainable goals that we all wish to achieve. Through the Future Earth program, we will, with your involvement and support, provide the scientific expert data and information basis for actions towards sustainable development and for the assessments that will monitor and enable adjustments of our actions over the decades to come towards achieving these goals for the sustainable development – for the benefit of all societies.

Thank you very much.