



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

***Theme: Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality***

**Tuesday, 9 July 2019**

### **Opening & Scene setting**

#### **How far are we from the SDGs?**

**Tuesday, 9 July 2019, 9:00-10:00 AM, Conference Room 4  
(Overflow room: Conference Room 3)**

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is a vision for people, planet, peace and prosperity to be achieved through partnership and solidarity. It is now in its fourth year of implementation. Over the past years, progress has been made with regard to a number of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and their targets. A number of actions have been undertaken by Governments and other stakeholders to respond to the 2030 Agenda more broadly. However, progress has been slow on many SDGs and the most vulnerable people and countries continue to suffer the most. The global response needs to become more ambitious. The HLPF will take stock of where we are in terms of SDG progress and identify challenges and gaps in SDG achievement. Speakers will bring various perspectives on the follow up and review of implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. They will indicate what they see as priorities for the political leadership and point to urgent multi-stakeholder action needed to accelerate progress. The discussions of the HLPF under the auspices of ECOSOC will contribute to the preparations of the HLPF under the auspices of the General Assembly – the SDG Summit to be convened in September 2019.

#### **Proposed guiding questions:**

- Where do we stand in terms of achieving the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs?
- What are the most important trends and challenges that could affect our ability to achieve the inter-connected SDGs and to ensure inclusiveness and equality?
- What are urgent actions that could overcome current challenges and accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs?

#### **Chair:**

- **H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King**, President of Economic and Social Council

#### **Opening Remarks:**

- **H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King**, President of Economic and Social Council
- **H.E. Mr. Valentin Rybakov**, Vice President of Economic and Social Council, on the messages from ECOSOC Integration Segment
- **Mr. Liu Zhenmin**, Under-Secretary-General of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations



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### Commentary by keynote speakers on the state of affairs:

- **Ms. Najat Maalla M'jid**, UN Secretary-General's Special Representative on Violence Against Children
- **Mr. Chris Skinner**, Author and commentator, United Kingdom
- **Ms. Yolanda Joab**, Founder and Executive Director of Island PRIDE, and One Young World Ambassador, Micronesia

### **Progress, gaps and obstacles: are we on track for leaving no one behind**

(Global and regional dimensions and situations in countries at various levels of development, including small island developing States, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and African countries, as well as the particular challenges facing middle-income countries, and countries with various fragilities and vulnerabilities)

**Tuesday, 9 July 2019, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM, Conference Room 4**

**(Overflow room: Trusteeship Council Chamber)**

The world has made encouraging progress in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in areas such as the reduction of extreme poverty, access to health and education services, and development of basic infrastructure. Yet we are off track for meeting many of the goals by 2030. Climate change threatens to undermine progress on all SDGs and impact all areas of the world, and its effects are disproportionately felt by the poorest and most vulnerable. Global hunger and forced displacement of people is on the rise. Inequality has risen within some of the world's most populous countries. In many places, rapid economic growth has come at the cost of considerable environmental degradation. Biodiversity loss is accelerating, with one million species at risk of extinction. The implementation of the SDGs also takes place at a time of global uncertainty, where international cooperation, an essential component of an inter-connected world, is under fire.

This session will examine progress and identify gaps and challenges where the need to advance the 2030 Agenda is most pressing. It will discuss factors that have contributed to or impeded the SDG implementation process, and present examples of practices or lessons that could strengthen SDG implementation. A keynote presentation of the Report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the SDGs (special edition) will inform the session.

This session includes two parts – two interactive discussions. The first half of this review session - "*Where do we stand?*" will provide a big-picture overview of global and scientific data trends and developments from the environmental, social and economic dimensions. It will highlight knowledge-based analyses and conclusions from audits of SDG implementation, share practical success stories and unique experiences, focus on a variety of development trends, and address the unique vulnerabilities faced by these different groups of countries.

The principle to leave no one behind is at the heart of the 2030 Agenda. The second half of this review session - "*Who is at risk of being left behind?*" will examine countries at various levels of development and populations at risk of being left behind. The 2030 Agenda highlights the need to give special attention to the challenges faced by African countries, least developed countries (LDCs), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs), small island developing States (SIDS), countries in conflict and post-conflict situations and middle-income countries (MICs). Populations identified as at risk of being left behind include children and youth, persons with disabilities, people living with HIV/AIDS, older



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persons, indigenous peoples, refugees and internally displaced persons and migrants. (A/RES/70/1, Paragraph 22-23)

### Proposed guiding questions:

- What have been areas of progress in realizing the SDGs and where are we lagging behind?
- What challenges do countries at various levels of development face in implementing the SDGs and how can we accelerate actions to reach the goals by 2030?
- What needs to be done to ensure more equitable access to basic services and greater equality between countries and people?
- How can we best identify those left behind, and how can we best identify policies and strategies to make their voices heard in the determination of local and national priorities, and so they can exert their rights?

### Chair:

- **H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King**, President of Economic and Social Council

### Part 1: 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM *Where do we stand?*

#### Keynote speaker:

- **Mr. Liu Zhenmin**, Under-Secretary-General of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations, presentation of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress towards SDGs (special edition)

#### Moderator:

- **Ms. Minh-Thu Pham**, Executive Director for Policy, United Nations Foundation

#### Resource persons:

- **Mr. Julio Santaella**, President of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography, Mexico
- **Ms. Marta Acosta**, Auditor General of Costa Rica (on findings from Supreme Audit Institutions regarding achievements and challenges in implementing the SDGs)
- **Mr. Robin Ogilvy**, Special Representative and Permanent Observer of OECD to the UN
- **Mr. Thomas Brooks**, Chief scientist of International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

*Followed by interactive discussion*

### Part 2: 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM *Who is at risk of being left behind?*

#### Keynote speaker:

- **Mr. Lucas Chancel**, Professor and co-director of the World Inequality Lab and of the World Inequality Database at the Paris School of Economics, France, and coordinator of the World Inequality Report 2018



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### Moderator:

- **Mr. Nikhil Seth**, Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research

### Resource persons:

- **Ms. Alicia Bárcena**, Executive Secretary of ECLAC and coordinator of the Regional Commissions
- **Mr. Jarkko Turunen**, Mission Chief to Cambodia in the IMF Asia and Pacific Department
- **Mr. Stephen Chacha**, Co-Founder of the Tanzania Data Lab and Africa Philanthropic Foundation
- **Ms. Sarah Charles**, Senior Director for Humanitarian Policy and Advocacy at the International Rescue Committee (IRC)

### Lead discussant:

- **Mr. George Khoury**, Vice chair of the national association for the rights of persons with disabilities in Lebanon (NARD) (MGoS)

*Followed by interactive discussion*

## Review of SDG implementation and interactions among goals

### Discussion on SDG 4 – Quality education

Tuesday, 9 July 2019, 3:00-6:00 PM, Conference Room 4

*(Overflow room: Trusteeship Council Chamber)*

The 2030 Agenda is universal, holistic and indivisible, with a core principle to leave no one behind. The achievement of SDG 4 – ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all – plays a central role in building sustainable, inclusive and resilient societies. While education is most explicitly formulated as a stand-alone goal (SDG4) in the 2030 Agenda, it also has close links with all the other SDGs and the 2030 Agenda as a whole. There are a number of education-related targets and indicators in other SDGs, including health and well-being (Target 3.7), gender equality (Target 5.6), decent work (Target 8.6), responsible consumption and growth (Target 12.8), and climate change mitigation (Target 13.3).

Progress has been made towards achieving SDG 4. There are new knowledge horizons, new challenges and new opportunities for the provision of quality education and lifelong learning for all. The context is also changing with new technologies and skills demands, population trends as well as economic shocks and environmental degradation. Many barriers to education access and educational outcomes remain in place and there continues to be challenges to the monitoring of progress remain. Since education is not only an integral part of, but also a key enabler for sustainable development, it needs to be included in national development plans and strategies for achieving all the SDGs. Education is also related to strengthening solidarity and partnerships.

This session will have an interactive discussion format.



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### Proposed guiding questions:

- What are some practical ways to improve access to quality education and life-long learning and deliver genuine impact both on people and sustainable development? Which ones can be scaled up or replicated for success?
- Which groups are the easiest/most difficult to reach and what can be done to ensure that no one is left behind in access to quality education and learning or teacher training?
- What actions can countries take to monitor the quality of education and ensure better learning outcomes?
- Which are the most critical interlinkages between SDG 4 and other goals and targets across the 2030 Agenda? How can co-benefits be promoted and trade-offs reduced?
- How do learning systems need to change to match a rapidly changing world with technological shifts, global integration and climate pressures?

### Chair:

- **H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King**, President of Economic and Social Council

Video clips from children and youth in schools

### Presentations:

- **Mr. Shaswat Sapkota**, Development Data and Outreach Branch, Statistics Division of UN DESA

Video clip from Lobby de Poissy on European Declaration of Planet's Rights by students

### Moderator:

- **Ms. Henrietta Fore**, Executive Director of UNICEF

### Resource persons:

- **H.E. Mr. John McLaughlin**, Deputy Minister, Education and Early Childhood Development, Canada
- **Mr. Kazuhiro Yoshida**, Co-chair of the SDG-Education 2030 Steering Committee
- **Ms. Koumbou Boly Barry**, former Minister of Education and Literacy of Burkina Faso, and the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to education
- **Ms. Stefania Giannini**, Assistant Director-General for Education of UNESCO
- **H.E. Sheikha Hind bint Hamad Al Thani**, Vice Chairperson and CEO of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development

### Lead discussants:

- **Ms. Susan Hopgood**, President of the Education International
- **Ms. Maria Jose Monge**, President of the Fundacion Monge, Costa Rica
- **Ms. Madeleine Zuniga**, Vice President of the Global Campaign for Education (GCE) (MGoS)



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*Followed by interactive discussion*

**Wednesday, 10 July 2019**

### **Thematic Review**

Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality

### **Perspectives of Small Island Developing States including main findings from mid-term review of the SAMOA Pathway**

**Wednesday, 10 July 2019, 9:00-11:00 AM, Conference Room 4**

***(Overflow room: Trusteeship Council Chamber)***

The General Assembly has asked that the HLPF devote adequate time at its future meetings to continue to address the sustainable development challenges facing small island developing States (SIDS). In 2019, the SIDS session of HLPF will examine social development in SIDS, which is losing momentum in terms of efforts to improve human and social development with gender equality.

Progress on people's well-being and enjoyment of their human rights are fundamental drivers of sustainable development. However, many SIDS, although in general ranked as medium and above on the Human Development Index prepared by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), still face persistent challenges linked to poverty and inequality. These countries still need to improve the quality of, and access to health and education. Those are important goals in themselves, but also vital for building resilient societies. In addition, for some SIDS, youth unemployment is among the highest in the world. This is a serious challenge and limits the full human potential of all men and women and their access to equal opportunities.

Notwithstanding decades of progress on human development, many SIDS face growing poverty and income inequality, exacerbated by weak social protection systems, and patterns of migration that affect labour markets. Those cause social exclusion affecting vulnerable and marginalized groups and communities. Social protection is an effective instrument for protecting against shocks, reducing inequality and promoting inclusive development. A final challenge in this area is insecurity and lack of safety: several SIDS are affected by high rates of crime and violence, including gender-based violence. This is both a brake on development and antithetical to building peaceful and prosperous societies.

Building resilience in SIDS will depend on meeting all the foregoing challenges. This will require comprehensive and integrated policies implemented across the three sustainable development dimensions (economic, social and environmental). It will also require increased support from and collaboration with the international community. In this regard development finance, including climate finance, the strengthening of well-established relationships with traditional partners, and the nurturing of newer and emerging relationships and partnerships in the context of South-South and triangular cooperation, are important vehicles through which development support might be secured.



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This session will have an interactive discussion format, features resource persons and country representatives from across the three SIDS regions, who will share their approaches in addressing the social dimension of sustainable development, and high-level lead discussants.

### Proposed guiding questions:

- How can SIDS best respond to their challenges regarding social development, particularly in light of the ongoing changes in the global community and declining support from bilateral and multilateral partners?
- What types policies and programmes are needed at national and regional levels to address social exclusion, reduce inequality and promote inclusive development? What are priority sectors?
- In order to meet the technical and financial requirements for implementing a new generation of integrated regional and national and sector development strategies and frameworks, SIDS will have to strengthen traditional partnerships and develop and consolidate new ones. What role can development partners play in this regard?

### Chair:

- **H.E. Ms. Mona Juul**, Vice President of ECOSOC

### Keynote speaker:

- **Hon. Fiame Naomi Mataaafa**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment, Samoa

### Moderator:

- **Ms. Emele Duituturaga**, former Executive Director, Pacific Islands Association of Non Governmental Organisations (PIANGO)

### Resource persons:

- **H.E. Mr. Pat Breen T.D.**, Minister of State for Trade, Employment, Business, EU Digital Single Market and Data Protection, Ireland
- **H.E. Mr. Douglas Slater**, Assistant Secretary General Human and Social Development, CARICOM Secretariat
- **H.E. Ms. Yvonne Hyde**, Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Economic Development and Petroleum, Belize
- **Mr. Rakesh Bhuckory**, Minister Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, Mauritius

### Lead discussants:

- **Ms. Stacy Richards-Kennedy**, Director, Office of Development, The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago



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- **Mr. Willy Missack**, Pacific Climate Change Collaboration, Influencing and Learning (PACCCIL) project manager and the Vanuatu Climate Action Network (VCAN) and Vanuatu Humanitarian Team (VHT) Coordinator at Oxfam in Vanuatu (MGoS)

*Followed by interactive discussion*

### **Concluding remarks:**

- **Ms. Maria-Francesca Spatolisano**, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

### **Thematic review**

Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality

### **Perspectives of Least Developed Countries and Landlocked Developing Countries**

**Wednesday, 10 July 2019, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Conference Room 4**

***(Overflow room: Trusteeship Council Chamber)***

This thematic review session will evaluate progress and challenges in empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality in the world's least developed countries (LDCs) and landlocked developing countries (LLDCs). Those remain among the most vulnerable countries in the world and include some of the world's most vulnerable populations at risk of being left behind.

Numerous LDCs and LLDCs are in conflict or post-conflict situations. Many people in LDCs and LLDCs are disempowered by poverty and the lack of access to basic services. They do not benefit from economic growth. Many governments lack the resources and capacity to empower and mobilize them, due to both domestic limitations and international factors. High annual population growth rates in LDCs present challenges for enrolment in higher education, and in training a skilled workforce. Climate change and the risks associated to it have put additional pressures on households and government resources in LDCs and LLDCs.

Empowering LDCs and LLDCs is important for the international community in the collective effort to achieve the SDGs.

The per capita income of LDCs remains equivalent to two per cent of the per capita income of OECD members. Measures in place to support these countries are often insufficient: few donor countries fulfil the commitment of dedicating 0.15 to 0.2 per cent of their official development assistance (ODA) to developing countries. More must be done to address the persistent gaps and inequalities that are holding back those countries, and to reach those who are furthest behind.

Both groups of countries are often marginalized in global decision-making processes and are unable to fully benefit from economic globalization. Many LDCs are also LLDCs. This adds to their challenges the specific trade and development challenges faced by LLDCs arising from the lack of territorial access to the sea and geographical remoteness from international markets.





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The fifth UN Conference on LDCs, in 2021, will review the implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for LDCs. The Mid Term review of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Land Locked Developing Countries will take place on 5 and 6 December 2019.

This session will have a roundtable format.

### Proposed guiding questions:

- What are the greatest challenges to inclusiveness and equality in LDCs and how can they be addressed?
- What needs to change in international rules and institutions to effectively support LDCs and LLDCs and achieve greater levels of inclusion and equality?

### Chair:

- **H.E. Ms. Mona Juul**, Vice President of ECOSOC

### Moderator:

- **Ms. Hope Muli**, Regional Project Manager, Opening Contracting, Hivos

### Resource persons:

- **Mr. Jerry Tardieu**, Congressman, Petion-Ville, Haiti
- **Mr. Saad Alfarargi**, UN Special Rapporteur on the right to development
- **Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu**, UN High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States
- **Mr. Ricardo Fuentes-Nieva**, Oxfam (Executive Director of Oxfam Mexico)

### Lead discussants:

- **H.E. Ms. Doma Tshering**, Permanent Representative of Bhutan to the UN, and co-facilitator of political declaration of the midterm review of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action (VPoA) for LLDCs
- **Mr. Richard Ssewakiryanga**, Co-Chair for the CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness, and immediate past Presiding Officer of the African Union – Economic and Social Cultural Council (MGoS)

*Followed by interactive discussion*

## **Review of SDG implementation and interrelations among goals** **Discussion on SDG 8 – Decent work and economic growth**

**Wednesday, 10 July 2019, 3:00 PM-6:00 PM, Conference Room 4**  
**(Overflow room: Conference Room 3)**



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SDG 8 promotes “sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all”. It reaffirms the mutually supportive relationship between economic and social policies, full employment and decent work. Progress has generally been slow on the twelve interconnected SDG8 targets.

Major gaps remain and progress has been uneven across regions. Some major emerging economies have enjoyed relatively strong growth and diversification, while others have fallen further behind. Many regions underperform on measures of inclusive and sustainable economic growth. Despite many progresses, not all the workforce is enjoying decent work. Globally, labour productivity has increased and unemployment is back to pre-financial crisis levels. However, the global economy is growing at a slower rate and a worrying productivity gap is opening up between low income countries and middle-income countries. More progress is needed to create decent work for all, including through increasing employment opportunities, particularly for young people, reducing informal employment and labour market inequalities, promoting safe and secure working environments. Access to financial services also needs to be improved to ensure sustained and inclusive economic growth. An integrated approach that addresses the goals of economic growth, for economy, society and the planet, requires resource de-coupling and inclusiveness in order to achieve SDG 8.

This session will have an interactive discussion format.

### Proposed guiding questions:

- What progress has been made towards SDG 8? What are the most important remaining gaps? What are practical, evidence-based and cost-effective policy recommendations? What are the most important potential future challenges and prospects in the years until 2030?
- What are the most important interlinkages between SDG 8 and the other SDGs that need to be taken into account in devising effective policies in the SDG 8 areas? What actions are needed to secure a greater coherence between economic, social, environmental and labour market policies?
- What do we understand by the terms sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth? Can this new way of thinking drive the much needed transformation in the way we approach the economy, society and environment?
- What are the underlying principles and institutional environment necessary for decent work and SDG 8? How can fundamental principles and rights at work and other labour rights be safeguarded and enhanced towards the achievement of SDG 8?
- How can we reinvigorate the social contract based on a human-centered approach and ensure that social justice and equality result?
- How important have finance, trade, science, technology and innovation aspects been for SDG8 progress? How could we more effectively accelerate progress? How will artificial intelligence, automation, bio-tech, nano-tech, digital-tech impact the poorest countries?
- How can the participation of local authorities, the private sector, civil society and philanthropic organizations, among others, be improved? How can the voices of youth be better reflected in policies and actions? How can the monitoring and data situation be improved? What lessons have we learned from global partnerships related to SDG 8?

**Chair: H.E. Mr. Valentin Rybakov**, Vice President of ECOSOC



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### Presentation:

- **Ms. Faryal Ahmed**, Development Data and Outreach Branch, Statistics Division of UN DESA

### Moderator:

- **Mr. Moussa Oumarou**, Deputy Director-General for Field Operations & Partnerships, ILO

### Resource persons:

- **Mr. Mamadou Diallo**, Deputy Secretary-General, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)
- **Ms. Darja Isaksson**, Director General, Vinnova, Sweden
- **Mr. Peter M. Robinson**, President of the United States Council for International Business (USCIB) and International Organization of Employers (IOE) Regional Vice President for North America
- **Ms. Xiaolan Fu**, Professor and Founding Director, Technology and Management Centre for Development; Professor of Technology and International Development and Fellow of Green Templeton College, Oxford University

### Lead discussants:

- **Ms. Olga Algayerova**, Executive Secretary of ECE
- **Mr. Matthias Thorns**, Deputy Secretary-General, International Organization of Employers (IOE) (MGoS)

*Followed by interactive discussion*

## Thursday, 11 July 2019

### Thematic review

Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality

### Perspectives of society

**Thursday, 11 July 2019, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM, Conference Room 4  
(Overflow room: Trusteeship Council Chamber)**

Major Groups and other Stakeholders (MGoS) are crucial to the successful implementation, follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda. In preparation for the 2019 HLPF, MGoS contributed to review processes at all levels, including at the regional forums and through national review mechanisms. In line with paragraph 89 of the 2030 Agenda and paragraphs 14 and 15 of General Assembly Resolution 67/290, this session offers MGoS an opportunity to report on their contribution to the



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implementation of the Agenda and SDGs and speak to the theme of the HLPF. The session is organised in collaboration with the HLPF Coordination Mechanism of MGoS and will focus on the recommendations of MGoS around the implementation, follow-up, and review of the 2030 Agenda, with particular emphasis on addressing the systemic barriers to achieve sustainable development and strengthening the follow-up and review process to best contribute to “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”.

The session will have an interactive discussion format.

### Proposed guiding questions:

- Which should be the principles to guide the strengthening of the follow-up and review process of the 2030 Agenda, including the HLPF Reform?
- How to best integrate the contribution of other cross-cutting/thematic processes, such as the FfD Follow-up, the STI process, the CFS process and Sendai process?
- How to strengthen the interplay between the global and the regional processes, including the role of the Regional Sustainable Development Forums?
- How to ensure vibrant participation and effective dialogue in the context of the VNR process at national and global levels?

### Chair:

- **Ms. Kira Christianne Danganan Azucena**, Vice President of ECOSOC

### Moderators:

- **Ms. Katarina Popovic**, Secretary General of the International Council for Adult Education and Representative of the Education and Academia Stakeholder Group (EASG) to the MGoS Steering Group
- **Ms. Paola Simonetti**, Deputy Director, Economic and Social Policy Department, International Trade Union Confederation (WTUMG), and Co-Chair of the MGoS Steering Group

### Interactive discussions:

- Which should be the principles to guide the strengthening of the follow-up and review process of the 2030 Agenda, including the HLPF Reform?

Initial intervention by **Mr. Jose Viera**, Chief Executive Officer of the World Blind Union (PwD) and Co-Lead of the MGoS Task Group on the HLPF Reform

- How to best integrate the contribution of other cross-cutting/thematic processes, such as the FfD Follow-up, the STI process, the CFS process and Sendai process?

Initial intervention by **Ms. Pooja Rangaprasad**, Director of Policy & Advocacy, Financing for Development (FfD), Society for International Development (SID) and Civil Society FfD Group



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- How to strengthen the interplay between the global and the regional processes, including the role of the Regional SD Forums?

Initial intervention by **Ms. Warda Rina**, Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development, and Co-Chair of the Asia Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism

- How to ensure vibrant participation and effective dialogue in the context of the VNR process at national and global levels?

Initial intervention by **Mr. Donovan Guttieres**, Major Group for Children and Youth

### **Science policy interface including the briefing from the independent group of scientists on the Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR)**

**Thursday, 11 July 2019, 11:00 AM-1:00 PM, Conference Room 4  
(Overflow room: Trusteeship Council Chamber)**

The 2030 Agenda cites science, technology and innovation as key means of implementing the SDGs— as sources of knowledge about the world as it is, to inform effective policy making, and as tools to transform the world into what it must be for the wellbeing of future generations. In this session, the co-chairs of the Independent Group of Scientists will present key findings and the *Call to Action* contained in the 2019 Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR). Additional panelists will share their own experiences in working to strengthen the science-policy interface at all levels. They will address both sides of the equation—as a leader of a global scientific organization and as a municipal-level policy maker. The session is expected to be highly interactive, particularly because Member States and Major Groups and Other Stakeholders have had the opportunity to review and comment on an earlier draft of the GSDR.

This session will have an interactive discussion format.

#### **Proposed guiding questions:**

- How can policy-makers open and amplify the lines of communication with the science community? How can they ensure that the messages received from the social and natural sciences notably are fully integrated into policies?
- How can the scientific community become a more effective partner in advancing progress toward the 2030 Agenda? What changes are needed in terms of institutional structures, approaches, and communication?
- How can the UN and partners increase engagement in the 2030 Agenda from science communities, funders, academia and private sector? In particular, what can the UN and other partners do to enlist science, technology and innovation as allies in the commitment to leave no one behind?
- How can the HLPF build on the findings of the GSDR in its follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda?



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### Chair:

- **Ms. Kira Christianne Danganan Azucena**, Vice President of ECOSOC

### Moderator:

- **Mr. Romain Murenzi**, Executive Director, World Academy of Sciences

### Resource persons:

- **Ms. Endah Murniningtyas**, former Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environment, Ministry of National Development Planning of Indonesia (Co-chair of GSDR)
- **Mr. Peter Messerli**, Director of the Center for Development and Environment at the University of Bern, Switzerland (Co-chair of GSDR)
- **Ms. Heide Hackmann**, CEO of the International Science Council
- **Ms. Meera Joshi**, outgoing Commissioner of the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission

### Lead discussant:

- **Mr. Stephan Contius**, Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Federal Ministry of the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany
- **Ms. Virginia Murray**, Head of the Global Disaster Risk Reduction at Public Health England and member of the Integrated Research on Disaster Risk scientific committee (MGoS)

*Followed by interactive discussion*

## Review of SDG implementation and interrelations among goals

### Discussion on SDG 10 – Reduced inequalities

Thursday, 11 July 2019, 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM, Conference Room 4

*(Overflow room: Trusteeship Council Chamber)*

Inequality reduction is a priority throughout the 2030 Agenda. SDG 10 is to “reduce inequality within and among countries”. Its 10 targets capture multiple drivers of inequality to ensure that no group or individual is left behind. Four targets address within-country inequality across social, economic and political dimensions aiming to expand prosperity, inclusion, and social protection. Three targets aim to reduce inequality among countries with attention to cross-border flows of finance and people and the distribution of voice in global institutions. Three other targets focus on the means of implementation and put forward concrete steps for attaining greater equality by directing resource flows toward those most in need. 60 targets across the other 16 SDGs are directly linked to reducing inequality. Equal or universal access for all to resources, services and opportunities is a recurring theme across the SDGs.

Since 2015, there has been some positive movement on SDG 10 targets but progress has been mixed across countries and regions. Some indicators of progress also are not yet fully developed including those for monitoring discrimination and disaggregated income deprivations which are important for



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informing inclusive policies. In recent years a significant change in norms has driven attention to the universality of inequality and the relationships between inequality of opportunities and inequality of outcomes. All stakeholders, individuals, and groups have an enabling role and interest in achieving SDG10. To accelerate SDG 10 achievement, policy approaches need to put people who are most affected by inequalities at the centre of the process. People who are marginalized economically or socially are the actors and enablers for SDG10 and will see the greatest gains from lowering inequality.

Institutions of governance (transnational, national, regional, and local) are the central instruments for reducing inequality. They are the goal setters, the funders, the implementing agencies, and the evaluating agencies in any policy direction to reduce inequality. Partnerships between governments, the private sector, development partners and civil society organizations can engage marginalized groups and individuals, and close critical opportunity and outcome gaps. As United Nations Member States, central governments are the actors who have committed to realizing SDG10 by the year 2030 and are accountable to their people.

This session will have an interactive discussion format.

### Proposed guiding questions:

- What are the best practices for reducing inequality that deliver genuine impact and can be scaled up or replicated for success? What are some policy changes that can happen now and what actions would you take over the next year?
- How can we change the narrative around SDG 10 to capture the value of equality and inclusion for multiple stakeholders, and what role can Governments play? What changes in institutions and behaviour show the greatest promise for inclusion?
- How can interlinkages between SDG 10 and other goals and targets be leveraged to reduce inequality? What is the biggest single risk for lowering inequality in the next 12 months?
- Which dimensions of inequality can be lowered most quickly/least quickly, and which groups are the easiest/most difficult to reach? What actions can countries take today to better monitor the success of their inclusive development and reductions in inequality?

### Chair:

- **H.E. Mr. Valentin Rybakov**, Vice President of ECOSOC

### Presentation:

- **Mr. Benjamin Rae**, Development Data and Outreach Branch, Statistics Division of UN DESA

Video clip from migrant children and youth

### Moderator:

- **Ms. Sarah Cliffe**, Director, Center on International Cooperation, New York University



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### Resource persons:

- **Justice Edwin Cameron**, Constitutional Court of South Africa
- **Mr. Máximo Torero Cullen**, Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Development Department of FAO
- **Ms. Eun Mee Kim**, Dean of the Graduate School of Ewha Womans University, Korea
- **Ms. Martha Chen**, Lecturer in Public Policy, Harvard Kennedy School; Affiliated Professor, Harvard Graduate School of Design; and Senior Advisor, Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO) Network

### Lead discussants:

- **Ms. Jane Barratt**, Secretary General of the International Federation on Ageing
- **Mr. Matthew Martin**, Director of the Development Finance International
- **Ms. Nalini Singh**, Executive Director of the Fiji Women's Rights Movement (MGoS)

*Followed by interactive discussion*

**Friday, 12 July 2019**

### **Review of SDG implementation and interrelations among goals** **Discussion on SDG 13 – Climate action**

**Friday, 12 July 2019, 9:00 AM-12:00 PM, Conference Room 4**  
**(Overflow room: Trusteeship Council Chamber)**

Climate change is rapidly unfolding, the world is already experiencing changes in average temperature, shifts in the seasons and an increasing frequency of extreme weather events and other climate change impacts, affecting lives and livelihoods in all regions.

With the adoption of the historic 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change in 2015, world leaders agreed on a vision and blueprint for action for promoting human well-being and lives in dignity for all on a healthy and prosperous planet. With the adoption of the Katowice Climate Package at COP24, the world has entered a new era in our collective efforts to address climate change. Without the achievement of SDG 13, the achievement of all other SDGs will be undermined. Implementation of climate action and the SDGs is intrinsically linked across all spheres of life on Earth and human society. Increasing ambition and supporting countries to urgently take climate action, including making the most of opportunities to synergistically implement the Paris Agreement and 2030 Agenda together and carefully considering and managing trade-offs will be strategically decisive for achieving both agendas. Focusing on concrete measures for synergistic implementation will help inform and align the two agendas, thus stimulating corresponding action





## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

from multiple stakeholders. Such synergies can be further realized through joined-up consideration of other global frameworks and agreements such as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

The session will review progress towards SDG 13 and address the inter-linkages of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change. In particular, participants in the meeting will share experiences and identify concrete measures for the coherent and synergistic implementation of those agreements in order to maximize sustainable development and climate co-benefits and scale up levels of ambition towards securing the livelihoods for current and future generations.

This session will have an interactive discussion format.

### Proposed guiding questions:

- How can we urgently lift the level of ambition for exponential climate action across all sectors, levels and regions?
- What are the key focus areas for synergistic implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement together and taking advantage of the related opportunities?
- What are concrete initiatives and successful actions at global, regional and local levels to accelerate climate action and achieve the SDGs in tandem?
- How can these actions be scaled up? What further action needs to be taken to deliver concrete results, making the most of innovative, people-centered and cross-sectoral collaboration and partnerships to protect the planet for current and future generations?
- Where are the gaps in our focus? What are “low hanging fruits” at the global, regional and local levels that enable the exponential increase in ambition for climate action in order to make a real difference in the lives and livelihoods of people?

### Chair:

- **H.E. Mr. Omar Hilale**, Vice President of ECOSOC

### Keynote speaker:

- **Mr. Luis Alfonso de Alba**, UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for the 2019 Climate Action Summit

### Moderator:

- **Mr. Ovais Sarmad**, Deputy Executive Secretary of UNFCCC

### Resource persons:

- **H.E. Ms. Carolina Schmidt**, Minister of Environment of Chile, and President of COP-25 of UNFCCC
- **Mr. Javier Manzanares**, Deputy Executive Director of the Green Climate Fund
- **Ms. Penny Abeywardena**, Commissioner of New York City Mayor’s Office for International Affairs
- **Ms. Leena Srivastava**, Co-Chair of the Secretary-General’s Science Advisory Group for Climate Summit



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### Lead discussants:

- **Ms. Mami Mizutori**, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction
- **Ms. Rola Dashti**, Executive Secretary of ESCWA
- **Mr. Zhao Dong**, Chairman of Xiamen Airlines, China
- **Ms. Dimakatso (Nono) Sekhoto**, young farmer, WFO, Farmers' Major Group (MGoS)

*Followed by interactive discussion*

### **Report of the STI Forum**

**Friday, 12 July 2019, 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM, Conference Room 4  
(Overflow room: Trusteeship Council Chamber)**

The 2030 Agenda launched a UN Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM), which comprises a United Nations Interagency Task Team on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs (IATT), a collaborative Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the SDGs (STI Forum), and an online platform as a gateway for information on existing STI initiatives, mechanisms and programs. The TFM now facilitates multi-stakeholder collaboration and partnerships through the sharing of information, experiences, best practices and policy advice among Member States, civil society, the private sector, the scientific community, UN entities and other stakeholders.

On 14 and 15 May 2019, the President of the Economic and Social Council convened the fourth annual STI Forum. As a component of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TFM), the Forum is a venue to discuss cooperation in science, technology and innovation (STI) around thematic areas pertaining to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), bringing together all relevant stakeholders to actively contribute in their areas of expertise. The forum provides a venue for facilitating interaction, matchmaking and the establishment of networks between relevant stakeholders and multi-stakeholder partnerships in order to identify and examine technology needs and gaps, including with respect to scientific cooperation, innovation and capacity-building. It also aims to help to facilitate the development, transfer and dissemination of relevant technologies for the Goals and targets.

An objective of the session is to review the key findings and outcomes of the 2019 Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for the Sustainable Development Goals. In view of the SDG Summit in September 2019 and the expected review of the SDGs this year, the session will take-stock of where we are after more than three years of the TFM and discuss ideas for the way forward and for an effective, science-based, solutions-oriented, multi-stakeholder and collaborative TFM.

The President of the Economic and Social Council has transmitted to HLPF, the Co-Chairs' summary of the STI Forum. The Co-Chairs of the Forum will begin the session by presenting this Summary.

This session will have an interactive discussion format.



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### Proposed guiding questions:

- What are the key findings and recommendations from the 2019 STI Forum?
- What international collaborations or mechanisms are needed for exchange of experiences and partnerships on STI for SDGs?
- How can we mobilize science, technology and innovation to improve the lives of the furthest behind? How could to raise adequate resources for the TFM of the future?
- What are your three most important recommendations for concrete action, including the ones from stakeholders and Major Groups? What is the best way forward?

### Chair:

- **H.E. Mr. Omar Hilale**, Vice President of ECOSOC

### Presentation:

- **H.E. Ms. H. Elizabeth Thompson**, Permanent Representative of Barbados to the UN, and Co-Chair of the 2019 Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals

### Moderator:

- **H.E. Ms. Marie Chatardová**, Permanent Representative of the Czech Republic to the UN, and Co-Chair of the 2019 Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals

### Resource persons:

- **Mr. Vaughan Turekian**, Co-Chair of the 10-Member Advisory Group to the STI Forum, and Executive Director Policy and Global Affairs National Academies of Sciences Engineering and Medicine, US
- **Mr. Paulo Gadelha**, Member of the 10 Member Group to the STI Forum, and Coordinator of the FIOCRUZ Strategy for the 2030 Agenda, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (FIOCRUZ), Brazil
- **Mr. Kazuhiko Takeuchi**, President of the Institute for Global Environment Strategies, Japan

### Lead discussant:

- **Ms. Marlene Kanga**, President of the World Federation of Engineering Organisations (MGoS)

*Followed by interactive discussion*

## Review of SDG implementation and interrelations among goals

### Discussion on SDG 16 – Peace, justice and strong institutions

Friday, 12 July 2019, 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM, Conference Room 4

*(Overflow room: Trusteeship Council Chamber)*



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

SDG 16 aims to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. The 2030 Agenda recognizes the need to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies that provide equal access to justice and that are based on respect for human rights, on effective rule of law and good governance at all levels and on transparent, effective and accountable institutions. SDG 16 is identified as a Goal that is both an outcome and enabler of sustainable development. It is closely interlinked with other SDGs. Without peace, justice and inclusion, achieving goals such as ending poverty, ensuring education promote economic growth can be difficult or impossible. At the same time, various SDGs can help or hinder the achievement of SDG 16, for instance climate change can act as a threat multiplier, aggravating additional social, environmental and political stressors, conditions that could possibly lead to violence.

Advances in ending violence, promoting the rule of law, strengthening institutions and increasing access to justice is uneven. This continues to deprive millions of people throughout the world of security, rights and opportunities. Attacks on civil society are also holding back development progress. Renewed efforts are therefore necessary to make the realization of SDG 16 a reality. Failure to invest in SDG 16 will result in worsening violence, injustice and exclusion which will reverse development against across all SDGs.

The SDG 16 session may want to consider the comprehensive list of recommendations for action resulted from the preparatory expert process. The recommendations on enhancing peace, dialogue and reconciliation; preventing and ending all forms of violence; safeguarding children; promoting the rule of law; ensuring equal access to justice for all, promoting human rights; addressing discriminatory laws; building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions - are contained in the background note ([https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/23672BN\\_SDG16\\_LV.pdf](https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/23672BN_SDG16_LV.pdf)).

This session will have a roundtable format.

### **Proposed guiding questions:**

- What are the specific policy reforms, local actions and strategies adopted to support national and local processes to strengthen resilience of communities and institutions to best deliver on SDG16? These could include actions in the spheres of strengthening social cohesion, dialogue and reconciliation, access to basic services including justice and security and conflict/dispute resolution.
- How can SDG 16 targets and indicators leverage human rights norms, standards and analytical approaches to inform the measurement, monitoring and implementation of the 2030 Agenda?
- What are the key interventions and specific policies that can help reach the furthest behind first, especially those who are left behind due to violence, injustice, and exclusion?
- What are some of the primary and urgent capacity needs and gaps of governments and other stakeholder groups around SDG 16 and how can those gaps be filled? Do they differ from the longer-term capacity needs for the achievement of SDG 16?
- What innovative methodologies and partnerships, including the use of data, technology and expertise from the private sector, civil society and academia can be harnessed to strengthen national systems to track and report on progress related to targets under Goal 16? What tools and support do Member States require for strengthening disaggregated data availability?



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### Chair:

- **H.E. Mr. Omar Hilale**, Vice President of ECOSOC

### Presentation:

- **Ms. Vibeke Oestreich Nielsen**, Development Data and Outreach Branch, Statistics Division of UN DESA

### Keynote speaker:

- **H.E. Ms. Laura Chinchilla**, Former President of Costa Rica, and Vice President of Club de Madrid

Message by **Charles Young** from Jamaica and **Ahona Paul** from Cambodia, youth and children representatives on ending violence against children

### Moderator:

- **Ms. Irene Khan**, Director-General, International Development Law Organization

### Resource persons:

- **H.E. Ms. Emanuela del Re**, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy
- **H.E. Ms. Maria Fernanda Rodriguez**, Vice Minister of Justice, Argentina
- **Ms. Gabriela Cuevas Barron**, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)
- **Mr. Abdoulie Janneh**, Executive Director, Liaison with Governments and Institutions in Africa, Mo Ibrahim Foundation

### Lead discussants:

- **H.E. Mr. Harib Al Amimi**, President of State Audit Institution United Arab Emirates and Chairman of International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI)
- **H.E. Mr. Vuk Zagic**, Co-ordinator for Economic and Environmental Activities, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)
- **Mr. Edward Thomas Porokwa**, Executive Director, Pastoralists Indigenous NGO's Forum (MGoS)

*Followed by interactive discussion*

**Monday, 15 July 2019**

### **Financing the SDGs: Moving from words to action**

(From the ECOSOC FFD Forum to the General Assembly high-level Dialogue on FFD)

**Monday, 15 July 2019, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM, Conference Room 4**



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

*(Overflow room: Trusteeship Council Chamber)*

The Addis Ababa Action Agenda provides a global framework for financing sustainable development and strengthening collective action to address global challenges. It contextualizes SDG 17 – “Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development” -- with concrete policies and actions.

Aligning financing and all means of implementation for the 2030 Agenda will require significant reshaping of public policies and financial systems in line with sustainable development. The challenge is driven by both the scale of financing needed to achieve the SDGs and the necessary shift in public and private incentives towards long-term horizons for sustainable development. This will require action from the local to global levels, and by diverse stakeholders. In the intergovernmentally agreed outcome document of the 2019 ECOSOC Financing for Development Forum, UN Member States agreed on the need to align a wide range of financing sources and instruments with the 2030 Agenda as part of their implementation of the Addis Agenda.

This session will convene experts to share lessons and make concrete recommendations for how some of the key ideas contained in the 2030 Agenda and the outcome document of the 2019 ECOSOC Financing for Development Forum could be translated into reality, including on sustainable investment, domestic resource mobilization and illicit financial flows.

This session will have a roundtable format.

### **Proposed guiding questions:**

- What are the opportunities for improving the composition and allocation of financing to maximize sustainable development impact at the national and global levels? What concrete initiatives and tools could be used to promote sustainable investments where they are most needed, such as in the least developed countries (LDCs)?
- What are the key impediments to long-term investments for sustainable development? Which national strategies and policies have proven effective in facilitating long-term and quality investment?
- How can tax systems be strengthened to ensure that countries mobilize domestic resources more effectively? What policies lead to improved progressivity of fiscal systems to address inequalities in a context of inclusive growth? How can development cooperation be leveraged to better support these efforts?
- What are the major gaps and challenges hindering global action on stemming illicit financial flows? How can international cooperation strengthen good practices on promoting timely recovery and repatriation of stolen assets to foster sustainable development?

### **Chair:**

- **H.E. Mr. Valentin Rybakov**, Vice President of ECOSOC

### **Presentation:**

- **Ms. Yongyi Min**, Development Data and Outreach Branch, Statistics Division of UN DESA



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### Keynote speaker:

- **Mr. Homi Kharas**, Interim Vice President and Director of the Global Economy and Development program, Brookings Institution

### Moderator:

- **H.E. Mr. E. Courtenay Rattray**, Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the UN, and Co-facilitator for 2018 FfD outcome document

### Resource persons:

- **H.E. Mr. Zied Ladhari**, Minister of Development, Investment and International Cooperation, Tunisia
- **H.E. Mr. Dag-Inge Ulstein**, Minister of International Development, Norway
- **Ms. Vera Songwe**, Executive Secretary of ECA
- **Mr. Thomas Gass**, Head of the South Cooperation Department of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
- **Mr. Mahmoud Mohieldin**, Senior Vice President of the World Bank Group

### Lead discussants:

- **Mr. Iñigo Urkullu Renteria**, Lehendakari (President) of the Basque Government, Spain (MGoS)
- **Ms. Olivia Prentice**, Director, COO, Impact Management Project, Bridges Fund Management
- **Mr. Lubin Wang**, Chief Representative Officer ICBC Africa, Non-Executive Director Standard Bank Group

*Followed by interactive discussion*

## Voluntary National Reviews

(Second timers)

**Monday, 15 July 2019, 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM, Conference Room 4**

**(Overflow room: Trusteeship Council Chamber)**

**Chair: H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King**, President of Economic and Social Council

Panel-style Presentation

**Azerbaijan, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Chile**

Q&A

Panel-style Presentation

**Guatemala, Indonesia, Turkey**

Q&A



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### **Four years of VNRs: what have we learned on implementing the SDGs?**

**Monday, 15 July 2019, 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM, Conference Room 4  
(Overflow rooms: Conference Room 7 and Conference Room B)**

This session aims to look at what we have learned on the implementation of the SDGs through the Voluntary National Reviews (VNR) carried out by the HLPF thus far. In total, 102 countries have presented their VNRs since 2016, with another 40 countries presenting for the first time at the July 2019 HLPF. In addition, seven countries will present their second review at this year's Forum.

Taken together, the VNR presentations provide a global snapshot of how countries are implementing the 2030 Agenda and the challenges they face.

The VNRs have shown that many countries have reflected the SDGs in their plans and policies or reviewed consistency between the two. Many have mobilized the various parts of government and various, institutions around the SDGs or created new coordinating institutions. Many have conducted activities to engage civil society and the private sector in implementing the SDGs. But many challenges persist. Those relate for example to budgeting for the SDGs, systematically mobilizing local actions, engaging parliaments, or building awareness about the SDGs. Conducting integrated policies and engaging all parts of government in implementing the SDGs also remains a challenge. Actions for leaving no one behind also require more attention.

The session will allow participants to share their experiences and analysis on the lessons we have learned on SDG implementation through the VNRs conducted thus far.

This session will be organized as an interactive townhall meeting.

#### **Proposed guiding questions:**

- Which challenges or areas where more efforts are required to implement the SDGs have VNRs helped to identify?
- What are successful policies to implement the SDGs, based on the VNRs?
- What have the VNRs told us about the key challenges to implement the SDGs and ways to address them?
- What transformative actions or cross-cutting initiatives resulted from the VNRs for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda? Have these actions been incorporated into plans and roadmaps to accelerate progress across all SDGs at the national level?

#### **Chair:**

- **H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King**, President of Economic and Social Council

#### **Presentation:**

- **Mr. Luis Gerardo Gonzalez Morales**, Chief, Web Development and Data Visualization Section, Statistics Division of UN DESA, on online SDG progress and VNR visualization platforms by UNDP and UN DESA





## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### Moderator:

- **Mr. Achim Steiner**, Administrator of UNDP

### Resource persons:

- **H.E. Mr. Seán Canney**, Minister of State, Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment, Ireland
- **Ms. Rita Schwarzelühr-Sutter**, Parliamentary State Secretary of the Federal Ministry for Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany
- **Mr. Abel Hibert**, Deputy Chief of the Office of the President for Analysis and Innovation, Mexico
- **Mr. Sugath Yalagama**, Director General of the Sustainable Development Council, Sri Lanka
- **Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana**, Executive Secretary of ESCAP
- **Ms. Sakiko Fukuda-Parr**, Professor of International Affairs at The New School, and Member of the Committee for Development Policy
- **Ms. Shannon Kindornay**, Director of Research, Policy and Practice at the Canadian Council for International Co-operation
- **Ms. Judy Njino**, Executive Director, Global Compact Network Kenya, and Chair of the UN Global Compact Africa Region Network Council
- **Mr. Chris Derksen-Hiebert**, global Senior Director on Advocacy, Policy and External Relations, World Vision (MGoS)

*Interactive discussion with all participants*

### Wrap-up session of the first five days

**Monday, 15 July 2019, 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM, Conference Room 4  
(Overflow rooms: Conference Room 7 and Conference Room B)**

This session will provide a broad overview of the sessions that happened throughout the first five days of HLPF and observation by the President of ECOSOC.

### Chair:

**H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King**, President of Economic and Social Council

### Remarks:

**Ms. Maria-Francesca Spatolisano**, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

**H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King**, President of Economic and Social Council



***Theme: Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality***

**Tuesday, 16 July 2019**

**Opening of the High-level Segment of ECOSOC / Ministerial Segment of HLPF**

**8:40 AM - 9:45 AM, General Assembly Hall  
(Overflow room: Trusteeship Council Chamber)**

**Chair:**

- **H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King**, President of ECOSOC

Performance by Gruppo Jobel - Art for Earth

**Message from children on SDGs**

**Opening remarks:**

- **H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King**, President of ECOSOC
- **Mr. António Guterres**, Secretary-General of the United Nations
- **H.E. Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa**, President of the General Assembly

**Keynote speakers:**

- **Ms. Mary Robinson**, Chair of The Elders
- **Mr. Richard Curtis**, Screenwriter, Producer and Film Director, UK, SDG Advocate
- **Mr. Hoesung Lee**, Chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC),  
Endowed Chair Professor at Korea University Graduate School of Energy and  
Environment

Transmittal of the ILO Centenary Declaration on the Future of Work by **H E. Mr. Jean-Jacques Elmiger**, President of the 108th International Labour Conference

HLPF

**Voluntary National Reviews**

**10:00 AM-2:00 PM, Conference Room 4  
(Overflow room: Trusteeship Council Chamber)**

**Chair: H.E. Mr. Omar Hilale**, Vice President of ECOSOC

Individual Presentation

**Iceland, Burkina Faso, Lesotho, Palau, Kazakhstan, Algeria, Pakistan, United Kingdom**

Q&A after each presentation


***Parallel meetings***

<p><b>Chair: H.E. Ms. Mona Juul</b>, Vice President of ECOSOC</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>HLPF</u></b> <b><u>Voluntary National Reviews</u></b> 3:45 PM - 6:45 PM, Conference Room 4</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Individual Presentation</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Mongolia, Cambodia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Q&amp;A after each presentation</p>	<p><b>Chair: H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King</b>, President of ECOSOC</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>HLPF</u></b> <b><u>“What are regions telling us about implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs?”</u></b> 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM <b>Trusteeship Council Chamber</b></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Alicia Bárcena</b>, Executive Secretary of ECLAC</li> </ul> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <p><u>Chairs of regional forums</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ECLAC: <b>H.E. Mr. Rodrigo Malmierca</b>, Minister of Foreign Trade and Foreign Investment, Cuba</li> <li>• ESCAP: <b>H.E. Mr. Fidelis Magalhaes</b>, Minister for Legal Reforms and Parliamentary Affairs, Timor-Leste</li> <li>• ECA: <b>H.E. Ms. Nezha El Ouafi</b>, Secretary of State in charge of Sustainable Development, Morocco</li> <li>• ECE: <b>H.E. Ms. Ogerta Manastirliu</b>, Minister of Health and Social Protection, Albania</li> <li>• ESCWA: <b>H.E. Mr. Noori Al-Dulaimi</b>, Minister of Planning, Iraq</li> </ul> <p><b>Respondent:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Sarah Zaman</b>, Member of Women's Action Forum (MGoS)</li> </ul>
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**Messages to the HLPF**

**4:00 PM - 4:30 PM**

**Trusteeship Council Chamber**

- **H.E. Mr. Ola Elvestuen**, President of the UN Environment Assembly, Minister of Climate and Environment, Norway
- **Ms. Michelle Bachelet Jeria**, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
- **Mr. Boris Greguška**, Chair of the UNFF14 Bureau, Chief State Counsellor, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of the Slovak Republic
- **Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake**, UN Secretary-General's envoy on Youth
- **Mr. Guy Ryder**, Director-General of ILO

**HLS**

**General debate**

**4:30 PM - 6:00 PM**

**Trusteeship Council Chamber**

- **Mr. Elliott Harris**, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development and Chief Economist, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, introduction of the Secretary-General's reports on long term trends and scenarios and on the theme of ECOSOC 2019 session
- **Mr. José Antonio Ocampo**, Chair of the Committee on Development Policy (CDP), Introduction of the CDP report

*Followed by general debate*



**Wednesday, 17 July 2019**

***Parallel meetings***

<p><b><u>HLPF</u></b> <b><u>Voluntary National Reviews</u></b> 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM Conference Room 4</p> <p>Chair: H.E. Ms. Mona Juul, Vice President of ECOSOC</p> <p><u>Panel-style Presentation</u> <b>Central African Republic, Eswatini</b></p> <p>Q&amp;A</p> <p><u>Individual Presentation</u> <b>Iraq, Saint Lucia, Serbia, Tonga, South Africa, Rwanda, Kuwait, New Zealand</b></p> <p>Q&amp;A after each presentation</p>	<p><b><u>HLS</u></b> <b><u>General debate</u></b> <i>(continuation)</i> 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM Trusteeship Council Chamber</p> <p>Chair: H.E. Mr. Valentin Rybakov, Vice President of ECOSOC</p>
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***Parallel meetings***

<p><b><u>HLPF</u></b> <b><u>Voluntary National Reviews</u></b> 3:30 PM - 6:30 PM Conference Room 4</p> <p>Chair: Ms. Kira Christianne Danganan Azucena, Vice President of ECOSOC</p>	<p><b><u>HLS</u></b> <b><u>General debate</u></b> <i>(continuation)</i> 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM Trusteeship Council Chamber</p> <p>Chair: H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King, President of ECOSOC</p>
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<p><u>Individual Presentation</u></p> <p><b>Chad, Ghana, Israel, Timor Leste, Tanzania, Vanuatu</b></p> <p>Q&amp;A after each presentation</p>	
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**Thursday, 18 July 2019**

**HLPF**

**Voluntary National Reviews**

9:00 AM-1:00 PM, Conference Room 4

*(Overflow room: Trusteeship Council Chamber)*

<p><b>Chair: H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King, President of ECOSOC</b></p> <p><u>Panel Style Presentation</u></p> <p><b>Cameroon, Tunisia</b></p> <p>Q&amp;A</p> <p><u>Individual Presentation</u></p> <p><b>Congo, Nauru, Oman, Mauritius, Guyana, Liechtenstein</b></p> <p>Q&amp;A after each presentation</p>
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***Parallel meetings***

<p><b><u>HLPF</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Voluntary National Reviews</u></b></p> <p><b>3:00 PM - 4:00 PM</b></p> <p><b>Conference Room 4</b></p> <p><b>Chair: H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King, President of Economic and Social Council</b></p>
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Individual Presentation

**Mauritania, Turkmenistan**

Q&A after each presentation

**HLPF**

**“Lessons learned from the first cycle of HLPF  
and Messages for 2019 HLPF Summit:  
What should Heads of State and Government know and  
how can we improve the HLPF?”**

**4:00 PM - 5:30 PM**

**Conference Room 4**

Since 2015, the United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) has established its central role in the follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development. In 2019, the High-level Political Forum will convene twice for the first time: under the auspices of ECOSOC in July and at the level of Heads of State and Government in September (SDG summit). The conclusion of the first cycle of the HLPF constitutes a critical opportunity to take stock of how the HLPF has delivered on its functions to promote and support implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to reflect on how the Forum could be strengthened in going forward.

The session will be organized as a townhall meeting with two parts: In the first part, a variety of actors and participants will share and discuss their assessment of how the HLPF has worked since 2016, what we learned from the HLPF on implementing the SDGs and how it can be further improved. This will provide an opportunity to take stock of the challenges and opportunities for the Forum to deliver on its functions. In the second part, two Rapporteurs will present the main messages from the eight days of the July HLPF to the SDG Summit in September 2019, building on the discussions at the HLPF.

The session will start with an intergenerational dialogue on reaching the SDGs and the role of the UN in transforming the world

**Proposed guiding questions:**

- Has the HLPF delivered effectively on its role to follow-up and review the 2030 Agenda?
- What are the challenges and opportunities for the HLPF to deliver on its functions?
- Which aspects of the Forum could be strengthened to ensure effective and inclusive follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda and how can this be done?

**Chair:**

- **H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King**, President of Economic and Social Council



**Moderator:**

- **Ms. Helen Mountford**, Vice President of World Resource Institute for Climate and Economics

**Intergenerational dialogue:**

- **Mr. David Donoghue**, Distinguished Fellow of the Overseas Development Institute (ODI), former Permanent Representative of Ireland to the UN and co-facilitator of the intergovernmental negotiations on the 2030 Agenda
- **Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake**, UN Secretary-General's envoy on Youth

**Part 1: Lessons learned from the first cycle of HLPF**

**Presentation** (on lessons from four years of the HLPF, including the results of the HLPF survey):

- **Mr. Liu Zhenmin**, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations

**Respondents:**

- **H.E. Mr. Muhammad Abdul Mannan**, Minister of Planning, Bangladesh
- **Mr. Jan Vapaavuori**, Mayor of Helsinki, Finland
- **Mr. Oumar Bassirou Diop**, Coordinator of the Unit of Coordination and Follow up of Economic Policies, Ministry of Economy, Planning and Cooperation, Senegal
- **Ms. Marianne Beisheim**, Senior Associate on Global Issues, German Institute for International and Security Affairs, SWP Berlin, and Chair of the Advisory Board of the Development and Peace Foundation, Germany
- **Ms. Saumya Aggarwal**, Co-founder of the Youth for Peace International (MGoS)

**Part 2: Messages to Summit**

**Rapporteurs:**

- **H.E. Ms. Gloria Amparo Alonso Másmela**, Minister of National Planning, Director of the National Planning Department and Chair of the SDG Commission, Colombia
- **H.E. Mr. Christian Wenaweser**, Permanent Representative of Liechtenstein to the UN

**HLS**

**General debate**

*(continuation)*

**3:00 PM - 5:30 PM**

**Trusteeship Council Chamber**

**Chair: Ms. Kira Christianne Danganan Azucena**, Vic President of ECOSOC





**Closing of the HLPF**

**5:30 PM - 6:00 PM, Conference Room 4**

**(Overflow room: Trusteeship Council Chamber)**

**Chair: H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King**, President of Economic and Social Council

Adoption of the draft procedural report of the HLPF

Closing remarks of **Ms. Amina J. Mohammed**, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations

Closing remarks of **H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King**, President of Economic and Social Council

Conclusion of the HLPF



***Theme: Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality***

**Friday, 19 July 2019**

***Parallel meetings***

**High-level Segment of ECOSOC**

**Where are we heading? Visions and projections for the future of the SDGs**

**10:00 AM-1:00 PM, ECOSOC Chamber**

The last day of the High-level Segment of ECOSOC will take place the day after the HLPF, allowing for a broadening of the discussion around the 2030 Agenda and the theme. It will enable Member States to look further ahead. The 2019 High-level Segment of ECOSOC will focus on future-oriented trends, projections and scenarios addressing the most relevant issues around the SDGs. The focus on possible scenarios and future trends that will impact the implementation of the 2030 Agenda complements the work of the HLPF, as well as the various intergovernmental and other bodies related to ECOSOC, which examine the current state of implementation and possible solutions for advancement.

The morning session will consider possible scenarios and trends in selected areas and how they impact the implementation of the SDGs, and focus on whether the SDGs will be achieved if current trends continue. The interactive discussion will generate recommendations for policy actions that could be taken to address trends with a negative impact and to accelerate progress. An examination of future trends will also enable the Council to facilitate the link between researchers and policymakers and contribute to policymaking on issues that are not usually considered from a long-term perspective.

The Secretary-General's report entitled "*Long-term impact of current trends in the economic, social and environmental areas on the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals*" (E/2019/66) will provide background, and the session could draw on the VNRs presented at the HLPF in identifying specific trends that have a particular impact on the SDGs. The session might also consider longer-term visions such as *Africa's Agenda 2063*, *the ASEAN Economic Community's Blueprint 2025*, and *Europe 2050*, as well as the experiences of Member States that have developed long-term national plans.

The session will welcome speakers from Governments and international organizations that have produced long-term planning documents, scenarios or projections for the timeline of the 2030 Agenda and beyond.

This session will have a roundtable format.

**Proposed guiding questions:**

- What transformational changes are crucial for achieving the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs?



- How can future trends and scenarios influence the course of SDG implementation?
- What do current scenarios tell us about our policy choices and how to accelerate SDG progress?

**Chair:**

- **H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King**, President of Economic and Social Council

**Keynote speakers:**

- **Mr. Liu Zhenmin**, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations (on megatrends)
- **Mr. Cristian Samper**, President and CEO, Wildlife Conservation Society

**Moderator:**

- **Ms. Gerda Verburg**, UN Assistant Secretary-General and Coordinator of the Scaling-Up Nutrition Movement

**Resource persons:**

- **H.E. Ms. Li Andersson**, Minister of Education, Finland
- **H.E. Ms. Ohood bint Khalifa Al Roumi**, Minister of State for Happiness and Wellbeing and Director General of the Prime Minister's Office, United Arab Emirates
- **Ms. Inger Andersen**, Executive Director of UNEP
- **Mr. Mahmoud Mohieldin**, Senior Vice President of the World Bank Group
- **Mr. Masamichi Kono**, Deputy Secretary-General of OECD
- **Mr. Nebojsa Nakicenovic**, Acting Deputy Director General, International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)

**Lead discussants:**

- **Ms. Rola Dashti**, Executive Secretary of ESCWA
- **Ms. Marcela Guillibrand De la Jara**, Executive Director, Red Voluntarios de Chile (MGoS)

*Followed by interactive discussion*

**General debate (conclusion)**

**10:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

**Trusteeship Council Chamber**

**Chair: H.E. Ms. Mona Juul**, Vice President of ECOSOC



## **High-level Segment of ECOSOC**

### **Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality**

#### **Long term trends and scenarios**

**3:00 PM - 5:30 PM, ECOSOC Chamber**

The afternoon session of the 2019 High-level Segment of ECOSOC will focus on future-oriented trends, projections and scenarios around the ECOSOC theme of “*Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality*”. The theme encompasses several dimensions, including trends and scenarios related to inequality, and trends and scenarios related to participation of people in decision making.

The findings of the *United Nations World Economic Situation and Prospects 2019* reveal that even though global economic growth appears stable, it is masking underlying risks and imbalances, and concealing fragilities and setbacks in many developing economies. Inequalities are growing, as many low-income earners have not seen any growth in their disposable income for many years and more than half the world population has no access to social protection. This situation pushes the targets of eradicating poverty and creating decent jobs for all further from reach, and also impacts the achievement of other SDGs.

This session will also address trends related to the empowerment of people, including the poorest and most vulnerable. It will aim to reflect on future trends related to inclusive institutions as well as trends related to ensuring responsive, inclusive, participatory and transparent decision-making.

In addition, the session will also examine trends related to inequalities and the implications of rising inequality in the long run.

The report of the Secretary-General on the theme (E/2019/65) will provide background for the session. The discussions could draw upon relevant work on inequalities, institutions and participation. It could also include examples from the VNRs to identify driving forces behind inequalities (such as the impacts of conflict, migration, non-inclusive economic growth and environmental degradation), as well as trends in making public institutions more inclusive and participatory.

#### **Proposed guiding questions:**

- How can future trends in economy, society, public institutions and technology be used to empower people and engage them in decision-making?
- What do scenarios tell us about policy choices to ensure shared prosperity and empower people to live dignified lives?
- What do inequalities mean for countries in special situations, including fragile countries and vulnerable groups?

**Chair:** H. E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King, President of Economic and Social Council

**Moderator:** Ms. Claire Melamed, Executive Director, Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data



**Resource persons:**

- **Ms. Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi**, Chair of the Committee of the Experts on Public Administration (CEPA), former Minister for the Public and Administration of South Africa, and Chancellor of Nelson Mandela University
- **Ms. Isabelle Durant**, Deputy Secretary-General of UNCTAD
- **Ms. Isabelle Pypaert-Perrin**, Executive Director of the International Movement ATD Fourth World
- **Mr. Charles Kenny**, Senior Fellow and the Director of Technology and Development, Center for Global Development
- **Ms. Sophie Howe**, Future Generations Commissioner Wales

**Lead discussants:**

- **Ms. Doreen Bogdan Martin**, Director of the Development Bureau of International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- **Ms. Paulette Metang**, Executive President of Association Camerounaise pour la Prise en Charge des Personnes Agees, (MGoS)

*Followed by interactive discussion*

**Concluding remarks:**

- **Mr. Elliott Harris**, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development and Chief Economist, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

## **Closing of the High-level Segment of ECOSOC**

The way forward

5:30 PM - 6:00 PM, ECOSOC Chamber

**Chair:** H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King, President of Economic and Social Council

**Closing remarks:**

- **Mr. Liu Zhenmin**, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations
- **H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King**, President of Economic and Social Council

Conclusion of the High-level Segment of ECOSOC

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