

Zero Draft

Ministerial Declaration of the high-level segment of the 2024 Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the 2024 high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, on the theme: “Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions”

I. Current situation and challenges to achieve the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

1. We, the Ministers and high representatives, met in New York at the high-level segment of the 2024 session of the Economic and Social Council and the 2024 high-level political forum on sustainable development and adopted the present ministerial declaration.

2. We reaffirm our commitment towards building a sustainable, prosperous, peaceful, just and inclusive world by 2030, as envisioned by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

3. We also reaffirm that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions remains the overarching goal and is an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.

4. We are deeply concerned that the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals has fallen behind, held back by the COVID-19 pandemic, wars, and economic, social and environmental crises, which have reversed decades of progress in the fight against poverty, hunger, and inequalities. These crises have weakened the global economy, increased debt levels, undermined food supplies, escalated humanitarian needs and put the SDGs at risk, with disproportionate impacts on developing countries.

5. We also reaffirm that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time. We express profound alarm that emissions of greenhouse gases continue to rise globally, and remain deeply concerned that all countries, particularly developing countries, are vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change. We emphasize, in this regard, that mitigation of and adaptation to climate change represent an immediate and urgent priority.

6. We pledge to redouble our efforts to achieve a more sustainable world. We are all committed to bold, ambitious, accelerated, just and transformative action in the six years to 2030. We reaffirm that international cooperation, multilateralism, and international solidarity are the best way to address the global challenges that we are facing.

II. Actions and investment pathways to support the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions for reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and accelerating poverty eradication

7. We reaffirm that the 2030 Agenda remains a universal, indivisible, inclusive, and integrated roadmap to a peaceful, healthy, and secure life for current and future generations, balancing the economic, social, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. A

holistic, just and inclusive transformation is essential to ensure the implementation of the 2030 Agenda as a whole.

8. We also reaffirm that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda and that its full implementation is critical for the realization of SDGs and targets.

9. We call for renewed impetus and accelerated actions to reach the Sustainable Development Goals and, to this end, full implementation of the collective commitment reflected in the 2023 SDG Summit Political Declaration.

10. We reaffirm that sustainable development cannot be realized without peace and security; and peace and security will be at risk without sustainable development.

11. We will take action to combat inequalities within and among countries and pursue policies that stem the tide of rising inequality, including through social protection system.

12. We recognize the special challenges facing all developing countries in pursuing sustainable development, especially countries in special situations, in particular, African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, and small island developing States, as well as specific challenges faced by middle-income countries. We call for bold and proactive efforts to implement the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS.

13. We commit to address on-going financing gaps for achieving the SDGs. We call for scaling up access to concessional finance and commit to working in partnership to deliver more finance and improve spending efficiency.

14. We encourage all relevant actors to better address interlinkages, synergies and trade-offs between the Sustainable Development Goals, enhancing policy coherence for sustainable development.

15. We recognize that large scale and rapid changes will need to build on a foundation of science that is multidisciplinary, widely trusted, and accessible. We commit to bridging the science, technology and innovation divides and the responsible use of science, technology, and innovation as drivers of sustainable development and to build the capacities necessary for sustainable transformations.

16. We commit to leverage science, technology and innovation, and the benefits of digitalization and financial inclusion.

17. We reaffirm that gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Goals and targets. The systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda is crucial.

18. We look forward to the Summit of the Future in 2024 as an important opportunity to, inter alia, accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs.

19. We emphasize that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.

20. We commit to provide the necessary means of implementation to eradicate poverty and will support national policies and strategies aimed at eradicating poverty in both urban and rural areas. We will strengthen social protection systems and expand coverage of social protection programmes, to reduce poverty and hunger.

21. We commit to foster economic growth, economic diversification and productive capacities in developing countries, as drivers to eradicate poverty and achieve sustainable development. We note the significance of decent jobs and social protection for eradicating poverty and, in this regard, take note with appreciation of the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions and encourage all countries to consider supporting its implementation.
22. We recognize that poverty is a serious impediment to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including those living in rural areas, and that the feminization of poverty persists, emphasizing that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, acknowledging the mutually reinforcing links between the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the eradication of poverty, and stressing the importance of support for countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions,
23. We are determined to make all efforts to eradicate poverty through strengthening multi-stakeholder partnerships and supporting synergies with other SDGs and targets, including those aimed at creating jobs, involving financial, trade and technology solutions, strengthening social protection systems, and tailoring solutions to special community's needs.
24. We recognize the importance of ending hunger, achieving food security and improving nutrition and promoting sustainable agriculture, while addressing the needs of developing countries and ensure that each country is integrated in the global agrifood supply chain. We recall the right of everyone to have access to safe, adequate and nutritious food, consistent with the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger.
25. We commit to reduce food insecurity and rural poverty by promoting more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems; promoting resilient markets; increasing agricultural productivity, efficiency and resilience; promoting conservation and sustainable management of biodiversity; facilitating transitions into non-agricultural employment; promoting inclusive climate action; improving rural livelihoods; and strengthening rural development and taking actions to better address the needs of rural communities.
26. We recognize that more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems have a fundamental role to play in promoting healthy diets and improving nutrition and preventing and controlling non-communicable diseases, and welcome the formulation and implementation of national policies aimed at eradicating malnutrition in all its forms and transforming agrifood systems so as to make nutritious diets, including traditional healthy diets, available to all, while reaffirming that health, water and sanitation systems must be strengthened simultaneously to end malnutrition.
27. We commit to keep trade and supply chains open for agriculture trade and ensure that developing countries are integrated into global agrifood supply chains.
28. We welcome the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework to contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to the 2030 mission to halt and reverse biodiversity loss by 2030 and to place the global community on a path towards realizing the 2050 Vision for Biodiversity, and urge Parties and invite other Governments, with the support of United Nations entities and the participation of all other stakeholders, to ensure the early, inclusive and effective

implementation of the Framework and all other decisions adopted by the Parties. We will conserve and sustainably use oceans and seas, freshwater resources, as well as forests, mountains and drylands and protect biodiversity, ecosystems and wildlife.

29. We recognize that developing countries are most vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change and commit to ensure that vulnerable countries receive support, including by operationalizing the new fund on loss and damage.

30. We commit to enhance synergies towards the effective implementation of national climate and development policies and actions, contributing to the achievement of global climate goals and delivering on the 2030 Agenda. We must ensure transition pathways that are just, equitable, and inclusive, including in energy, transport, industry, food, forests and agriculture systems, to leave no one behind and to build resilience.

31. We welcome the decisions adopted at the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's COP28/CMP18/CMA5, held in Dubai, and take note of the outcome of the first global stocktake of the Paris Agreement, at the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement.

32. We stress the urgency of enhancing ambition for climate action in the implementation of the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement in relation to climate mitigation, adaptation and the provision of the means of implementation, especially finance to developing countries.

33. We commit to accelerate action on climate change in this critical decade on the basis of the best available science, reflecting equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities in the light of different national circumstances and in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty.

34. We recommit to the full implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, as disasters have become more frequent and intense.

35. We underline the need to promote peaceful, prosperous, inclusive societies and safe communities for achieving sustainable development, and to build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Good governance, rule of law, human rights, fundamental freedoms, equal access to fair justice systems, and measures to combat corruption and curb illicit financial flows will be integral to our efforts. We emphasize the importance of good governance and strong institutions as key enablers of sustainable development.

36. We note that the multidimensional nature of today's crises and conflicts calls for greater investment in prevention, including attention to the structural causes and strategies for promoting peace, justice, and rule of law.

37. We acknowledge that especially now, when one quarter of humanity lives in conflict-affected areas, and as the world struggles with unprecedented levels of inequality, ambitious actions are needed to restore trust and to strengthen the capacity of institutions.

38. We are deeply concerned by the marked increase of the estimated SDG financing gap to between USD 2.5 and 4 trillion annually for developing countries and recognize the urgency of providing affordable, predictable, sustainable and sufficient development finance to developing countries from all sources.

39. We welcome the Secretary-General's efforts to address the SDG financing gap through an SDG stimulus. We call on the international community to take actions, as appropriate, to advance the SDG Stimulus in a timely manner.
40. We stress that the scaling-up of access to concessional finance, transfer of technology and capacity building are of the utmost importance to realize the SDGs in developing countries.
41. We acknowledge ongoing discussions on measures of progress on sustainable development that complement or go beyond gross domestic product to have a more inclusive approach to international cooperation, including in the consideration of informing access to development finance and technical cooperation.
42. We recognize that domestic resources are first and foremost generated by economic growth. We recognize the critical importance of creating an enabling environment at all levels to increase domestic resources and ensure that developing countries have the necessary fiscal space to achieve the SDGs. Sound social, environmental and economic policies, including countercyclical fiscal policies, adequate fiscal space, good governance at all levels and democratic and transparent institutions responsive to the needs of the people are necessary to achieve our goals.
43. We support reform of the international financial architecture. We also support international financial institution and multilateral development bank reform as a key for large-scale Sustainable Development Goal-related investments to better address global challenges. The international financial architecture, including its business models and financing capacities, must be made more fit for purpose, equitable and responsive to the financing needs of developing countries, to broaden and strengthen the voice and participation of developing countries in international economic decision-making, norm-setting, and global economic governance.
44. We call for urgent action to address the debt crisis in developing countries and to reform the global sovereign debt architecture for the long-term sustainable management of sovereign debt. We commit to strengthen multilateral actions to assist developing countries to cope with the debt crisis and deteriorating debt situation, including using a multidimensional vulnerability index to access concessional financing and development support.
45. We urge the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development to help mobilize untapped resources and catalyze increased investment across all goals and targets.
46. We welcome increased and more meaningful involvement of the World Bank, the IMF and other multilateral development banks in the HLPF, which could help expand investment pathways to accelerate poverty reduction and implement the SDGs.
47. We recognize the role and the contribution of south-south cooperation and triangular cooperation in achieving sustainable development and reaffirm that south-south cooperation is an important element of international cooperation for development, and is not a substitute for, but rather a complement to, north-south cooperation.
48. We commit to expanding the participation of all countries, in particular developing countries, in the digital economy, including by enhancing their digital infrastructure connectivity, building their capacities and enhancing their access to technological innovations through stronger partnerships and improving digital literacy.

49. We commit to close the data gap and strengthen the capacity of national statistical offices and data systems to ensure access to high-quality, timely, reliable and disaggregated data.

50. We commend the 38 countries that presented voluntary national reviews (VNRs) at the 2024 HLPF. We recognize that the voluntary national reviews presented by countries reflect the efforts to integrate SDGs into national plans and policies and acknowledge the need to continue supporting countries in the VNR, including the work of the Group of Friends of VNRs.

51. We encourage countries to consider developing national road maps of voluntary national reviews for presentation until 2030.

52. We commit to strengthen the VNRs, including through more evidence-based reviews supported by a participatory process involving all relevant stakeholders, including contributions from local and regional actors. We commit further to strengthen the quality of VNRs by a more systematic use of accurate, comparable, and anticipatory data.
