



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**Theme: Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions**

**Monday, 8 July 2024**

**Monday, 8 July 2024, 10:00 - 11:00 AM, General Assembly Hall**

### Opening

The theme for the 2024 United Nations high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF) and ECOSOC is *“Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions.”*

The HLPF in 2024, without prejudice to the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), will review in-depth: **Goal 1.** End poverty in all its forms every where; **Goal 2.** End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture; **Goal 13.** Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts; **Goal 16.** Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels; and **Goal 17.** Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

The July 2024 HLPF will be the first HLPF under the auspices of ECOSOC after the 2023 SDG Summit - the HLPF convened under the auspices of the General Assembly in September 2023. The HLPF will support the implementation of the Political Declaration of the SDG Summit to advance the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. It will also contribute to the preparations for the Summit of the Future to be held in September 2024.

The 2024 HLPF will draw from the experience of the 37 countries conducting Voluntary National Reviews. It will also hear from other countries and participants about experiences, best practices and lessons learned in implementing the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs.

#### **Provisional agenda (E/HLPF/2024/1) and documentation**

The HLPF will be informed by the Report of the Secretary-General on *“Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals”* (A/79/79-E/2024/54). The forum will also benefit from other important reports, as well as inputs from the functional commissions of ECOSOC and other intergovernmental bodies and forums.<sup>1</sup>

#### **Chair:**

- **H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

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<sup>1</sup> <https://hlpf.un.org/2024/documentation>



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### Opening remarks:

- **H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

### Keynote and remarks:

- **Ms. Amina Mohammed**, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations
- **H.E. Mr. Kairat Umarov**, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Kazakhstan) (*Messages from the ECOSOC system*)

### Musical performance:

- Flute Ensemble: *Umoja* by Valerie Coleman  
Hoff-Barthelson Music School  
**Ms. Donna Elaine**, Conductor

**Monday, 8 July 2024, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM, General Assembly Hall**

(Townhall meeting)

### **From the SDG Summit to the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions**

The 2023 SDG Summit marked the half-way point to the deadline for achieving the SDGs, with the aim to provide renewed impetus for accelerated action which cannot be accomplished without increased international cooperation and solidarity. This year's high-level political forum on sustainable development will follow up on the commitments made in the Political Declaration of the 2023 SDG Summit, including those related to the SDGs that will be reviewed in-depth.

Under the overall theme of the 2024 HLPF, the Townhall is envisioned to advance discussions on the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient, and innovative solutions needed to facilitate and expedite the implementation of the SDGs. The session will provide insights into developing longer-term, risk-informed, inclusive, and resilient-oriented strategies to improve people's well-being, through greater investments in health, education, infrastructure, jobs, technologies, and social protection. Practical solutions and recommendations will be showcased to promote sharing of lessons-learned and best practices.

This session will have a townhall format. This means that the first speakers have been identified with other participants intervening from the floor.

### Proposed guiding questions:

- How can we build on what has been learned at all levels to implement the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs?
- What are key strategies for transformation and accelerating implementation in the follow-up to the SDG Summit?



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- How can we harness synergies, strengthen interlinkages and minimize trade-offs for realizing the SDGs?
- What policies and good practices from the 2024 Voluntary National Reviews and from other countries and stakeholders can strengthen sustainability, resilience and innovation?
- Where do we stand in terms of progress towards reaching the SDGs by 2030, in key development areas such as poverty and hunger?
- What specific aspects of the 2030 Agenda require urgent attention and resources from governments and other stakeholders?
- What are the main challenges to effective international cooperation that would ensure transformative and accelerated action on the SDGs?
- What are some transformative policies and initiatives that can address the wellbeing of vulnerable populations?

### Chair:

- **H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

### Presentation:

- **Mr. Li Junhua**, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations, presentation of the Report of the Secretary-General on *“Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals”*

*(The speaking order in the session will be managed so as to stimulate an interactive conversation rather than following protocol.)*

### Moderator:

- **Mr. Sherwin Bryce-Pease**, Bureau Chief and Correspondent, South African Broadcasting Corporation

### Lead speakers:

- **H.E. Mr. Paulo Rangel**, Minister of State and Foreign Affairs of Portugal
- **Ms. Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi**, Chancellor of Nelson Mandela University and Chair of the United Nations Committee of Experts on Public Administration (CEPA) at its 23rd session
- **Ms. Amy Pope**, Director General of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and Coordinator of the UN Network on Migration
- **Mr. José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs**, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and Coordinator of the UN Regional Commissions
- **Ms. Shannon Lisa**, Chemicals and Waste Youth Platform (MGoS)

Interventions by ministers and other participants (up to 2-3 minutes each)



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Monday, 8 July 2024, 3:00 - 6:00 PM, Conference Room 4

### **SDGs in focus:**

### **SDG 17 and interlinkages with other SDGs – Partnerships for the Goals**

3:00 PM-4:30 PM, Conference Room 4

(Panel)

### **Unlocking investment in the SDGs**

Time is running out to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The estimated size of the financing gap to achieve the SDGs in developing countries has soared to \$4 trillion per annum. Governments alone cannot mobilize these resources. Developing countries face, in particular, a finance divide, with the lack of access to affordable finance.

This session will build upon the ECOSOC Financing for Development Forum (FFDF), highlighting the core challenges and opportunities to close the financing and architecture gap, in the context of the preparations for the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development in 2025. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda encouraged international financial institutions and multilateral development banks (MDBs) to make optimal use of their balance sheets and update their policies in support of the SDGs. MDBs are stepping up efforts to strengthen their collaboration, including on climate action, country-level work, and private sector engagement. Furthermore, the MDBs could also deepen cooperation with the broader system of public development banks (PDBs), leveraging their local knowledge, as well as with the UN system.

This discussion will pay special attention to the role of international financial institutions such as MDBs in driving transformative progress and unlocking investment towards the SDGs and in addressing global challenges.

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

- How can enhanced partnerships among the actors of the SDG investment ecosystem (governments, development banks, private sector, and others) drive investment at scale and elevate development outcomes and impacts—especially for the most vulnerable countries and communities?
- How can MDBs increase lending for national development needs and also support global public goods? Are new resources, instruments and measurement tools needed to adapt MDBs to be fully responsive to the challenges in achieving the SDGs, and can these be agreed at the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development in 2025?
- How can the UN discussions, including at the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, support public development banks to bridge the existing financing gaps and scale up public and private investment in climate action?



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### Chair:

- **H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

### Keynote:

- **H.E. Ms. Laura Chinchilla**, former President of Costa Rica

### Highlight:

- Findings of the report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the SDGs – SDG 17 on partnerships for the Goals  
**Mr. Yuxi Zhang**, Statistics Division, UN DESA

### Interactive panel discussion

#### Moderator:

- **Ms. Shari Spiegel**, Director of the Financing for Sustainable Development Office, UN DESA

#### Panellists:

- **Mr. Achim Steiner**, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- **Ms. Rola Dashti**, Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)
- **Mr. Greg Levin**, Founder of New Leaf Climate Partners

#### Lead Discussant:

- **Ms. Foteini Papagiotti**, Acting Deputy Director, Policy & Advocacy, International Center for Research on Women (MGoS)

#### Ministerial Respondents:

- **H.E. Mr. Yanara Chhieng**, Senior Minister-in-Charge of Special Mission and Second Vice-President of the Council for Development, Cambodia
- **H.E. Mr. Abdulla Nasser Lootah**, Deputy Minister of Cabinet Affairs for Competitiveness and Knowledge Exchange, United Arab Emirates

Interventions by other ministers and participants (up to 2-3 minutes each)



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Monday, 8 July 2024, 4:30 - 6:00 PM, Conference Room 4

(Panel)

### **Science, technology and innovation: Triggering transformation and sustaining science-driven solutions**

Science, technology and innovation are crucial for advancing progress on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the face multiple crises.

As we approach 2030, the SDGs are off track. Developing countries and the world's poorest and most vulnerable people are bearing the brunt of the lack of SDG progress, and they stand to gain immensely from STI-driven solutions across various sectors, from healthcare and education to environmental conservation and economic development. But unleashing this potential will require tackling structural impediments to accessing new and emerging technologies, through scaling up the use of open science, affordable and open-source technologies, research and development, and through strengthened partnerships.

The Political Declaration of the 2023 SDG Summit stressed the urgency of bridging the science, technology and innovation divides and accelerating the transfer of environmentally sound technologies to developing nations on favourable terms. The Technology Facilitation Mechanism established by the 2030 Agenda has continued to support the application of science, technology, and innovation for the SDGs, including by bringing a focus to the STI challenges and opportunities in Africa, in small island developing States, in Landlocked Developing Countries and in Least Developed Countries. Existing efforts can be scaled up and new partners and STI finance mobilized to catalyze STI for the SDGs in the remaining six years to 2030.

This session will examine effective partnerships, concrete policies and programmes that foster innovation ecosystems and induce transformative change based on the findings of the 9th Multistakeholder Forum on Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI Forum), and other UN initiatives to advance SDG solutions and partnerships in STI.

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

- What are the key solutions identified from the STI Forum to support achievement of the SDGs?
- How are different stakeholders following up on commitments from the Political Declaration of the SDG Summit on bridging STI divides and the responsible use of STI as drivers for sustainable development?
- What policies and partnerships are needed to incentivize the development, transfer and adoption of technologies that address specific local challenges and contexts, while aligning with the SDG goals?
- What are some promising ways to foster collaboration between scientific communities, industry stakeholders, financial institutions and policymakers to accelerate the development and deployment of sustainable, science-driven solutions?

#### **Chair:**

- **H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council



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### Keynote/Presentation:

- **H.E. Ms. Christina Markus Lassen**, Co-Chair of the 2024 STI Forum, Permanent Representative of Denmark to the United Nations (*Messages from the STI Forum*)

### Interactive panel discussion

#### Moderator:

- **H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King**, Co-Chair of the 2024 STI Forum, Permanent Representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to the United Nations

#### Panellists:

- **Mr. Carlos Henrique Brito Cruz**, Senior Vice-President, Research Networks, Elsevier
- **Ms. Joyeeta Gupta**, Professor of Environment and Development, Faculty of Social and Behavioral Sciences, University of Amsterdam, and Professor on Sustainability, IHE Delft Institute for Water Education
- **Mr. Subho Mukherjee**, Vice President and Global Head of Sustainability, Nokia

#### Lead Discussant:

- **Ms. Magdalena Stoeva**, International Union for Physical and Engineering Sciences in Medicine, and International Science Council Outreach and Engagement Committee (MGoS)

Interventions by ministers and other participants (up to 2-3 minutes each)

**Tuesday, 9 July 2024**

**Tuesday, 9 July 2024, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Conference Room 4**  
(Panel)

### SDGs in focus:

### **SDG 1 and interlinkages with other SDGs- No poverty**

Global efforts to eradicate extreme poverty have faced significant setbacks following the COVID-19 pandemic and a series of major shocks, with none of the SDG 1 targets on track to be achieved by 2030. In 2022, 9 per cent of the world's population, or 712 million people, were living in extreme poverty, an increase of 23 million people compared to 2019. If current trends continue, 590 million people, or 6.9 per cent of the world's population, will still live in extreme poverty by 2030. Interlinked crises continue to thwart sustained progress on the SDGs. Economic losses due to natural disasters remained



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stubbornly high in recent years and social protection for the most vulnerable has been insufficient to counter the multidimensional impacts from the shocks. In 2023, only 28.2 per cent of children globally received child cash benefits, an improvement over the 22.1 per cent in 2015, but still leaving 1.4 billion children aged 0-15 without coverage. Developing countries lack fiscal space to tackle poverty especially in the face of high debt burdens.

This session will take stock of where we are in terms of progress towards SDG 1, in the second half of the journey towards the SDGs. It will examine new challenges in the global landscape likely to impact overall trends and distribution of poverty and how policymakers can best respond to these. In the current context, it will also discuss what needs to be done differently (or perhaps with renewed emphasis) in the quest to ‘end poverty, in all its forms, everywhere’ by 2030.

This session will consider innovative solutions that may have emerged in response to various crises, and how these might be scaled up. This includes building on synergies with green technological transformations and ensuring that the benefits are widely shared through just transitions. It will also explore how the gendered incidence of poverty can be tackled, including in relation to the care burden, and what are some solutions for gender equality and poverty reduction. The discussions will allow the global community to build on new opportunities, learnings and good practices that have emerged in the first half of the 2030 Agenda, to harness the political momentum from the SDG Summit and to speak to the challenges under consideration by the Summit of the Future in September 2024.

### Proposed guiding questions:

- In the current context, what needs to be done differently, or with renewed emphasis, in the quest to “end poverty, in all its forms, everywhere” by 2030?
- How can we develop more integrated strategies for poverty reduction that consider its interlinkages with other Goals? How can we better take advantage of potential synergies and manage potential trade-offs?
- How can advances in SDG 1 be protected in the face of macroeconomic shocks, climate shocks and disasters? What strategies will ensure that risks are not disproportionately borne by the poorest?
- What are some innovative solutions for developing countries to access long-term financing for sustained poverty reduction? How can international actors support this agenda through knowledge generation and exchange?
- What needs to be done to ensure that the gains in poverty reduction reach all groups in society? What are some solutions for reducing horizontal inequalities and poverty?

### Chair:

- **H.E. Mr. Bob Rae**, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Canada) (10:00 am – 11:30 am)
- **H.E. Mr. Tarek Ladeb**, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Tunisia) (11:30 am – 1:00 pm)

### Highlights:

- Findings of the report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the SDGs – SDG 1 on poverty eradication  
**Mr. Sokunpanha You**, Statistics Division, DESA





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- Representative of Regional Commissions: Regional perspective on implementation of SDG 1 and interlinkages  
**Ms. Rola Dashti**, Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)

### Interactive panel discussion

#### **Moderator:**

- **Ms. Shahra Razavi**, Director of the Department for Universal Social Protection, International Labour Organization (ILO)

#### **Panellists:**

- **Ms. Ilze Brands Kehris**, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, Head of the UN Human Rights Office in New York
- **Ms. Sabina Alkire**, Director, Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative, University of Oxford
- **Mr. Luis Felipe Lopez-Calva**, Global Director for the World Bank Group's Poverty and Equity Global Practice
- **Mr. Leonidas Iza Salazar**, President of the Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador (CONAIE)

#### **Lead Discussant:**

- **Ms. Vercilene Dias**, Founder of the National Network of Quilombola Lawyers (RENAAQ), Brazil (MGoS)

#### **Ministerial Respondent:**

- **Mr. Gustavo Bolivar**, Director of Social Prosperity, Colombia

Interventions by other ministers and participants (up to 2-3 minutes each)

**Tuesday, 9 July 2024, 3:00 – 6:00 PM, Conference Room 4**  
(Panel)

### **SDGs in focus:**

**SDG 2 and interlinkages with other SDGs**  
**– Zero hunger**

The state of SDG 2 implementation is sobering, with many countries and communities struggling to provide adequate, safe and nutritious food to their people. Interconnected and often mutually



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reinforcing challenges and drivers, including conflict, climate change and climate extremes, uneven recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, economic slowdown and downturns, as well as growing structural inequalities, among other factors, all undermine progress on SDG 2. In 2022, between 691 and 783 million people faced hunger. Additionally, 2.4 billion people were moderately to severely food insecure. In addition to the scourge of hunger and food insecurity, policymakers must also confront the environmental impact of unsustainable agrifood systems. It is estimated food systems are responsible for up to one-third of global greenhouse gas emissions and a key driver of biodiversity loss, while consuming about 70 per cent of freshwater withdrawals.<sup>2</sup>

To address these and other related challenges in food security and nutrition, governments and their partners must commit to a systems approach, taking integrated action across a range of relevant sectors, and engaging diverse stakeholders. The current session at the HLPF will, therefore, take a holistic, multi-sectoral approach to the discussion on SDG 2.

### Proposed guiding questions:

- How are current global crises impacting food security and nutrition, and where and for which groups are these pressures felt most acutely?
- How can we accelerate actions, strengthen partnerships and governance to end hunger and malnutrition, and realize the right to adequate food?
- How can we unlock the financing needed to end hunger, food insecurity and malnutrition in all forms?
- What are innovative solutions and best practices for sustainable and resilient agriculture? How is international and regional cooperation on food systems contributing to advancing SDG 2?

### Chair:

- **H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

### Highlights:

- Findings of the report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the SDGs – SDG 2 on zero hunger  
**Ms. Faryal Ahmed**, Statistics Division, DESA
- Representative of Regional Commissions: Regional perspective on implementation of SDG 2 and interlinkages  
**Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana**, Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

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<sup>2</sup> [Report of the Secretary-General for the UN Food Systems Summit +2.](#)



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### Interactive panel discussion

#### Moderator:

- **Ms. Afshan Khan**, Coordinator, Scaling Up Nutrition Movement (SUN)

#### Panellists:

- **Ms. Aline Mosnier**, Scientific Director for the FABLE Pathways Consortium, France
- **Mr. Iain Wright**, Vice Chair of the Steering Committee of the High-Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition, Committee on World Food Security
- **Ms. Inaya Ezzedine**, Member of Parliament, Lebanon
- **Mr. Michal Mlynár**, Acting Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

#### Lead Discussants:

- **Mr. Stefanos Fotiou**, Director of the Office of Sustainable Development Goals, FAO
- **Ms. Paula Salome Ramos Niño**, Municipal Youth Council of Villavicencio, Colombia (MGoS)

Interventions by ministers and other participants (up to 2-3 minutes each)

## Wednesday, 10 July 2024

Wednesday, 10 July 2024, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Conference Room 4  
(Panel)

### SDGs in focus:

### **SDG 13 and interlinkages with other SDGs – Climate action**

The adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement in 2015 established a strong foundation for coherent implementation of climate action and sustainable development objectives across all levels and sectors. In the same spirit, the Secretary-General in the address on his 2023 priorities stressed that “Climate action is the 21st century’s greatest opportunity to drive forward all the Sustainable Development Goals.”

According to WMO’s 2023 report on the Global State of Climate, the latest data show that 2023 was the warmest year on record, about 1.4°C above the pre-industrial baseline. The past nine years, from 2015 to 2023, were also the warmest on record. Global emissions continue to rise, notably after a brief



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decline during the COVID-19 pandemic. The latest IPCC report warns that global average temperature have already risen 1.1°C above pre-industrial levels.

The scale of finance needed is significant – global models from the most authoritative institutions all converge in the range of trillions annually. The first Needs Determination Report of the Standing Committee on Finance in 2021 shows nearly USD 6 trillion is needed to implement developing countries' climate action plans by 2030, and this does not fully cost for adaptation. Least developed countries and small island developing states face disproportionate challenges in managing climate change and its impacts. There is an urgent need for capacity building, with a focus on women, youth and local and marginalized communities, in these vulnerable countries that are also facing debilitating debt.

This session will examine challenges and opportunities in advancing key solutions towards accelerating SDG13 as an enabler to achieve the interconnected crises of nature, biodiversity, pollution, but also poverty, inequality and sustainable development. The session will benefit from the outcomes of the Expert Group Meeting on the Review of the SDG 13, which took place in Tokyo in March 2024.

### Proposed guiding questions:

- How has SDG 13 progressed since the 2021 HLPF review?
- What are some of the most recent successes, as well as remaining gaps, in enhancing adaptation and resilience capacities?
- How can disaster risk reduction be more effectively linked to climate and development goals in national and subnational policies for better coherence?
- What evidence-based approaches are available to leverage synergies between SDG 13 and other SDGs?
- What innovative strategies can be employed to promote climate education and awareness at the community level, ensuring accessibility and coherence across different countries and regions?
- What promising approaches can accelerate action for SDG 13 implementation, and how can stakeholders be more effectively mobilized? What is the role of science, technology, and innovation for SDG 13?

### Chair:

- **H.E. Mr. Tarek Ladeb**, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Tunisia)

### Highlights:

- Findings of the report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the SDGs – SDG 13 on climate action  
**Ms. Heather Page**, Statistics Division, DESA
- Representative of Regional Commissions: Regional perspective on implementation of SDG 13 and interlinkages  
**Ms. Tatiana Molcean**, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)



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### Interactive panel discussion

#### **Moderator:**

- **Ms. Britt Groosman**, Vice President of Climate-Smart Agriculture, Environmental Defense Fund

#### **Panellists:**

- **Ms. Ko Barrett**, Deputy Secretary-General, World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
- **Ms. Katherine Calvin**, NASA's Chief Scientist and Senior Climate Advisor, and Co-Chair of IPCC Working Group III
- **Mr. Axel Schmidt Graef**, Mayor of Niteroi, Brazil
- **Ms. Maria Mähl**, Partner and Head of USA ESG Solutions & Partnerships

#### **Lead Discussants:**

- **Mr. Miquel Muñoz Cabré**, Senior Scientist, Stockholm Environment Institute US
- **Ms. Ayisha Siddiqa**, Secretary-General's Youth Advisory Group on Climate Change

Interventions by ministers and other participants (up to 2-3 minutes each)

**Wednesday, 10 July 2024, 3:00 - 4:45 PM, Conference Room 4**  
(Panel)

### **Small Island Developing States: Implementing the outcomes of the fourth SIDS Conference**

The Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS: A Renewed Declaration for Resilient Prosperity (ABAS) charts the programme of action for SIDS for the next decade. It defines concrete actions across 10 thematic areas: economic resilience; climate action and support, including finance; biodiversity action; ocean conservation; disaster risk reduction; safe and healthy societies; data; science and digitalization; productive populations; and partnerships. The challenge which now lies ahead, is its implementation. For this, the international community must put in place the right partnerships to implement ABAS and mobilize the necessary means of implementation to ensure that tangible results are achieved.

The UN system must be ready to actualize this new SIDS Programme of Action, including with the necessary working modalities, tools, expertise and resources to better support national priorities, while also delivering in a coherent and coordinated manner.

This session will explore how selected UN development system entities propose to deliver enhanced support in key thematic areas, for coherent implementation of ABAS.



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### Proposed guiding questions:

- How can the UN Development System and other relevant actors best support implementation of the ABAS?
- How will the UNDS entities with no physical presence contribute to the work of UN country teams in support of ABAS implementation?
- How can the UNDS leverage support to Member States in achieving sustainable financing for development aligned with their national priorities to drive ABAS implementation?
- How can collaboration between International Financial Institutions, the UNDS, and Member States, respectively, be improved to scale-up investments for national sustainable development priorities? What more can each actor do in their respective capacities?

### Chair:

- **H.E. Mr. Ivan Simonović**, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Croatia)

### Keynote/Presentation:

- **H.E. Mr. Gaston Browne**, Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda
- **H.E. Ms. Naomi Mata'afa**, Prime Minister of Samoa
- **Mr. Li Junhua**, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, and Secretary-General of SIDS4 (*Present messages from SIDS4*)

### Interactive panel discussion

#### Moderator:

- **H.E. Mr. Ali Naseer Mohamed**, Permanent Representative of Maldives to the United Nations

#### Panellists:

- **Ms. Rabab Fatima**, High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLS), and Special Adviser for SIDS4
- **Dr. Natalia Kanem**, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- **Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana**, Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

#### Lead Discussants:

- **Ms. Dima Al-Khatib**, Director of the United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation
- **Nandini Tanya Lallmon**, African Queer Youth Initiative, Mauritius (MGoS)

Interventions by ministers and other participants (up to 2-3 minutes each)



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Wednesday, 10 July 2024, 4:45 - 6:00 PM, Conference Room 4  
(Panel)

### **Transformation from the ground up:** **Acting at the local level**

With at least 65 per cent of SDG targets linked to the work and mandates of local and regional governments, local action is a precondition for achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. When adopting the 2030 Agenda, Governments pledged to work closely on implementation with regional and local authorities and subregional institutions, among others.<sup>3</sup> In recent years, recognition of the essential role of local governments and actors has grown, as demonstrated by the Secretary-General in Our Common Agenda and in his 2023 report on Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals,<sup>4</sup> and as underscored by Member States in successive political declarations of the HLPF.<sup>5</sup> At the 2023 SDG Summit, Member States adopted a political declaration emphasizing their determination to make all efforts to achieve SDGs by the target year of 2030 and to revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development. In doing so, they emphasized their commitment to localize the SDGs and advance integrated planning and implementation at the local level.

In recent years, local and regional governments have increasingly been reviewing and reporting on their implementation of the SDGs through Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs). This global movement has “provided an unprecedented push towards localization,”<sup>6</sup> bringing benefits in terms of, inter alia, sustainable development planning, inclusive and participatory governance, data innovation, and multilevel governance. Since the presentation of the first VLRs in 2018, an estimated 300 VLRs have been prepared by local and regional governments from all regions. Increasingly, Voluntary Local Reviews are also contributing to national level reporting, with a growing number of Voluntary National Reviews integrated their findings.

The present session will showcase successful local transformations and transitions to accelerate SDG implementation from local and regional level. It will discuss what enabled these and consider how local action can be expanded in all regions to accelerate progress towards all 17 SDGs.

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

- How have SDG localization efforts, including through the preparation of VLRs, led to advances in the implementation of sustainable development? Please share concrete examples from your local, regional or national context.

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<sup>3</sup> A/RES/70/1, para. 45

<sup>4</sup> A/78/80-E/2023/64

<sup>5</sup> See, for example, E/HLS/2022/1, para. 25

<sup>6</sup> A/78/80, para. 54



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- What transformations are being achieved at the local level to overcome crises and shift towards the full implementation of the SDGs in times of multiple crises? How can they be supported?
- With six years remaining to achieve the SDGs within their timeframe, what guidance can you share, based on your own experience, on best approaches to accelerating implementation of the SDGs through localization? How can local governments and stakeholders that have advanced in SDG localization best share their experiences with others that may not yet have initiated this practice?
- What is the role of local and regional governments and their associations in accelerating SDG progress?
- What good practices and innovations can be shared in terms of increasing stakeholder engagement in local SDG implementation? How can local governments help to mobilize and empower people living in poverty, or marginalized communities, to engage in the design and governance of local action?
- How can voluntary local reviews (VLR) contribute to SDG-based national planning and budgeting?

### Chair:

- **H.E. Mr. Bob Rae**, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Canada)

### Interactive panel discussion

#### Moderator:

- **Ms. Emilia Saiz**, Secretary General, United Cities and Local Governments

#### Panellists:

- **Mr. Bandiougou Diawara**, President of the Regional Council of Kayes, Mali
- **Mr. Fulvio Pompeo**, Secretary-General of International Relations, City of Buenos Aires, Argentina
- **Ms. Tatiana Molcean**, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)

#### Lead Discussants:

- **Mr. Bernd Vöhringer**, Vice-President, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe
- **Ms. Cielito Perez**, Executive Director of the Center for Women's Resources (CWR), Philippines (MGoS)

#### Ministerial Respondent:

- **H.E. Ms. Fatimetou Abdel Malick**, President of the Regional Council of Nouakchott, Mauritania (TBC)





## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Interventions by ministers and other participants (up to 2-3 minutes each)

**Thursday, 11 July 2024**

Thursday, 11 July 2024, 10:00 - 10:10 AM, Conference Room 4

### **Introduction of the report on the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns**

Sustainable Development Goal 12 established that sustainable consumption and production is key to realize all SDGs. The progress report on the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production (10YFP) was prepared by its secretariat, the United Nations Environment Programme, on behalf of the Board of the Framework, pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 67/203, 68/210, 69/214 and 70/201. The General Assembly affirms in its resolution 70/201 that due consideration should continue to be given to sustainable consumption and production at the meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, held under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council.

**Chair:**

- **H.E. Mr. Ivan Simonović**, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Croatia)

**Presentation:**

- **H.E. Mr. Chol Ajongo**, Permanent Representative of South Sudan to United Nations Environment Programme and UN-Habitat, Co-Chair of the Board of the 10YFP
- **Ms. Annika Lindblom**, Director, International and EU Affairs, Ministry of the Environment of Finland, Co-Chair of the Board of the 10YFP

Thursday, 11 July 2024, 10:10 AM - 1:00 PM, Conference Room 4  
(Panel)

### **SDGs in focus:**

### **SDG 16 and interlinkages with other SDGs – Peace, justice and strong institutions**

At the midway point of the 2030 Agenda, progress towards achieving the SDGs is off track and SDG 16 is no exception. Lack of progress on Goal 16 affects the achievement of all the other SDGs, as peace, good governance and effective institutions, access to justice as well as freedom from fear and violence,



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

are critical enablers of sustainable development. Governance has been identified as “an essential lever of the systematic transformations needed to achieve all 17 Sustainable Development Goals,” as highlighted in the Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR) 2023, among others.

On average, across all SDG 16 targets, only 40 per cent of countries have reported data for at least one year since 2015, limiting the information that could drive evidence-informed policies to accelerate progress towards SDG 16. But this year, for the first time, data are available on all Goal 16 indicators, although for some the country coverage continues to be limited and more investment is needed to expand data availability. Several tools have been developed in a relatively short period of time to meet the demands for measuring governance, corruption, crime, and access to justice, but still new initiatives and partnerships are needed to enhance cooperation on implementing and measuring SDG 16.

This session aims to emphasize the critical role of peace, justice, and strong institutions as foundational elements for achieving all SDGs. It will discuss best practices from different regions or sectors that demonstrate effective approaches to achieving SDG 16 and fostering synergies with other SDGs.

### Proposed guiding questions:

- What integrated approaches can be leveraged to maximize synergies and limit trade-offs across SDGs, with SDG16? How can the High-impact initiatives (HIIs) launched at the SDG Summit in September 2023, be scaled up to have the highest impact?
- What measures are needed for building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels?
- What are some innovative approaches to integrating peacebuilding, justice reform, and institutional strengthening into broader development strategies?
- How can we strengthen cooperation and partnerships for peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development and provide access to justice for all?
- How can digital technologies be harnessed to ensure advancements in peace, justice, and inclusive societies?
- What measures can be implemented to enhance monitoring of SDG 16 implementation and increase the availability of relevant data at all levels? What new partnerships and cooperation are needed for this?

### Chair:

- **H.E. Mr. Ivan Simonović**, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Croatia)

### Highlights:

- Findings of the report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the SDGs – SDG 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions  
**Mr. Daniel Eshetie**, Statistics Division, DESA
- Representative of Regional Commissions: Regional perspective on implementation of SDG 16 and interlinkages



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**Mr. Claver Gatete**, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

- **H.E. Mr. Maurizio Massari**, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nation (*On SDG 16 Conference*)

### Interactive panel discussion

#### **Moderator:**

- **Ms. Jan Beagle**, Director-General, International Development Law Organization (IDLO)

#### **Panellists:**

- **Ms. Nambitha Dambuza**, Judge of the Supreme Court of Appeal of South Africa, and Chair of the Africa Judicial Education Network on Environmental Law
- **Ms. Najaat Maalla**, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on Violence against Children
- **Mr. Surya Deva**, UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Development
- **Ms. Swati Mehta**, Program Director of Justice for All, Pathfinders

#### **Lead Discussants:**

- **Ms. Taina Bien-Aimé**, Executive Director, Coalition against Trafficking in Women, USA
- **Mr. George Tarr**, UNHCR Refugee Youth Representative and Refugee Congress Honorary Delegate for New York, Liberia
- **Mr. Vernor Munoz**, Head of Policy & Advocacy of the Global Campaign for Education, Costa Rica (MGoS)

#### **Ministerial Respondent:**

- **H.E. Mr. Pasi Hellman**, Vice Minister, Under-Secretary of State for Development Policy, Finland

Interventions by other ministers and participants (up to 2-3 minutes each)

**Thursday, 11 July 2024, 3:00 – 4:45 PM, Conference Room 4  
(Panel)**

**African countries, Least Developed Countries  
and Landlocked Developing Countries**

**Building resilience and capacity in times of crises and transition**



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

African countries, least developed countries (LDCs), and landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) face unique challenges in their pursuit of sustainable development. These countries are particularly vulnerable to external shocks, such as economic crises, climate change, and public health emergencies. Thirty-three of the 45 LDCs and 16 of the 32 LLDCs are in Africa. The 45 LDCs, which are home to 13 per cent of the world's population, account for just 1.3 per cent of global gross domestic product (GDP) and less than one per cent of global trade.

The COVID-19 pandemic further exposed the fragility of LDCs, with the World Bank estimating that an additional 32 million people in LDCs could be pushed into extreme poverty by 2030 due to the pandemic's impact. The 32 LLDCs face significant challenges due to their lack of direct access to the sea, remoteness from international markets, and high transit costs. African countries face additional challenges, including high levels of inequality and unemployment, as well as limited access to basic services such as healthcare, education, and infrastructure.

This session will focus on raising awareness and understanding of the challenges and opportunities for building resilience and capacity in African countries, LDCs, and LLDCs. The panel speakers will provide concrete recommendations and action points for accelerating progress towards the 2030 Agenda in these countries, including measures to address the specific needs of LDCs, LLDCs and African countries. The interactive discussion will highlight examples of partnerships and collaboration among stakeholders to support sustainable development efforts, including strengthened cooperation with LDCs, LLDCs and African countries. It will also underline contributions by these groups of countries to the implementation of the Political Declaration of the 2023 SDG Summit, as well as contribute to ongoing preparations for the Summit of the Future.

### **Proposed guiding questions:**

- What are the key challenges and opportunities for African countries, LDCs, and LLDCs for achieving SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16, and 17?
- What are concrete recommendations and action points for accelerating progress towards the 2030 Agenda in view of the multiple crises faced by those countries?
- How can partnerships and stakeholder collaboration accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and help achieve the SDGs under in-depth review this year?

### **Chair:**

- **H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

### **Interactive panel discussion**

### **Moderator:**

- **Mr. Kamal Kishore**, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction and Head of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### Panellists:

- **Ms. Rabab Fatima**, High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLLS), and Secretary-General of the LLDC3 Conference
- **H.E. Ms. Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko**, Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment, African Union Commission
- **Mr. Ibrahim Elbadawi**, Managing Director, Economic Research Forum for the Arab World, Iran & Turkey, former Minister of Finance of Sudan
- **Mr. Claver Gatete**, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

### Lead Discussants:

- **Ms. Soudata Aboubacrine**, Head of Tin Hinan Sahel, Burkina Faso (MGoS)
- **Ms. Yasmin Kumi**, CEO & Founder of AFG

### Ministerial Respondents:

- **H.E. Mr. Lok Bahadur Thapa**, Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations, Chair of the LDC Group
- **H.E. Ms. Gladys Mokhawa**, Permanent Representative of Botswana to the United Nations, Chair of the LLDC Group

Interventions by ministers and other participants (up to 2-3 minutes each)

**Thursday, 11 July 2024, 4:45 - 6:00 PM, Conference Room 4**  
(Panel)

### **Middle-income countries:** **Overcoming barriers in achieving the SDGs**

Middle-income countries (MICs) currently comprise 108 countries that, together, account for about 30 per cent of global gross domestic product (GDP) and make up 75 per cent of the world's population, and nearly two-thirds of people in acute multidimensional poverty. Although MICs contributed little to climate change in the past, they currently account for 65.5 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions.

MICs have been hard-hit by the recent confluence of crises. Many still struggle to recover from the setbacks to SDG achievements that they suffered during the COVID-19 pandemic, while being weighed down by growing sovereign debt burdens and a high global interest-rate environment, a persistent cost-of-living crisis and threats to food security, and exposure to climate-related disasters. While many countries scaled up social protection during the pandemic, tightening fiscal space has caused them to retract before economic growth and employment have recovered.



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Even before the recent crises, MICs have long faced the underlying challenge of transitioning to growth and development models that would allow them to achieve higher levels of living standards and overcome the so-called “middle-income trap”. The growing threats from climate change and other environmental crises have increased the urgency to switch to more sustainable growth and development models that are driven by innovation and productivity, away from models based on low wages and excessive dependence on natural resources.

The transition to more innovation-driven, sustainable and inclusive growth models will require large-scale investments from both public and private sources. However, just as MICs are constrained by tight fiscal space and high cost of accessing international financial markets, their access to concessional international finance is limited by their middle-income status. There is a need for more detailed, multi-dimensional needs assessments that go beyond GDP per capita to inform national policies and international cooperation, and for new and innovative financing mechanisms to mobilize the resources needed for sustainable transitions. In turn, revitalized multilateral cooperation for the provision of global public goods – such as climate change mitigation and a reform of the international financial architecture – can help to reduce risks and vulnerabilities.

### **Proposed guiding questions:**

- What are the greatest challenges to SDG implementation in MICs as they navigate the current confluence of crises?
- What are key barriers in switching to more sustained, sustainable and inclusive growth models that can help MICs achieve the SDGs?
- What development strategies are most promising to address barriers and what is needed for their implementation?
- How can the international community support MICs in addressing debt vulnerabilities and ensuring better access to financing that is aligned with MICs sustainable development priorities, and what role is there for measures that go beyond GDP?
- Given their rapidly growing economic weight, how can MICs enhance their role as global drivers of sustainable development, including through South-South cooperation and peer-learning?
- How can the UN development system further strengthen its support to MICs, including through its reinvigorated resident coordinator system and the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks, and as a convener to promote the provision of global public goods that can reduce risks and vulnerabilities?

### **Chair:**

- **H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

### **Interactive panel discussion**

### **Moderator:**

- **H.E. Mr. Oman Hilale**, Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

### Panellists:

- **Mr. José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs**, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
- **Ms. Nurgul Dzhanaeva**, Forum of women's NGOs, Kyrgyzstan (MGoS)

### Lead Discussant:

- **Ms. Sude Balaban**, Global Co Lab Network, Turkey

### Ministerial Respondent:

- **H.E. Mr. Hugo Allan García**, Vice Minister for Strategic Analysis for Development at the National Planning Ministry, Guatemala

Interventions by other ministers and participants (up to 2-3 minutes each)

**Friday, 12 July 2024**

**Friday, 12 July 2024, 10:00 - 11:30 AM, Conference Room 4**  
(Panel)

### **Perspectives from major groups and other stakeholders:** **Partnerships for transformative and urgent actions**

The active participation of Major Groups and other Stakeholders (MGoS) at all levels is crucial to the successful implementation, follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda. They bring forth the voices and aspirations of many diverse stakeholders, often including those who are most marginalized and left behind. They are also key drivers of the implementation and achievement of the SDGs. They participate in the regional forums on sustainable development, contribute to national mechanisms that engage civil society actors and include them in the preparation of voluntary national reviews, and are at the center of transformative change at the local level, where progress is achieved every day through their actions.

MGoS have been regarded as respected partners in sustainable development at the international level before the inception of the 2030 Agenda, and are a crucial part of other related United Nations processes, such as the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and the ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development. Their contributions to intergovernmental discussions and debate leading to global policymaking on critical issues affecting the most vulnerable and marginalized groups are impactful and valuable.



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

This session offers the MGoS an opportunity to discuss pathways and concrete proposals for moving forward in the pursuit of achieving the 2030 Agenda. In the face of a range of challenges to participation of stakeholders, this session will consider ways to strengthen the engagement of MGoS to overcome the impact of crises and take forward SDG implementation. The session will hear from diverse stakeholders and non-state actors on the challenges and opportunities for delivery of the 2030 Agenda, as well as setting out recommendations for a more sustainable and human rights-centric approach to development.

### Proposed guiding questions:

- In a world facing multiple crises and challenges, stakeholder participation in multilateral processes is more crucial than ever. What are the ways to strengthen the role of diverse stakeholders at the United Nations?
- How are stakeholders playing a critical role in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda? What are some good examples and case studies of stakeholder implementation?
- Building on the Secretary-General's mid-point review of the 2030 Agenda, what actions should be taken to ensure accountability and guarantee meaningful engagement of rights holders in order to deliver the 2030 Agenda over the coming six years?

### Chair:

- **H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

### Interactive discussion

### Moderator:

- **Mr. Oliver Henman**, Co-chair of the Coordination Mechanism for the Major Groups and other Stakeholders

### Resource persons:

- **H.E. Ms. Maritza Chan-Valverde**, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations
- **Ms. Frances Zainoeddin**, Stakeholder Group on Ageing

### Discussants:

- **Ms. Jordania Urena**, International Trade Union Confederation
- **Mr. Paul Divakar**, The Inclusivity Project
- **Mr. Rey Asis**, Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants
- **Mr. Samuel Turay**, Volunteers Involving Organisations Network, Sierra Leone





## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**Respondent:**

- **Ms. Amina Bouayach**, Secretary of the Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions (GANHRI)

Interventions by ministers and other participants (up to 2-3 minutes each)

**Friday, 12 July 2024, 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM, Conference Room 4**

### **Voluntary National Reviews**

As part of the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Member States are encouraged to “conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national and subnational levels, which are country led and country driven” (paragraph 79). These national reviews are conducted annually during the HLPF under the auspices of ECOSOC.

Paragraph 84 of the 2030 Agenda stipulates that regular reviews by the HLPF are to be voluntary, state-led, undertaken by both developed and developing countries, and involve multiple stakeholders. The voluntary national reviews (VNRs) aim to facilitate the sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned, with a view to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The VNRs also seek to strengthen policies and institutions of governments and to mobilize multistakeholder support and partnerships for the implementation of the SDGs.

Thirty-seven (37) countries will present Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) of implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

**Chair: H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

#### 3 VNRs

1st Panel: **Georgia, Kenya, Palau**

*VNR presentations followed by Q&A segment*



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Friday, 12 July 2024, 3:00 - 6:00 PM, Conference Room 4

### Voluntary National Reviews

**Chair:**

**H.E. Mr. Kairat Umarov**, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Kazakhstan) (3:00 pm – 4:15 pm)

**H.E. Mr. Bob Rae**, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Canada) (4:15 pm – 6:00 pm)

6 VNRs:

2nd Panel: **Belize, Chad, Mauritania, Zimbabwe**

3rd Panel: **Eritrea, Samoa, Syrian Arab Republic**

*VNR presentations followed by Q&A segment*



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**Theme: Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises:  
the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions**

**Monday, 15 July 2024**

Monday, 15 July 2024, 10:00 - 11:00 AM, General Assembly Hall

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

**Ministerial Segment of the HLPF**

**Chair:**

- **H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

**Keynote and remarks:**

- **H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council
- **H.E. Mr. Dennis Francis**, President of the General Assembly
- **Ms. Amina Mohammed**, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations
- **H.E. Ms. Michelle Bachelet**, former President of Chile and former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights

**Messages on behalf of youth:**

- **Mr. Sameh Kamel**, Organizing Partner of the Major Group for Children and Youth

Monday, 15 July 2024, 11:10 AM-1:00 PM, General Assembly Hall

**General debate:**

**“From the SDG Summit to the Summit of the Future”**

The general debate of the ministerial days of the 2024 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) and the High-level Segment of ECOSOC will be held in person in parallel with the presentations of voluntary national reviews and other meetings from 15 to 17 July 2024. The theme of the general debate will be “***From the SDG Summit to the Summit of the Future***”. It will allow Ministers and high-level representatives of participating States, as well as IGOs, UN system, and major groups and other stakeholders to exchange experiences, lessons learned, policy guidance, transformative actions and initiatives for following up to the Political Declaration of the 2023 SDG Summit and accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, and contribute to the preparations of the Summit of the Future, to be held in September 2024.



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**Chair:**

- **H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of ECOSOC (11:00 am – 12:00 pm)
- **H.E. Mr. Bob Rae**, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Canada) (12:00 pm – 1:00 pm)

General debate

**Monday, 15 July 2024, 3:00 PM-6:00 PM, Conference Room 4**  
*(Parallel meeting)*

### **HLPF**

### **Voluntary National Reviews**

**Chair:**

**H.E. Mr. Tarek Ladeb**, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Tunisia) (3:00 pm – 4:15 pm)

**H.E. Mr. Kairat Umarov**, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Kazakhstan)

7 VNRs:

1st Panel: **Peru, Spain, Uganda**

2nd Panel: **Azerbaijan, Lao People's Democratic Republic**

3rd Panel: **Armenia, Nepal**

*VNR presentations followed by Q&A segment*

**Monday, 15 July 2024, 3:00 PM-6:00 PM, Trusteeship Council Chamber**  
*(Parallel meeting)*

### **General debate:**

### **"From the SDG Summit to the Summit of the Future"**

*(Continuation)*

**Chair: H.E. Mr. Ivan Simonović**, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Croatia)

General debate *(Continuation)*



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

**Tuesday, 16 July 2024**

**Tuesday, 16 July 2024, 10:00 AM-10:15 AM, Conference Room 4**

**HLPF**

### **Messages from the UN Environment Assembly**

The UN Environment Assembly (UNEA) contributes to the effective implementation and full integration of the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its interlinkages with the social and economic dimensions, acknowledging that a healthy environment is an essential requirement and key enabler for sustainable development. In his statement, the President of the UN Environment Assembly, H.E. Mr. Abdullah Bin Ali Al-Amri, President of the United Nations Environment Assembly and Chair of the Environment Authority of Oman, will convey the main messages of the UN Environment Assembly and present the environmental perspective of sustainable development and the contributions of the Assembly to the debates of the HLPF.

**Chair:**

- **H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

**Speaker:**

- **H.E. Mr. Abdullah Bin Ali Amri**, Chairman of the Environment Authority of Oman, President of UNEA-7

**Tuesday, 16 July 2024, 10:15 -11:45 AM, Conference Room 4**

**HLPF**

### **Messages from the regions**

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development stresses the importance of the regional and sub-regional dimensions in the follow-up and review of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Member States at the highest level reaffirmed this principle in the Political Declaration adopted at the 2023 SDG Summit. Since the creation of the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development, Regional Forums on Sustainable Development have been organized by the five United Nations Regional Commissions to identify innovative pathways, review progress, challenges, and opportunities for accelerated SDG implementation in the regions.

In 2024, the Regional Forums contributed to mobilizing transformative action, building on the reservoir of hope and momentum generated during the SDG Summit, and rekindling a spirit of solidarity and cooperation towards the Summit of the Future. Taking place between these so-called *twin* Summits, the session “*Messages from the regions*” will showcase regional challenges,



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

innovative pathways and opportunities for accelerating progress towards the SDGs and present transformative policies and actions for the remaining six years until the established deadline for the SDGs in 2030.

The session will discuss the recommendations from the Regional Forums on Sustainable Development and provide regional perspectives on this year's theme of the HLPF, with particular focus on the Pact for the Future<sup>7</sup> and its pillars on sustainable development and financing for development as well as science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation.

The session will feature an interactive discussion and will address the following guiding questions:

- How can we mobilize innovative regional pathways and leverage regional frameworks to support countries in overcoming crises to ensure full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and connect the dots between the SDG Summit in 2023 and the Summit of the Future in 2024?
- How can Regional Commissions ensure integrated approaches to sustainable development and advance key transitions, including in the area of digitalization, while leaving no one behind (LNOB)?
- What lessons have the regions learned about harnessing digitalization to enable SDG progress and what should be done differently going forward?
- What are some innovative policy actions that can scale financing for development and accelerate progress towards multiple SDGs?

### Chair:

- **H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

### Interactive discussion

### Moderator:

- **H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

### Speakers:

Chairs of the Regional Forums on Sustainable Development

- **H.E. Mr. Said Mohammed Al-Saqri**, Minister of Economy, Sultanate of Oman, and Chair of the 2024 Arab Regional Forum on Sustainable Development
- **H.E. Ms. Ester-Anna-Liisa Shiwomwenyo Nghipondoka**, Minister of Basic Education, Arts and Culture of the Republic of Namibia, and First Vice-Chair of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

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<sup>7</sup> Outcome document of the Summit of the Future to be negotiated and endorsed in the lead-up and during the Summit of the Future in September 2024.



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

- **H.E. Mr. Malon Navarro-Alvarez**, Acting Minister of Public Planning and Economic Policy, Costa Rica, Vice-Chair of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development
- **H.E. Mr. Vahan Kostanyan**, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Armenia, and Co-Chair of the 2024 Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the UNECE Region
- **H.E. Mr. Radim Sršeň**, Deputy Minister of Regional Development, Czech Republic, and Co-Chair of the 2024 Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the UNECE Region
- **H.E. Mr. Min Bahadur Shrestha**, Vice-Chairman of the National Planning Commission of Nepal, Chair of the Eleventh Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development

### Lead Discussant:

- **Ms. Fanny Sequeira Mata**, International Trade Union Confederation (MGoS)

### Ministerial Respondent:

- **H.E. Mr. Edil Baisalov**, Deputy Chairperson of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic

Followed by interactive discussion with Member States and other stakeholders:

Member States, regional organizations and other stakeholders will be given the floor to express their views on the regional dimension of accelerating SDG progress and the follow-up to the outcomes of the Regional Forums. (up to 2-3 minutes each)

Responses by the Executive Secretaries of Regional Commissions with focus on innovative policy solutions if time allows:

- **Mr. José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs**, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and Coordinator of the UN Regional Commissions
- **Ms. Rola Dashti**, Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)
- **Mr. Claver Gatete**, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
- **Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana**, Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
- **Ms. Tatiana Molcean**, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)



## **HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Tuesday, 16 July 2024, 11:45 AM-1:00 PM, Conference Room 4

**HLPF**

### **Voluntary National Reviews**

**Chair: H.E. Mr. Ivan Simonović**, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Croatia)

2 VNRs:

Individual VNR presentations: **South Sudan, Yemen**

*VNR presentations followed by Q&A segment*

Tuesday, 16 July 2024, 3:00 - 6:00 PM, Conference Room 4

*(Parallel meeting)*

**HLPF**

### **Voluntary National Reviews**

**Chair: H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

7 VNRs

2nd Panel: **Colombia, Guinea, Libya**

3rd Panel: **Honduras, Sierra Leone**

4th Panel: **Costa Rica, Solomon Island**





## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Tuesday, 16 July 2024, 3:00 - 6:00 PM, Trusteeship Council Chamber  
(Parallel meeting)

### General debate:

### “From the SDG Summit to the Summit of the Future”

(Continuation)

**Chair:**

H.E. Mr. Bob Rae, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Canada) (3:00 pm – 4:30 pm)

H.E. Mr. Kairat Umarov, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Kazakhstan) (4:30 pm – 6:00 pm)

General debate (Continuation)

## Wednesday, 17 July 2024

Wednesday, 17 July 2024, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM, Conference Room 4  
(Parallel meeting)

### HLPF

### Voluntary National Reviews

**Chair:**

H.E. Mr. Tarek Ladeb, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Tunisia) (10:00 am – 11:15 am)

H.E. Mr. Bob Rae, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Canada) (11:15 am – 1:00 pm)

7 VNRs

1st Panel: **Austria, Equatorial Guinea, Mauritius**

2nd Panel: **Congo, Ecuador**

3<sup>rd</sup> Panel: **Namibia, Oman**

*VNR Presentations followed by Q&A segment*



## **HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

**Wednesday, 17 July 2024, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Trusteeship Council Chamber**  
*(Parallel meeting)*

### **General debate:**

### **“From the SDG Summit to the Summit of the Future”**

*(Conclusion)*

**Chair: H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

General debate

**Wednesday, 17 July 2024, 3:00 - 5:00 PM, Conference Room 4**

### **HLPF**

### **Voluntary National Reviews**

**Chair: H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

#### 5 VNRs

4th Panel: **Brazil, South Africa**

5th Panel: **Mexico, Vanuatu**

*VNR presentations followed by Q&A segment*



## HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Wednesday, 17 July 2024, 5:00 - 6:00 PM, Conference Room 4

### Closing of the HLPF

**Chair: H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

Adoption of the Ministerial Declaration

Adoption of the procedural report of the HLPF

**Closing remarks:**

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

**H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

Conclusion of the HLPF



*Theme: Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises:  
the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions*

**Thursday, 18 July 2024**

**High-level Segment of ECOSOC**

*(Continued)*

Thursday, 18 July 2024, 10:00 - 10:30 AM, ECOSOC Chamber

**Introduction of the Secretary-General's reports on the theme of HLPF and ECOSOC and on long-term impact of current trends on the realization of the SDGs**

**Introduction of the report of the Committee on Development Policy**

**Chair:**

- **H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

**Presentations:**

- **Mr. Li Junhua**, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations, introduction of the Secretary-General's reports on the theme of HLPF and ECOSOC 2024 (*E/2024/52*) and on long-term impacts of current trends on the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (*E/2024/55*)
- **Mr. José Antonio Ocampo**, Member of the Committee on Development Policy (CDP), introduction of the CDP report (*E/2024/33*)

Thursday, 18 July 2024, 10:30 AM -1:00 PM, ECOSOC Chamber  
(Panel)

**Multilateral solutions for a better tomorrow: the role of ECOSOC towards a sustainable and resilient path by 2030**

The world is not on track to achieve most of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, amidst the significant economic, social and environmental challenges it faces.



The interlinked crises in recent years exposed our vulnerabilities and underscored the need for a fundamental shift to put the world back on track to achieve the 2030 Agenda. With only 6 years to 2030, bold and transformative actions are urgently needed to facilitate and expedite reaching the SDGs.

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) has been a crucial and committed body to advance a sustainable and resilient path to the 2030 Agenda. Through its forums, segments and special meetings, ECOSOC continues to serve as an inclusive and action-oriented platform for integrated policy making and dialogue in finding multilateral solutions to pressing global challenges. The Council is also central to achieving a multilateralism that is effective, just, representative and networked, to ensure a coordinated response and to, facilitate contributions by all actors in achieving the 2030 Agenda.

The ECOSOC High-level segment signifies the culmination of the Council's annual cycle of work, bringing together its key policy dialogue and guidance functions as well as serving as an integral venue for the Council's work to promote knowledge-sharing and regional and international cooperation.

The morning session of the ECOSOC High-level segment will aim to better articulate and strengthen the role of ECOSOC and its subsidiary machinery in facilitating and expediting the achievement of the SDGs, catalyze a coordinated global response to SDG implementation in the follow-up to the 2023 SDG Summit Political Declaration, emphasizing inclusivity, accountability, and operational effectiveness, as well as promote a sustainable and resilient path to the 2030 Agenda through inclusive and effective multilateral actions and solidarity while engaging the contributions of different stakeholders.

**Proposed guiding questions:**

- How can the multilateral system better support the commitments emanating from the 2023 SDG Summit?
- How can the role of ECOSOC be further boosted toward strengthening informed decision-making and give fresh impetus to accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda?
- How can the Council and its subsidiary machinery be fully utilized to advance the effective, efficient and impactful implementation of the agreements expected to be reached at the Summit of the Future?
- What actions are needed to achieve the vision of a fairer and more inclusive global governance, considering discussions on financing for sustainable development and preparations for the Summit of the Future?
- What concrete recommendations could be advanced to facilitate the achievement of a more effective, inclusive and ambitious multilateralism?
- How can the meaningful engagement of different stakeholders facilitate achievement of the SDGs?
- How can the Council strengthen its policy dialogue, knowledge-sharing, and regional and international cooperation?

**Chair:**

- **H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council



### Interactive discussion

#### **Moderator:**

- **Ms. Redi Tlhabi**, broadcaster, author, South Africa

#### **Speakers:**

- **Ms. Rebecca Grynspan**, Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- **Ms. Doreen Bogdan-Martin**, Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- **Mr. Felipe Paullier**, Assistant Secretary-General for Youth Affairs
- **H.E. Ms. Lachezara Stoeva**, Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the United Nations, and former President of ECOSOC
- **H.E. Mr. Abdulaziz Alwasil**, Permanent Representative of Saudi Arabia to the United Nations, and Chair of the 69th session of the Commission on the Status of Women
- **Ms. Elizabeth Cousens**, United Nations Foundation's President and Chief Executive Officer
- **Mr. Martin Kimani**, Executive Director of the Center on International Cooperation, New York University

Interventions by ministers and other participants (up to 2-3 minutes each)

**Thursday, 18 July 2024, 3:00 - 5:00 PM, ECOSOC Chamber**

(Panel)

### **Current trends and their impacts: Looking to the future and the realization of the SDGs**

Over eight years after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 SDGs in 2015, and past the halfway point to 2030, the world is facing major interlinked crises, challenges and trends, impacting the capacity of countries to achieve the SDGs.

This session of the 2024 ECOSOC High-level Segment focuses on current trends and their impacts. It will address the current impacts of major global trends on the realization of the 2030 Agenda and the achievement of the SDGs as well as their potential long-term impacts on advancing sustainable development in the future.

These trends include the changing global economy, changes and transitions in labour markets, rapid technological change, the continuing and intensifying adverse impacts from climate change, and the evolving nature of social contracts. While aspects of these trends can yield constructive outcomes, there are also negative impacts that have the potential to hinder and reverse progress across the SDGs and that would be faced predominantly by vulnerable countries and communities.

The session will present different perspectives and experiences on current trends affecting SDG implementation. It will engage Ministers and other participants and stakeholders in a dialogue on addressing current trends and their accompanying challenges and providing forward-looking solutions for advancing sustainable development. It will consider coordinated global policies and high-impact actions to deliver a better future for all that leaves no one behind. The session will also discuss multilateral collaboration and the support from international institutions needed for the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda at all levels, to the year 2030 and beyond.

The discussion will be informed by the Secretary-General's reports on "*Long-term impacts of current trends on the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals*" ([E/2024/55](#)) and on the 2024 ECOSOC and HLPF theme ([E/2024/52](#)).

**Proposed guiding questions:**

- What are significant current trends and their potential long-term impacts and implications for the future achievement of the SDGs?
- What actions have been successful in addressing these current trends with a view towards fully undertaking the necessary transitions for advancing sustainable development?
- How can these actions be scaled up to unlock the rapid and deep transitions needed to deliver on the SDGs?
- How can multilateral collaboration and international institutions be improved to better contribute to SDG progress and support the key transitions to sustainable development to the year 2030 and beyond?

**Chair:**

- **H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

**Interactive panel discussion**

**Moderator:**

- **Mr. Amar Bhattacharya**, Senior Fellow, Center for Sustainable Development, Global Economy and Development Program, Brookings

**Panellists:**

- **H.E. Ms. Alicia Bárcena**, Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Mexico
- **H.E. Dr. Vindhya Vasini Persaud**, Minister of Human Services and Social Security, Guyana
- **H.E. Ms. Rania Al Mashat**, Minister of International Cooperation, Egypt
- **Mr. Guy Ryder**, Under-Secretary-General for Policy of the United Nations



**Lead Discussants:**

- **Mr. José Antonio Ocampo**, Professor, Columbia University, and Member of the Committee for Development Policy (CDP)
- **Ms. Anita Dywaba**, Next Generation Fellow, United Nations Foundation

**Ministerial Respondents:**

- **H.E. Mr. Ossian Smyth**, Minister of State, Ireland
- **H.E. Mr. Said Mohammed Al Saqri**, Minister of Economy, Oman
- **H.E. Mr. Abdulaziz bin Nasser bin Mubarak Al Khalifa**, Secretary General of the National Planning, Qatar
- **H.E. Mr. July G Moyo**, Minister of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare, Zimbabwe

Interventions by other Ministers and participants (up to 2-3 minutes each)

**Thursday, 18 July 2024, 5:00 - 6:00 PM, ECOSOC Chamber**  
**Conclusion of the High-level Segment of ECOSOC**

**Chair:**

- **H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of Economic and Social Council

Adoption of the Ministerial Declaration

**Closing remarks:**

- **Mr. Li Junhua**, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations
- **H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez**, President of the Economic and Social Council

Conclusion of the High-level Segment of ECOSOC

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