



**Leveraging ECOSOC for an inclusive and resilient recovery
guided by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

Concept Note

Background

The General Assembly, in June 2021, adopted a resolution to strengthen the Economic and Social Council to effectively carry out its Charter mandates and contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the outcomes of other UN conferences and summits as well as to the response to Covid-19¹.

The General Assembly decided that a new Coordination Segment would replace the ECOSOC Integration Segment and the informal meeting of the Council with the Chairs of ECOSOC subsidiary bodies. The Coordination Segment will be an essential part of the strengthened ECOSOC and allow the Council to better deliver on its Charter role to coordinate its subsidiary bodies and the UN system in the economic, social, health, environmental and related areas.

The new Segment will be held in February. This will enable the Council to bring together all ECOSOC subsidiary bodies and UN system entities, including specialized agencies, early in the year to provide forward-looking policy guidance to inspire and direct the work of ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies in the following months, culminating in the high-level segment of ECOSOC and the HLPF in July.

The Coordination Segment will address the main annual theme of ECOSOC and the HLPF, which, for the 2022 session, will be: *“Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”*.

Building on the work of the ECOSOC system and UN entities, the Segment is also to provide direction, and promote coherence and coordination in the policies and normative work of subsidiary bodies and specialized agencies relating to the main theme. The segment is also to provide guidance on the implementation of the 2021 Ministerial Declaration of ECOSOC and the HLPF.

¹ General Assembly resolution 75/290 A, of 25 June 2021, entitled “Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/305 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council. Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 67/290 on the format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and 70/299 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level”





Mandates of the coordination segment

(General Assembly resolution 75/290 A)

During the Coordination Segment, Member States will:

- steer the Council system towards an efficient and integrated workflow (para 16)
- provide forward-looking policy guidance to ensure coherence and direction in the policies and normative work of subsidiary bodies and specialized agencies relating to the 2030 Agenda (para 16)
- formulate common action-oriented policy guidance on all matters requiring implementation or coordination efforts [.....] including detailed guidance on the implementation of the intergovernmentally negotiated ministerial declaration of the previous year (para 17)
- provide guidance and coordination to subsidiary bodies, ensuring a clearer division of labour among them, aligning their work with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and promoting their implementation of the intergovernmentally negotiated ministerial declaration of the previous year (para 18)
- provide detailed guidance to the subsidiary bodies of the Council and the United Nations system on their upcoming work on the main theme and develop action-oriented assessment and recommendations so that those bodies best contribute to the preparations for the thematic review of the high-level political forum on sustainable development (para 18)
- review how subsidiary bodies and the UN system work on the interlinkages among the SDGs and the integrated implementation of the 2030 Agenda, guiding their work for the rest of the Council cycle (para 18)

Draft Programme

The overarching theme for the programme will be how the SDGs could be achieved through the response to COVID-19 pandemic, and how the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development provides a framework for an inclusive and sustainable recovery. The programme will focus on the effective policies and areas for further coherence and coordination in the response to COVID-19 pandemic and in support of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a roadmap for an inclusive and sustainable recovery. Within this broader context, the Segment will address key issues that are relevant to the implementation of the 2021 Ministerial Declaration and the 2022 theme of ECOSOC and the HLPF and where dedicated policy and coordination guidance by ECOSOC to its subsidiary bodies and UN system would be particularly important. This will make it possible to pilot new approaches to the policy guidance and coordination role of ECOSOC in selected areas.





ECOSOC Coordination Segment

3-4 FEBRUARY 2022

It is envisaged that high-level participation by Chairs of ECOSOC functional commissions and expert bodies, Executive Secretaries of the regional commissions, and heads of UN system entities, including specialized entities, will give visibility to their work and enable ECOSOC members to engage in a high-level policy dialogue.

Supporting documents and outcome

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 75/290 A, an informal note will be prepared by the Secretariat to inform the discussions at the Coordination Segment and a non-negotiated factual summary will be prepared by the President of ECOSOC in consultation with the Bureau of the ECOSOC to reflect discussions during the Coordination Segment as well as the strategic proposals made during the Coordination Segment.

