



**Special meeting of the Economic and Social Council on  
Harnessing Artificial Intelligence for the Sustainable Development Goals**

7 May 2024, 3:00 - 6:00 pm  
Trusteeship Council Chamber

**DRAFT PROGRAMME**

**VERSION: 2 MAY 2024**

<b>Opening</b>	
3:00 – 3:10 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez (Chile), President of the Economic and Social Council</li> <li>• Ms. Amina Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations</li> </ul>
<b>Panel 1: Governance, Artificial Intelligence and the SDGs</b>	
3:10 – 4:30 pm	<p><u>Moderator:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Tomas Lamanauskas, Deputy Secretary-General, International Telecommunication Union (ITU)</li> </ul> <p><u>Panelists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Carme Artigas, Co-Chair of the Secretary General's High-level Advisory Body on Artificial Intelligence (virtual)</li> <li>• Mr. Eliot Minchenberg, Director of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Office in New York and UNESCO Representative to the United Nations</li> <li>• Mr. Jim Balsillie, Founder, Balsillie School of International Affairs, and former Chairman and co-CEO, Research In Motion (BlackBerry)</li> <li>• Mr. Karan Bhatia, Global Head of Government Affairs and Public Policy, Google</li> </ul> <p><u>Discussants:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H.E. Ms. Maritza Chan, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica</li> <li>• Ms. Shea Gopaul, Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York for the International Organisation of Employers (IOE) and co-Chair of the Business and Industry Major Group</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Interactive discussion</i></b></p> <p><u>Guiding questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can international cooperation and collaboration be fostered to ensure that AI technologies are deployed responsibly and in alignment with the pillars of sustainable development?</li> <li>• How can governance frameworks be adapted or enhanced to effectively support AI applications for sustainable development?</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the key ethical considerations that should guide the integration of AI technologies into initiatives aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?</li> <li>• How can AI be harnessed to promote inclusivity and address disparities in access to resources and opportunities, thereby advancing the overarching goal of leaving no one behind?</li> <li>• What mechanisms can be put in place to ensure that AI technologies contribute to the achievement of the SDGs while minimizing negative social and environmental impacts?</li> <li>• What strategies can be employed to ensure that AI technologies are developed and deployed in a manner that respects and promotes human rights, including privacy, non-discrimination, and freedom of expression?</li> </ul>
<p><b>Panel 2: Real-Life Examples of AI Contributions to the SDGs</b></p>	
<p>4:30 – 5:50 pm</p>	<p><u>Moderator:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Amandeep Singh Gill, Secretary General’s Envoy on Technology</li> </ul> <p><u>Panelists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Rola Dashti, Executive Secretary, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) (virtual)</li> <li>• Ms. Celeste Drake, Deputy Director-General, International Labour Organization (ILO) (virtual)</li> <li>• Ms. Ligia Noronha, Assistant Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) New York Office</li> <li>• Mr. Roberto Moris, Assistant Professor, Catholic University of Chile (UC Chile) and Director, Regional Assisted Integrated Administration Project of the Santiago Metropolitan Region</li> </ul> <p><u>Discussants:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H.E. Mr. Luke Goh, Second Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Singapore</li> <li>• Mr. Jorge Alberto Serra, CEO of VISIION</li> </ul> <p><b><i>Interactive discussion</i></b></p> <p><u>Guiding questions:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can you share specific examples of AI applications that have directly contributed to achieving SDGs in various sectors?</li> <li>• What measurable impacts or outcomes have been observed as a result of deploying AI technologies in SDG-related projects?</li> </ul>
<p><b>Closing</b></p>	
<p>5:50 – 6:00 pm</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H.E. Mr. Bob Rae (Canada), Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council</li> <li>• H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez (Chile), President of the Economic and Social Council</li> </ul>