Programme

2024 ECOSOC Operational Activities Segment
14 - 16 May 2024

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY 1: TUE 14 MAY</th>
<th>DAY 2: WED 15 MAY</th>
<th>DAY 3: THU 16 MAY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:30 am – 11:00 am Opening</td>
<td>10:00 – 11:30 am 3. Dialogue with UNDS Executive Heads Unlocking transformations through integrated policy support at global, regional and country levels</td>
<td>10:00 – 11:30 am 7. Means of implementation: digital cooperation, STI, and capacity building for national efforts to advance the SDGs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am – 1:00 pm 1. High-level dialogue on the Secretary-General's report on the Implementation of General Assembly resolution 75/233 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system</td>
<td>11:30 am – 1:00 pm 4. Overview of evaluation and independent assessment findings and management response Discussion on the recent evaluations, findings and actions taken</td>
<td>11:30 am – 1:00 pm 8. Means of implementation: financing the SDGs Development financing priorities that can have a catalyzing effect to achieve system wide results in the 2030 Agenda implementation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFORMAL SIDE EVENTS</td>
<td>INFORMAL SIDE EVENTS</td>
<td>INFORMAL SIDE EVENTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 – 6:00 pm 2. UNSDG Chair's Report on the Development Coordination Office and the Resident Coordinator System - The value addition of the RC system in coordinating the UN development system's support to realize the 2030 Agenda and achieve the SDGs at country-level</td>
<td>3:00 – 5:00 pm 5. Tailoring support to each specific country Dialogue with Host Governments, RCs and UNCTs</td>
<td>3:00 – 4:30 pm 9. UN development system Funding: Re-energizing the Funding Compact for a more strategic, integrated and responsive UN development system</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 - 6:00 pm 6. UNDS efforts in implementation of system-wide policies (UN system-wide action plans on gender mainstreaming, youth, and for disability inclusion)</td>
<td>4:30 – 5:45 pm 10. Accountability and oversight provided by ECOSOC Dialogue with Member States on the existing accountability and oversight functions provided by ECOSOC OAS and opportunities for strengthening</td>
<td>5:45 – 6:00 pm Closing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In view of time constraints, the general debate will be conducted through written statements. To encourage interactive dialogue, groups and Member States are invited to provide their formal statements on progress in implementing GA resolutions 75/233 and 72/279 in written forms with the Secretariat (qcpr@un.org) in advance of the segment. The statements will be posted on the QCPR website. The views and main points presented in the statements will be reflected in the Vice-President’s summary of the segment.

DAY 1 – Tuesday, 14 May 2024

10:30 am – 11:00 am

Opening of the operational activities Segment

- H. E. Mr. Tarek Ladeb, Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council responsible for the operational activities for development segment
- H.E. Mr. Dennis Francis, President of the United Nations General Assembly
- Mr. Li Junhua, Under Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

1. High-level dialogue on the Secretary-General’s report on the Implementation of General Assembly resolution 75/233 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

Objective: This high-level dialogue will feature the presentation by the Secretary General of his report on the Implementation of General Assembly resolution 75/233 on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system (QCPR) and vision for the future of QCPR. The Secretary-General will set out the progress made and set out the areas of implementation of reform where further progress is needed. The Secretary-General will set out the efforts that the UN is undertaking to accelerate implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, to deliver on the ambition of Member States in the SDG Summit Political Declaration, including through key transitions and scaling up of “engine room” capacities. The dialogue will look ahead to the next opportunities to advance implementation of the SDGs, including through the Summit of the Future and the 2024 QCPR.

- Video by the Development Coordination Office

Chair and Moderator

- H. E. Mr. Tarek Ladeb, Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council responsible for the operational activities for development segment

Remarks

- Video message by H.E. Mr. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations
Interactive discussion with H.E. Ms Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group

NOTE: Delegations are encouraged to be represented by high-level officials from Capitals and/or Permanent Representatives to engage in this interaction. Interventions should be short (2-3 minutes each for countries and groups respectively). Full statements submitted in writing (estatements@un.org) will be posted on eStatements and the QCPR website.

3:00 – 6:00 pm

2. UNSDG Chair’s Report on the Development Coordination Office and the Resident Coordinator System - The value addition of the RC system in coordinating the UN development system's support to realize the 2030 Agenda and achieve the SDGs at country-level

Objective: This session will include the presentation and discussion of UNSDG Chair’s report on the Development Coordination Office (DCO) and the resident coordinator system. As a key mechanism of providing oversight for the Resident Coordinator system, the dialogue will aim to ensure awareness of the functions and results enabled by the reinvigorated resident coordinator system. The dialogue will explore the areas of in need of greater attention and opportunities for strengthening the support provided by the resident coordinator system to country level implementation of the SDGs.

Chair and Moderator

- H.E. Mr. Tarek Ladeb, Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council responsible for the operational activities for development segment

Presentation: Report of the Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group on the Development Coordination Office and the Resident Coordinator System

- H.E. Ms Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group

Interactive discussion with H.E. Ms Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group

NOTE: Delegations are encouraged to be represented by high-level officials from Capitals and/or Permanent Representatives to engage in this interaction. Interventions should be short (2-3 minutes each for countries and groups respectively). Full statements submitted in writing (estatements@un.org) will be posted on eStatements and the QCPR website.
3. Dialogue with UNDS Executive Heads: Unlocking transformations through integrated policy support at global, regional, and country levels

**Objective:** UNSDG Executive Heads will engage in a conversation on the orientation of the UN development system (UNDS) to increase delivery of integrated policy support for the SDGs, including delivery by entities not present in programme countries. Executive Heads will provide their insights on the progress made in implementing the 2020 quadrennial comprehensive policy review. This segment will help provide a stock taking opportunity on how the reforms have been implemented thus far, whilst identifying areas where more momentum may be required. High-level representatives from Member States are invited to engage in a dialogue with Executive Heads, focused on the respective priorities and constraints faced by both governments and the UN entities alike, with a view to discussing areas of common focus for improvement.

- How are UN development system entities supporting countries to achieve the SDGs, particularly in integrated policy support, joint planning and joint programming? What are the constraints faced in making further progress?
- How are the United Nations development system entities with no physical presence contributing to the work of United Nations country teams in support of SDG acceleration? What specific constraints are they facing in this regard?
- What measures are required to help strengthen operational alignment across UN development system entities, including in terms of business models, country configurations and skillsets for the priorities enshrined in the UN Cooperation Framework?
- What specific actions are needed from Member States to support and promote such measures?

**Chair**

- H. E. Mr. Tarek Ladeb, Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council responsible for the operational activities for development segment

**Moderator**

- H.E. Mr. Ernest Rwamucyo, Permanent Representative of Rwanda to the United Nations

**Panellists**

- Mr. José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and Coordinator of the Regional Economic Commissions
- Ms. Rebeca Grynspan, Secretary-General, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development [virtual]
- Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) [virtual]
Interactive Discussion (2-3 minute time limit for interventions from the floor)

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

4. Overview of evaluation and independent assessment findings and management response: Discussion on the recent evaluations, findings and actions taken

Objective:
Panellists will discuss the findings of recent evaluations and assessments on the UN development system and explore the follow up actions taken as well as those that remain outstanding. This includes recent evaluations conducted on the Resident Coordinator system. Member States will also receive an update by the Director of the System-wide Evaluation Office on the progress towards a System-wide Evaluation Plan. Participants will engage in an interactive dialogue aimed at considering how to further strengthen accountability through the system-wide evaluation function to better deliver for countries in the next quadrennial cycle.

Guiding questions
- How can monitoring and evaluation activities across the United Nations development system enhance learning and accountability over the next QCPR cycle?
- What are the overarching findings and recommendations of the evaluations carried out so far of the UNDS and the RC system following the reforms?
- What key system-wide actions have been taken so far in response to these recommendations?
- How does the establishment of the system-wide evaluation function contribute to this work?
- How can Member States support the UNDS and the RC system in ensuring effective follow-up to the recommendations of these evaluations?

Chair
- H. E. Mr. Tarek Ladeb, Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council responsible for the operational activities for development segment

Moderator
- H.E. Ms. Yoka Brandt, Permanent Representative, Kingdom of the Netherlands

Panellists
- Ms. Fatoumata Ndiaye, Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services, Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS)
- Ms. Andrea Cook, Executive Director of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group System Wide Evaluation Office (UNSDG-SWEO)
Interactive Discussion (2-3 minute time limit for interventions from the floor)

3:00 – 5:00 pm

5. Tailoring support to each specific country: Dialogue with Host Governments, RCs and UNCTs

Objective: This session will discuss how the United Nations development system is working together to provide tailored policy advice and technical support on SDG acceleration to countries based on their specific circumstances. Looking ahead to the 2024 QCPR, panellists will discuss the type of measures required to bridge SDGs gaps in different country settings.

Guiding questions:

- How does the United Nations development system provide tailored policy advice and technical support to countries to accelerate SDG implementation based on their specific circumstances? How have policy advisory and support functions evolved since the reforms and over the past QCPR cycles?
- What is missing in the current set-up to ensure the best support possible to host governments? What are the challenges that UN entities and national Governments experience?
- How have country teams focused their work on the areas where most urgent transitions are needed?
- How have the four engine rooms enabled country teams to scale up development services to enhance national capacities, convene partners, strengthen policy and regulatory environments and arrange a financing mix to better deliver on the SDGs?
- In view of the 2024 QCPR, how can Member States facilitate UNDS delivery in line with their needs and expectations?

Chair

- H. E. Mr. Tarek Ladeb, Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council responsible for the operational activities for development segment

Moderator

- Mr. Navid Hanif, the Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

Panellists

- Panel 1 Sudan
  - H.E. Mr. Al-Harith Idriss Al-Harith Mohamed, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Sudan to the United Nations
  - Ms. Clementine Aku-Nkweta-Salami, Resident Coordinator / Humanitarian Coordinator in Sudan
Interactive Discussion (2-3 minute time limit for interventions from the floor)

5:00 – 6:00 pm

6. UNDS efforts in implementing system-wide policies (UN system-wide action plans on gender mainstreaming, youth, and for disability inclusion)

**Objective:** This session will brief Member States on UN development system’s progress in implementing the UN system-wide action plans on gender mainstreaming, youth and for disability to support countries in delivering on their commitment to leave no one behind. It will showcase how the UN development system has been enhancing its coherence and coordination to mainstream gender, youth and disability rights across its work, highlighting joint programmatic work in these areas to support countries’ achievement of the SDGs. Panellists will reflect on the challenges encountered and ways to overcome them in integrating gender equality, youth and disability inclusion in UN development system’s work and how Member States can support these efforts.

- What challenges have the UN development system encountered in supporting countries to integrate gender equality, youth, and disability inclusion in national policy?
- How has the UN development system progressed in implementing the UN system-wide action plans on mainstreaming gender, youth, and disability inclusion?
- How has the system scaled up capacity to prevent sexual exploitation and abuse?
- What joint programmatic initiatives have been undertaken by the UN development system to support countries in the areas of gender equality, youth, and disability inclusion? What role has the RC system played in facilitating the UN development system in this regard?

**Chair**

- H. E. Mr. Tarek Ladeb, Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council responsible for the operational activities for development segment

**Moderator**

- Ms. Aparna Mehrotra, Director, United Nations System Coordination Division, UN Women
Panellists

- Ms. Catherine Russell, Executive Director, United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)
- Mr. Guy Bernard Ryder, Under-Secretary-General for Policy, Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG)
- Mr. Felipe Paullier, Assistant Secretary-General for Youth Affairs, United Nations Youth Office
- Mr. Jose Miguel Barreto, Resident Coordinator in Guatemala [virtual]

Interactive Discussion (2-3 minute time limit for interventions from the floor)

DAY 3 – Thursday, 16 May 2024

10:00 – 11:30 am

7. Means of Implementation: digital cooperation, STI, and capacity building for national efforts to advance the SDGs

Objective: This session will explore UN development system’s efforts to scale the development of “engine room” capacities to realize the SDGs. It will review the UN development system’s progress in:

- enhancing system-wide coherence, coordination, and partnerships to support countries to fully leverage digital cooperation and science, technology, and innovation (STI)
- contributing to national capacity building, the session will emphasize the UN development system’s role in digital cooperation and will discuss how the UN development system can better support countries in their digital transformation. Recognizing capacity building as the engine room for sustainable development, this session will also highlight examples of work undertaken by the UN development system that is contributing to capacity development at the country level as well as challenges encountered and measures to overcome them.

Guiding questions:

- Why are digital cooperation and science, technology, and innovation (STI) critical aspects to accelerate the SDGs? How can the UN development system enhance its coordination and partnerships to effectively support countries in leveraging their potential while bridging gaps in the countries furthest behind?
- What are some successful examples of capacity building initiatives undertaken by the UN development system at the country level to promote digital transformation and support sustainable development? What was their impact on SDG acceleration? How can these initiatives be scaled up and replicated in other contexts?
- How can the UN development system and Member States alike better support the advancement of digital cooperation and STI initiatives in different country contexts?
Chair

- H. E. Mr. Tarek Ladeb, Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council responsible for the operational activities for development segment

Moderator

- H.E. Mr. Lok Bahadur Thapa, Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations

Panellists

- Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Executive Secretary Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
- Ms. Karla Robin Hershey, Resident Coordinator in Bhutan [virtual]

Interactive Discussion (2-3 minute time limit for interventions from the floor)

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

8. Means of implementation: financing the SDGs: Development financing priorities that can have a catalyzing effect to achieve system-wide results in the 2030 Agenda implementation

Objective: Member States will engage in an interactive dialogue to identify critical financing areas that require better guidance and policy orientation in the upcoming QCPR. Panellists will outline key financing priorities that have the potential to drive system-wide SDG financing, while identifying the remaining barriers. Discussions will focus on the Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF), an important framework for financing sustainable development priorities and the SDGs at the country level. The discussion will explore the remaining challenges and barriers that impede the implementation and effectiveness of INFFs. Moreover, panellists will update on partnerships with international financial institutions (IFIs) to mobilize financing for sustainable development.

- How does the UN development system leverage support to Member States in achieving sustainable financing for development aligned with their national priorities to drive SDG acceleration?
- Which innovative financial instruments have helped Member States to mobilize private investments to secure sustainable financing pathways for the SDGs?
- What role does the Integrated National Financing Framework (INFF) play in financing sustainable development priorities and achieving the SDGs at the country level, and what are the main challenges and barriers hindering its effectiveness and implementation?
- How can collaboration between International Financial Institution, 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 to this end? How do these partnerships contribute to overcoming financing challenges?
Chair

- H. E. Mr. Tarek Ladeb, Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council, responsible for the operational activities for development segment

Moderator

- H.E. Mr. Héctor Enrique Vasconcelos, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations

Panellists

- Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- Mr. Li Junhua, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)
- Ms. Cristina Duarte, Under-Secretary-General, Special Adviser on Africa to the United Nations Secretary-General, Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA)
- Mr. Arnaud Peral, Resident Coordinator in Tunisia [virtual]

Interactive Discussion (2-3 minute time limit for interventions from the floor)

3:00 – 4:30 pm

9. UN development system Funding: Re-energizing the Funding Compact for a more strategic, integrated and responsive UN development system

**Objective:** In this session, the new Funding Compact and its revised global monitoring and reporting framework will be discussed. The panel will highlight the key differences between the new Funding Compact and the 2019 Funding Compact with the aim of driving real change in funding patterns and realizing better results for countries. Member States will provide their views on the new Funding Compact, including how they see their own countries helping to advance implementation and what their main expectations are of the UN development system.

**Guiding questions**

- What is needed to ensure greater awareness and use of the new Funding Compact at all levels?
- What would country-level dialogues on funding the results of Cooperation Frameworks look like in practice, and how should these be organized?
- How can accountability for implementation by both Member States and UNSDG entities be strengthened?
Chair

- H. E. Mr. Tarek Ladeb, Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council responsible for the operational activities for development segment

Moderator

- Ms. Kitty van der Heijden, Deputy Executive Director, Partnerships, United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF)

Panellists

- Mr. Oscar Fernández-Taranco, Assistant Secretary-General for Development Coordination Office
- Ms. Ingrid Macdonald, Resident Coordinator in Bosnia and Herzegovina [virtual]
- Mr. George Conway, Deputy Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator in Somalia [virtual]
- Ms. Suzanne Steensen, Head of Secretariat, Multilateral Organisation Performance Assessment Network (MOPAN) [virtual]

Discussant

- Mr. Per Knutsson, Executive Director a.i., Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation

Interactive Discussion (2-3 minute time limit for interventions from the floor)

4:30 – 5:45 pm

10. Accountability and oversight provided by ECOSOC: Dialogue with Member States on the existing accountability and oversight functions provided by ECOSOC OAS and opportunities for strengthening

Objective: This session will allow Member States to engage in an exchange on whether the Operational Activities Segment of ECOSOC is fulfilling the expectations of Member States in providing an accountability platform for system-wide performance and results of the UN development system, in supporting countries. Member States are invited to explore whether the Segment can improve its provision of system-wide oversight, and coordination to the governing bodies of the United Nations development system and the Resident Coordinator system. The discussion could identify actions to be taken to improve the Council’s capacity to fulfil its oversight and accountability role and coordinate system-wide reporting by entities and actions for follow-up. Member States will also consider how to improve the Council’s ability to engage in dialogue with and participation from representatives and participants from the field.

Guiding questions
What actions could Member States take to improve their system-wide oversight and coordination across governing bodies of the UN development system?

Is the guidance from Member States in the General Assembly and ECOSOC effectively integrating into the discussions of UNDSat the governing bodies?

Considering the Secretary-General’s previous proposals to revitalize the ECOSOC Operational Activities for Development Segment (including in A/72/124-E/2018/3), are changes required to the operational activities for development segment of ECOSOC required to create more space for more effective oversight and more consistent engagement with Member States on the UN development system’s collective impact?

How can Member States fully utilize the range of the tools available in the ECOSOC system for greater strategic guidance and greater oversight of with respect to system-wide action? What are the challenges to that end?

Chair

H. E. Mr. Tarek Ladeb, Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council responsible for the operational activities for development segment

Moderator

Mr. Navid Hanif, the Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development. Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)

Panellists

H.E. Mr. Muhammad Abdul Muhith, President of the Executive Board of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS, and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Jonibek Hikmat, Vice-President of the Executive Board of UNICEF and Vice-President of the Executive Board of UN Women and Permanent Mission of the Republic of Tajikistan to the United Nations

H.E. Ms. Lachezara Stoeva, Vice-President of the Executive Board of UNICEF and Permanent Representative of the Republic of Bulgaria to the United Nations

Interactive Discussion (2-3 minute time limit for interventions from the floor)

5:45 – 6:00 pm

11: Closing

H. E. Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group

H. E. Mr. Tarek Ladeb, Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council responsible for the operational activities for development segment

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**2024 ECOSOC OAS SIDE EVENTS**

*Human Rights as Catalysts for Sustainable Development: Leveraging a Coordinated Approach by the UN Development System to Leave No One Behind*

**Organizer:** UN Interagency Network on Human Rights, LNOB, and Sustainable Development (OHCHR and ILO (co-chairs), DCO, DESA, IOM, FAO, OCHA, UNAIDS, UNDP, UNESCO, UNEP, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNODC, UN Women, SRSG/VAC, WHO)

**Co-Sponsors:** Permanent Mission of Costa Rica to the UN, Permanent Mission of Luxembourg to the UN, Permanent Mission of Chile to the UN

**Time:** Wednesday, 15 May, 1:15-2:30 pm

**Location:** Conference Room 11

*Financing Humanitarian, Development and Peace (HDP) Coherence*

**Organizer:** Permanent Mission of Germany to the UN, United States Mission to the UN

**Time:** Thursday, 16 May, 1:15-2:30 pm

**Location:** Conference Room 11