

30 October 2024

CONCEPT NOTE

2025 ECOSOC Coordination Segment

Advancing sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs for leaving no one behind

Background

The ECOSOC Coordination Segment will take place on 6 – 7 February 2025, at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. It will address the main annual theme of the 2025 session of ECOSOC and the HLPF: “*Advancing sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs for leaving no one behind*” while also contributing the in-depth reviews of the HLPF of SDG 3 (good health and well-being), SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 14 (life below water), and SDG 17 (partnerships for the Goals).

The 2025 Coordination Segment will unfold amid critical global challenges. The implementation of the SDGs is [lagging](#) behind, prompting urgent calls for improved financing mechanisms, equity, and integrated implementation strategies for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The adverse impacts of climate change including droughts, wildfires, floods and hurricanes, have become more frequent and devastating. Additionally, new health crises, including emerging variants of COVID-19 and antimicrobial resistance challenges as well as access to controlled drugs for medical use and other drug-related health challenges, continue to expose vulnerabilities in global health systems, reinforcing the importance of pandemic preparedness and adopting holistic policies to advance SDG 3 (good health and well-being).

Inequality is rising, with a troubling pushback against gender equality worldwide. Reliable and disaggregated data is vital to measure progress and inform policy to address the widening gaps and ensure that no one is left behind.

Meanwhile, the rapid development and widespread adoption of emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) is reshaping economies, production planning, labor markets and social interactions, raising the need for develop comprehensive frameworks and approaches to limit risks and leverage opportunities for all. Economic instability, driven by global inflation and supply chain shifts, has been severely impacted by geopolitical tensions, rising conflicts and human rights violations around the world. Collectively, these challenges are putting immense strain on international cooperation and solidarity.

The adoption of the [Pact for the Future](#) at the [Summit of the Future](#) has renewed international commitment to multilateralism, emphasizing the need for collective action to address interconnected global challenges. The call for global digital and AI governance has become urgent, and the adoption of the [Global Digital Compact](#) at the [Summit of the Future](#) reflects a shared vision to promote the responsible and ethical use of technology. Additionally, the [Declaration on Future Generations](#) emphasizes the need to safeguard the rights and well-being of future generations, ensuring that long-term impacts are considered in global decision-making.

Objectives

In the current evolving context, the 2025 Coordination Segment will play a crucial role in aligning the work of the ECOSOC system with the urgency to expedite the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. By bringing together Member States, ECOSOC functional commissions and expert bodies, United Nations regional commissions and UN system entities, including specialized agencies, the Segment will continue to serve as a key platform for the Council to provide forward-looking policy guidance and direction to the work of its subsidiary bodies and the UN system entities in the economic, social, health and environmental areas and to promote the integrated implementation and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other major United Nations conferences and summits.¹

The Coordination Segment will address mandates from the [2024 Ministerial Declaration](#) adopted by the ECOSOC and the HLPF while also promoting the implementation of the [Pact for the Future and its annexes](#), and forging linkages with major upcoming events in 2025, including the [Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development](#), the [Second World Summit for Social Development](#), the thirtieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women and the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action 1995 ([Beijing+30](#)) and the review of implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society ([WSIS+20](#)).

In particular, the Coordination Segment will seek to:

1. Provide guidance to the ECOSOC system² for coordinated action to address pressing global issues and advance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs to leave no one behind, including the most vulnerable countries.
2. Foster sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions to accelerate SDGs implementation, in particular those under review, and follow-up on the implementation of the 2024 Ministerial Declaration of ECOSOC and the HLPF.
3. Discuss coordinated approaches by the UN system to implement the Pact for the Future and its annexes.
4. Ensure an enhanced contribution by the ECOSOC system to the 2025 HLPF and other upcoming intergovernmental processes in the economic, social, environmental and related fields in 2025, including the [Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development](#), the [Second World Summit for Social Development](#), the thirtieth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women

¹ In line with the mandates from [GA resolution 75/290](#), 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 and the preparations for the thematic review of the high-level political forum on sustainable development (para 18).

² The [ECOSOC system](#) is an ecosystem of bodies in the economic, social, cultural, educational, health and related fields that report to the Economic and Social Council. This includes the Council's [subsidiary bodies](#) (regional commissions, functional commissions and expert bodies, standing committees, ad hoc and other related bodies) and United Nations entities working in the matters under the purview of the Council, including specialized agencies.

and the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action 1995 ([Beijing+30](#)) and the review of implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society ([WSIS+20](#)).

Format

The 2025 Coordination Segment will comprise of four in-person meetings over a two-day period, featuring a mix of panel discussions and interactive dialogues. The Segment will continue hosting a session dedicated to exchanges with the Executive Secretaries of the regional commissions and the Chairs of ECOSOC functional commissions and expert bodies.

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 agencies, will enable ECOSOC members to engage in a substantial policy dialogue, leading to concrete recommendations.

Supporting documents and outcome

In accordance with General Assembly resolution [75/290 A](#), an informal note will be prepared by the Secretariat to frame the discussions at the Coordination Segment.

A non-negotiated factual summary will be prepared by the President of the Economic and Social Council, in consultation with the Bureau, to reflect discussions during the Partnership Forum and the Coordination Segment as well as strategic proposals made during the Coordination Segment, as mandated by resolution [75/290 A](#).





DRAFT PROGRAMME OUTLINE

2025 ECOSOC Coordination Segment

Advancing sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs for leaving no one behind

[4 December 2024]

Thursday, 6 February 2025

10:00 – 10:15 **Opening**

- H.E. Mr. Anatolio Ndong Mba (Equatorial Guinea), Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council and Chair of the Coordination Segment
- H.E. Mr. Bob Rae (Canada), President of the Economic and Social Council [Key messages from the Partnership Forum]
- Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations

10:15 – 13:00 **Conversation with Executive Secretaries of the Regional Commissions and Chairs of Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies on Accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals including by leveraging the outcomes of the Summit of the Future**



This session will highlight the important contributions of ECOSOC's subsidiary bodies in supporting Member States in achieving the 2030 Agenda and how the outcomes of the Summit of the Future can further accelerate these efforts. Member States are invited to (i) reflect on the work of ECOSOC subsidiary bodies and proposals from the informal note prepared by the Secretariat, and (ii) provide action-oriented and forward-looking policy guidance and direction to the UN system to ensure coherence in efforts to step up action towards the SDGs.

15:00 - 16:30 **Exploring transformative solutions to foster sustainability and build an inclusive and prosperous future for all**



In an interdependent and complex world, achieving sustainability and intergenerational equity requires a holistic, systems-based approach. This session will explore how natural, scientific and intangible assets – such as knowledge, practices and culture – can shape and drive the transformative solutions needed for the successful implementation of the SDGs. Anchored in the guiding principles of the 2030 Agenda and the outcomes of the Summit of the Future, the discussion will focus on the critical interlinkages between climate action, environmental sustainability, including ocean conservation, and socio-economic dimensions such as social cohesion, economic opportunity, inclusivity, resilience and intergenerational equity. The discussion will also highlight the need for including indigenous knowledge in sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the SDGs, as well as emphasize the

importance of partnerships to better integrate these solutions into sustainable development strategies.

16:30 – 18:00 **Investing in healthy, inclusive and resilient societies to leave no one behind**



This session will highlight the importance of a people-centered approach in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda as a prerequisite to sustainable development and lasting peace. It will seek to address the interlinkages between gender, health and well-being and showcase efforts of the UN system to address pressing ongoing and emerging challenges as well as solutions, including social protection and universal health coverage for all, in particular for the most vulnerable. On the eve of Beijing+30 and the Second World Summit for Social Development, the session will also highlight policies and partnerships that can empower individuals and communities to thrive in a healthy, just, sustainable, peaceful and prosperous society.

Friday, 7 February 2025

10:00-11:30 **Creating employment and decent work opportunities for all**



This session will examine strategies to shape future societies that promote inclusive growth, resilient economies, and decent work for all. It will discuss how investing in human capital, raising productivity, transforming education systems, and bridging the digital divide can advance a human-centered approach to the future of work. It will also showcase how ECOSOC subsidiary bodies and the UN system are fostering environments where the needs and perspectives of young people and future generations are considered.

11:30-13:00 **Harnessing data, science, technology and innovation to advance digital progress**



This session will explore the transformative potential of data, science, technology and innovation in advancing the SDGs under review in 2025, namely SDG 3 (health and well-being), SDG 5 (gender equality), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 14 (life below water) and SDG 17 (partnerships for the Goals). A key focus will be on fostering technology transfer and capacity-building to bridge the digital divide, particularly for countries in vulnerable situations, to ensure that all nations can benefit from digital progress. The session will consider ways to strengthen the science-policy interface and promote evidence-based approaches to accelerate progress on the SDGs. Discussions will also explore pathways to harness the power of AI and other emerging

technologies to create sustainable pathways for health, inclusion, economic opportunities and environmental sustainability while minimizing potential risks.

15:00 - 16:30 **Leveling the multilateral playing field: Financing and investment solutions for sustainable development in countries in special situations**



This session will address the critical challenges countries face in financing the SDGs under review in 2025, with a particular focus on countries in special situations. Many of these nations face dual pressures of advancing sustainable development while dealing with high financing costs and mounting debt servicing burdens. Strengthening multilateralism through inclusive and effective processes, solidarity, as well as providing guidance and capacity development is essential for addressing systemic inequalities in global governance structures and fostering equity, resilience and sustainable development, with the upcoming Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) a key opportunity to reach an ambitious global agreement. The session will discuss key policy issues and recommendations tailored to the unique circumstances of Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) related to access to affordable long-term financing through initiatives like the SDG Stimulus Package, innovative financing mechanisms, debt restructuring and debt relief solutions, fairer international trade practices, and strategies to boost domestic revenue mobilization and scaling up private sector investments. Discussions will also focus on mobilizing accessible financing for climate action and disaster risk reduction, critical for achieving all SDGs. Insights from this session will also aim to inform preparations for FfD 4 to drive ambitious actions for the 2030 Agenda.

16:30 - 17:50 **Commitment to action: Scenarios for impactful decision-making**



The window for meaningful progress in achieving the SDG is narrowing fast. This session will focus on the urgency of taking bold and decisive actions now to achieve the SDGs by the 2030 deadline, featuring insights from foresight exercises, discussing potential scenarios and outcomes based on different decision-making pathways, urging the use of science- and evidence-based decision-making to achieve better results. Discussions will explore how forward-looking approaches can inform policies that are resilient to global challenges, reinforcing that timely, bold actions today will shape an equitable, sustainable and prosperous world for generations to come.

17:50 - 18:00 **Closing**

- Mr. Navid Hanif, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, UN DESA
- H.E. Mr. Anatolio Ndong Mba (Equatorial Guinea), Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council and Chair of the Coordination Segment

** The programme of the Coordination Segment will bridge the retrospective and prospective aspects of its mandate by exploring the interlinkages between the SDGs under review in 2025 and those reviewed in 2024. Suggested interlinkages to be addressed are highlighted in each panel above, indicated by the corresponding SDG symbols.*