

10 March 2025

Excellency,

I am honoured to invite you to the 2025 high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF) under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the 2025 ECOSOC high-level segment at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The 2025 HLPF will be held from 14 to 18 July and 21 to 23 July 2025. Its ministerial segment from 21 to 23 July will be held jointly with the ECOSOC high-level segment, which will conclude on 24 July 2025. The HLPF and the high-level segment of ECOSOC will result in a negotiated ministerial declaration.

Under the theme "Advancing sustainable inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and its Sustainable Development Goals for leaving no one behind", the 2025 HLPF will bring together ministers and high-level representatives of Member States, as well as a broad cross-section of representatives of the United Nations system and stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, to discuss policies for accelerating implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The HLPF will conduct in-depth reviews of Goal 3 on good health and well-being, Goal 5 on gender equality, Goal 8 on decent work and economic growth, Goal 14 on life below water, and Goal 17 on partnerships for the Goals, considering the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the Goals. Thirty-seven countries will present Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) of their national implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.

The HLPF will identify interlinkages with other key intergovernmental processes in 2025, including the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (Beijing+30), the Third United Nations Ocean Conference, the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4), and the Second World Summit for Social Development, creating synergies that underscore the interconnectedness of these processes with the SDGs. The Forum will also support the implementation of the Political Declaration of the 2023 SDG Summit and contribute to the follow-up of the Summit of the Future and its Pact for the Future.

On 24 July, the high-level segment of ECOSOC will consider current global trends in globalization and their impacts on the achievement of the SDGs as well as the support of the multilateral system on the way forward.

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations New York

I wish to encourage Member States to be represented at the ministerial level and above in both meetings. I look forward to the engagement of Heads of State and Government, Ministers from relevant fields, including finance and planning, to share experiences and provide policy recommendations and sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for accelerating SDG achievement.

Please find attached the provisional programme. There will be opportunities for representatives of Member States, the UN system and major groups and other stakeholders to intervene during the thematic sessions of the first days of the HLPF, as well as during the VNR sessions and the high-level segment of ECOSOC.

The annotated programme and an information note for participants will be circulated in due course. All documentation for the Forum and the high-level segment of ECOSOC, including the concept note, reports and background notes, will be made available on the website (https://hlpf.un.org/2025).

In addition, I would like to invite you to attend my briefing about the status of preparations for the HLPF on 27 March, from 3 to 4 p.m. in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.

Should you have further questions, please contact Mr. Friedrich Soltau (<a href="soltau@un.org">soltau@un.org</a>) and Ms. Emanuela Calabrini (<a href="calabrini@un.org">calabrini@un.org</a>) in the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

I look forward to your and your Government's active participation in the 2025 HLPF and the high-level segment of ECOSOC.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Bob Rae President of ECOSOC

## 2025 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and High-Level Segment of ECOSOC Theme: Advancing sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and its SDGs for leaving no one behind

## DRAFT PROGRAMME\*

SDGs under in-depth review:  Week 1: 14-18 July 2025 (CR 4)  HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT						
Monday, 14 July	Tuesday, 15 July	Wednesday, 16 July	Thursday, 17 July	Friday, 18 July		
10 - 11 AM Opening President of ECOSOC Keynote addresses Messages from ECOSOC presented by the Vice President of ECOSOC  11 AM - 1 PM Unlocking means of implementation: Mobilizing financing and STI for the SDGs (Townhall meeting) How can countries and stakeholders advance a robust framework for financing the SDGs? How can resources be effectively mobilized and utilized to achieve the SDGs? What are the key developments from the 2025 Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4)? How can cooperation on science, technology and innovation accelerate progress towards the SDGs? What good practices and innovative examples were highlighted at the Multi-Stakeholder Forum on STI?	10 AM – 1 PM  SDG 5 and interlinkages with other SDGs –  Gender equality  What approaches and actions are needed to effectively achieve women's and girls' empowerment and gender equality? What successful partnerships can be forged to accelerate gender-responsive implementation of the SDGs? How can we measure the impact of these initiatives to ensure continuous improvement? How can we strengthen the means of implementation and partnerships to achieve SDG5?	10 AM - 10.10 AM Introduction of the report on the 10-Year Framework of Programme on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns  10:10 AM - 1 PM SDG 8 and interlinkages with other SDGs - Decent work and economic growth What strategies and transformative measures can enhance synergies and minimize trade-offs in achieving SDG 8? What are innovative solutions and best practices to promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent jobs work for all while also fostering environmental protection? How can we strengthen the means of implementation and partnerships to achieve SDG8?	10 – 11 AM  SDG 14 and interlinkages with other SDGs –  Life below water  How can we build on the 2025 Ocean  Conference and ensure its successful follow-up to accelerate action towards implementation of SDG 14?" How can we strengthen the means of implementation and partnerships to achieve SDG14?  11 AM – 1 PM  Pathways to progress: Advancing SDGs in African countries, Least Developed Countries and Landlocked Developing Countries  How can African countries, LDCs and LLDCs build resilience against economic and environmental shocks as well as the effects of conflicts? What policies and frameworks are necessary to ignite economic growth and support long-term sustainable development in African countries, LDCs and LLDCs? What needs to be done to implement the outcome of the LLDC Conference? What innovative public-private partnership models can be developed to mobilize and expand financing for SDG initiatives in African countries, LDCs and LLDCs?	10 AM - 1 PM Voluntary national reviews		
3 - 6 PM  SDG 3 and interlinkages with other  SDGs - Healthy lives  Which obstacles are hindering implementation of SDG 3? What comprehensive integrated policies and specific measures can accelerate its achievement? How can the interlinkages with other Goals be fully leveraged to ensure more effective policies that promote healthy lives and well-being for people of all ages? How can we strengthen the means of implementation and partnerships to achieve SDG3?	3 - 4:30 PM  Unlocking potential: Achieving SDGs in Middle-income countries:  What strategies can be implemented to ensure inclusive and equitable progress towards the SDGs in MICs? What are some successful case studies of MICs making significant progress towards the SDGs, and what lessons can be learned from them?  4:30 - 6 PM  Transformation from the ground up: Acting at local level  What innovative strategies are local communities employing to progress towards achieving the SDGs? What are some successful examples of local SDG implementation that can be replicated in other regions?	3 - 6 PM Small Island Developing States: Strategies for SDG success What measures are required to successfully implement the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS (ABAS)? What innovative approaches are SIDS using to overcome their unique challenges in achieving the SDG? How can SIDS leverage regional and international partnerships to enhance their sustainable development efforts? What are the effective mechanisms to finance SDG initiatives in SIDS, and how can these be scaled up to ensure sustainable progress?	3 - 6 PM Insights from major groups and other stakeholders: Catalyzing accelerated transformative actions How can we apply the insights gained from the work of MGoS to accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs? What strategies can we adopt to bolster the engagement of MGoS in ensuring the successful implementation, follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda?	3 - 6 PM Voluntary national reviews		

Week 2: 21-24 July 2025 HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL					
MINISTERIA	ECOSOC HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT				
Monday, 21 July	Tuesday, 22 July	Wednesday, 23 July	Thursday, 24 July		
(GA HALL) 10 - 11 AM (HLS) Ministerial Opening President of ECOSOC Secretary-General President of the General Assembly Keynotes Youth representative  11:10 AM - 1 PM (HLPF) General debate**: UN@80: Catalyzing Change and implementing the Pact for the Future for SDG achievement	(HLPF - CR 4) 10 - 10:15 AM  Messages from the UN Environment Assembly  10:15 AM - 11:45AM Regional perspectives on SDG implementation  What strategies can be used to mobilize regional action and leverage regional frameworks to support countries in ensuring effective follow-up to the Summit of the Future for SDG achievement?  11:45 AM - 1 PM Voluntary national reviews	10:00 AM -1 PM (HLPF) (CR 4) Voluntary national reviews  10:00 AM -1 PM (HLS - TRI) General debate: UN@80: Catalyzing Change and implementing the Pact for the Future for SDG achievement (Conclusion)	(HLS - ECOSOC CHAMBER)  10 - 10:30 AM  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  10:30 AM - 1 PM  Collaborative, science- driven and evidence-based actions to accelerate the SDGs toward 2030 while leaving no one behind  How can the ECOSOC system contribute to transform global governance, accelerate SDG action and strengthen multilateralism and solidarity in follow-up to the outcomes of the Summit of the Future and FfD4? How to enhance partnerships for science- and evidence-based solutions to address complex and interlinked challenges? How to seize the opportunities presented by science, technology and innovation for the benefit of people and planet?		
3 - 6 PM (HLPF) (CR 4) Voluntary national reviews  3 - 6 PM (HLS) (TRI) General debate: UN@80: Catalyzing Change and implementing the Pact for the Future for SDG achievement	3 - 6 PM (HLPF) (CR 4I)  Voluntary national reviews  3 - 6 PM (HLS) (TRI) General debate: UN@80: Catalyzing Change and implementing the Pact for the Future for SDG achievement	(HLPF - CR 4) 3 - 4:30 PM  Voluntary national reviews  4.30 - 6 PM  Adoption of the Ministerial Declaration  Conclusion of the HLPF	(HLS - ECOSOC CHAMBER) 3 - 5 PM  Current global trends and their impacts: international cooperation in a fracturing world  What are the likely impacts of current trends in globalization on the achievement of the Sustainable  Development Goals? Is globalization undergoing a fracturing or other transformation in response to the significant changes in the global economic and geopolitical environment, and what are the impacts on the effectiveness of international cooperation? How to ensure that globalization works for all?  5 - 6 PM  Adoption of the Ministerial Declaration Conclusion of the High-Level Segment		

<sup>\*</sup> The programme reflects General Assembly resolutions 78/285, 75/290 A and B, 67/290, 70/299, and the 2030 Agenda.

\*\* The general debate of the High-level Segment of ECOSOC and the ministerial days of the HLPF under the theme "UN@80: Catalyzing Change and implementing the Pact for the Future for SDG achievement" will be held from 21 to 23 July 2025. Time limits of 5 minutes for group statements, 3 minutes for national statements and 2 minutes for statements by other speakers will be strictly applied.