

**Remarks by the Delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan
at the first informal consultation of the intergovernmental negotiations of
the Ministerial Declaration of the 2025 High-level Segment of the Economic and Social
Council and the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)**

6 March 2025, ECOSOC Chamber

Excellencies,

At the outset, we would like to extend our sincere congratulations on your appointment as co-facilitators for the intergovernmental negotiations for the Ministerial Declaration of the 2025 HLPF. We commend you and your team for your leadership and tireless efforts in coordinating this important process.

We align with the statement delivered by Iraq on behalf of the Group of 77 and China and would like to offer our brief perspective from a national standpoint.

First, we support your approach of striving for a concise and action-oriented outcome document. In this vein, it is imperative that we maintain a spirit of good faith, inclusivity, and transparency throughout the negotiation process to achieve a consensus.

We believe that this year's declaration should strike a balance and align with other significant processes we are undertaking this year, particularly the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, 2025 UN Ocean Conference, Third UN Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries and Second World Summit for Social Development.

Second, the draft declaration should emphasize the central role of the HLPF in achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It should also mention that the HLPF serves as a catalyst for collective action, given the limited timeframe remaining until the end of the 2030 Agenda. Additionally, it should highlight the HLPF's significance as one of the most crucial platforms for contributing to the implementation of the Pact for the Future.

Third, it is crucial to acknowledge climate change and other triple planetary crises as the most pressing challenges of our time. Developing countries, particularly Small Island Developing States (SIDS), Least Developed Countries (LDCs), and Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), should be maintained at the forefront of collective action in addressing these challenges.

The declaration must reaffirm our firm commitments arising from the agreements reached at a high level, including those made at COP29 held last year in Baku. We must also highlight our dedication to act in good faith to achieve ambitious outcomes at COP30, which will take place in Belém this year.

Finally, we must keep emphasizing the importance of respecting the territorial integrity and political independence of States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

In conclusion, we would like to assure you of our full support and constructive engagement throughout the negotiation process under your able leadership.

Thank you.