



**Statement by H.E. Sunil Sitaldin
Permanent Representative of Suriname to
the United Nations**

**on the occasion of UN ECOSOC Operational Activities
for Development Segment**

**New York
20-22 May 2025**

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**“Keeping the promise on sustainable development in times
of uncertainty- the United Nations development system
delivering results”**

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Excellencies,
Mr. President,

Thank you for convening this meeting and we thank the panelist for their insightful interventions.

Suriname has a decennia long history of partnership with the UN system, with several UN Agencies, Funds and Programs supporting the implementation of the SDG Agenda in Suriname.

We recognize the important role of the UN Development system in supporting the continued efforts of developing countries to enable the acceleration of the SDGs, as well as the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Pact for the Future.

Suriname has integrated the principles of the 2030 Agenda into its national policies, prioritizing inclusivity, sustainability, and capacity-building.

Through strategic collaborations, we are strengthening key sectors such as governance, education, agriculture, forestry and energy, to ensure long-term growth and resilience.

We believe that the following is key to accelerate sustainable development progress:

- Aligning international support with national priorities
- Enhancing collaboration across United Nations Agencies to maximize the impact of development assistance and avoid duplication

- Enhancing UN Country Teams' capacity to support national efforts.
- Accelerated reforms and coordination within the international financial architecture to support developing countries' sustainable development, and
- Mobilizing networks, including with philanthropic organizations and impact investors.

In closing, Mr. President,

As a global community, we need to foster collaboration and strengthen partnerships to address the long-term global issues, while laying the groundwork for sustainable development for our people. The role of the UN development system has proven to be valuable in supporting member states in this regard.

Suriname wishes to underscore that reform in the context of the UN80 Initiative must not reduce the presence of UN in developing countries, but should instead ensure more targeted support, greater development investment and strengthen mandate implementation.

With the presentation of its second Voluntary National Review (VNR) report this year, Suriname looks forward to sharing its achievements in implementing the SDGs and further strengthening of partnerships to accelerate progress.

Thank you.