



## 2026 ECOSOC Coordination Segment

*Transformative, equitable, innovative and coordinated actions for the  
2030 Agenda and its SDGs for a sustainable future for all  
28-29 January 2026, ECOSOC Chamber, UNHQ*

### DRAFT PROGRAMME

**VERSION: 28 JANUARY 2026**

#### **Wednesday, 28 January 2026**

<b>10:00 –</b>	<b>Opening</b>
<b>10:15</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>H.E. Mr. Paruyr Hovhannisyan</b> (Armenia), Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council responsible for the Coordination Segment</li><li>• <b>H.E. Ms. Amina J. Mohammed</b>, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations</li></ul>
<b>10:15 –</b>	<b>ECOSOC at 80: Lessons learned and important milestones</b>
<b>13:00</b>	<p><i>As we mark the 80th anniversary of ECOSOC, this session is an opportunity to bring together former ECOSOC Presidents and experts to reflect on ECOSOC leadership in shaping global economic and social cooperation, while identifying enduring strengths, persistent gaps, and structural reforms needed to enhance the Council's effectiveness and agility. It will also explore the strategic directions required to reinforce ECOSOC's unique Charter-mandated role in coordinating the UN system for sustainable development.</i></p> <p><u>Chair:</u> <b>H.E. Mr. Paruyr Hovhannisyan</b> (Armenia), Vice-President of ECOSOC</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> <b>Ms. Melissa Fleming</b>, UN Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications</p> <p><u>Panelists:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>H.E. Mr. Ivan Šimonović</b> (Croatia), President of ECOSOC at its 2002 session</li><li>• <b>H.E. Ms. Paula Narváez</b> (Chile), President of ECOSOC at its 2024 session</li><li>• <b>H.E. Mr. Harish Parvathaneni</b> (India), Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations</li><li>• <b>H.E. Ms. Maritza Chan Valverde</b> (Costa Rica), Chair of the 70<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)</li></ul> <p>Interactive discussion</p> <p><u>Questions for reflection and discussion:</u></p>



	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. What have been the most successful examples of ECOSOC providing concrete guidance, and what enabled those successes?</li><li>2. What challenges does ECOSOC face in carrying out its Charter mandate of coordinating the work of the UN system, including specialized agencies, in the economic, social, health, environmental and related fields and what could be done to address those?</li></ol>
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**LUNCH BREAK**

<b>15:00 – 18:00</b>	<b>Keeping pace with a changing world and translating commitments into coordinated action</b>
<p><i>This session will discuss how ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies are adapting to the current and emerging challenges. It will highlight collaboration and opportunities for embedding stronger coordination among the Council's subsidiary bodies. It will also discuss how the ECOSOC system is ensuring that global policy commitments are coherently translated into concrete, coordinated action across its diverse ecosystem, integrating recently-adopted global outcomes — including the 2025 Ministerial Declaration, the Sevilla Commitment, the Awaza Programme of Action, and the Second World Summit for Social Development and the WSIS+20 outcomes — into their ongoing and future work programmes.</i></p>	
<p>Chair and moderator: <b>H.E. Mr. Paruyr Hovhannisyan</b> (Armenia), Vice-President of ECOSOC</p>	
<p><u>Joint presentations:</u></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Focus on follow-up to WSSD2:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <u>Lead:</u> <b>Ms. Khrystyna Hayovyshyn</b> (Ukraine), Chair of the 64<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD)</li><li>○ <u>Respondent:</u> <b>H.E. Mr. Andranik Hovhannisyan</b> (Armenia), Chair of the 69<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) (<i>video message</i>)</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Focus on follow-up to LLDC3:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <u>Lead:</u> <b>Ms. Rabab Fatima</b>, High Representative for Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (OHRLS)</li><li>○ <u>Respondent:</u> <b>Ms. Tatiana Molcean</b>, Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE)</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Focus on follow-up to FFD4:</b><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <u>Lead:</u> <b>Mr. Juan Jose Martinez Badillo</b>, Chief of UNCTAD New York Office</li><li>○ <u>Respondent:</u> <b>Ms. Trude Steinnes Sønvisen</b>, Co-Chair of the Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters (UNTC)</li><li>○ <u>Lead:</u> <b>Mr. Robert Powell</b>, Special Representative of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to the United Nations</li><li>○ <u>Respondent:</u> <b>Ms. Thilmeeza Hussain</b>, Director of the Regional Commissions New York Office (RCNYO)</li></ul></li><li>• <b>Focus on follow-up to WSIS+20:</b></li></ul>	



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>Lead:</b> <b>H.E. Mr. Muhammadou M.O. Kah</b> (The Gambia), Chair interim of the 29<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)</li><li>○ <b>Respondent:</b> <b>Mr. Georges-Simon Ulrich</b> (Switzerland), Chair of the 56<sup>th</sup> session of the Statistical Commission</li></ul> <p><b>Perspectives from stakeholders:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>Ms. Isselle Medrano</b>, Member, The Inclusivity Project (TIP)</li><li>● <b>Mr. Sri Yeswanth (Yash) Tadimalla</b>, Platform Coordinator, MGCY Science Policy Interface, Children and Youth international</li></ul> <p><b>Lead discussants:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>H.E. Mr. Erastus Lokaale</b> (Kenya), Co-facilitator of WSIS+20 outcome</li><li>● <b>H.E. Mr. Ankhbayar Nyamdorj</b> (Mongolia), Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the United Nations</li><li>● <b>H.E. Mr. Omar Hilale</b> (Morocco), Co-facilitator of WSSD2 outcome</li><li>● <b>Mr. Rodolfo Reta Haddad</b> (Mexico), Coordinator for Macroeconomic Affairs, International Cooperation, and Economic and Social Affairs (ECOSOC) of the Permanent Mission of Mexico to the United Nations</li></ul> <p><b>Interactive discussion</b></p> <p><b>Questions for reflection and discussion:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. How are the ECOSOC's subsidiary bodies, within their existing mandates, effectively coordinating across their agendas and work programmes to produce coherent technical policy guidance to advance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda?</li><li>2. What have been the challenges and opportunities from these collaborations and how can these lessons be taken forward toward ensuring coordinated implementation of other recent UN conferences and summits?</li><li>3. What concrete actions should ECOSOC direct its subsidiary bodies and the UN system to undertake to improve coordinated action and reduce any overlap and duplication?</li><li>4. How can UN system entities better incorporate guidance from the Council and its subsidiary bodies into their programmes and activities?</li></ol>
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**Thursday, 29 January 2026**

**10:00 – ECOSOC as the gateway for all stakeholders**

**11:30**

*One of ECOSOC's greatest strengths is its inclusivity. It serves as an entry point to all stakeholders to bring their expertise into intergovernmental discussions and ensure that global policy is rooted in realities on the ground. This session will highlight the value of stakeholder engagement in the work of ECOSOC and its ecosystem of bodies to ensure ECOSOC is meeting the moment.*

Chair: **H.E. Mr. Paruyr Hovhannisyan** (Armenia), Vice-President of ECOSOC

Keynote: **H.E. Lok Bahadur Thapa** (Nepal), President of ECOSOC at its 2026 session [*Key messages from the Partnership Forum*]

Moderator: **Mr. Diego de León Segovia**, Advocacy Chair at Out for Sustainability and Founder of Queers X Climate

Panelists:

- **Mr. Anes Mušić**, GenJust Youth Network
- **Ms. Foteini Papagioti**, Director of Policy and Advocacy of the International Center for Research on Women (ICRW) and Global North Organizing Partner of the Women's Major Group
- **Ms. Norine Kennedy**, Senior Vice President for Global Strategy and United Nations Affairs and Executive Director of the United States Council for International Business Foundation
- **Ms. Lili Qiu**, Founder and President, Peaceland Foundation

Interactive discussion

Questions for reflection and discussion:

1. Given the significant value of the participation of non-governmental organizations in UN intergovernmental processes, how can ECOSOC strengthen stakeholder engagement?
2. Given the variety of modalities for stakeholder engagement across the UN system, what are some good practices to be shared to enhance inclusivity of the work of the Council and its subsidiary bodies?

**11:30 – The ECOSOC system working together towards the 2026 HLPF**

**13:00**

*The session will spotlight key policy issues, lessons learned, best practices and recommendations from ECOSOC subsidiary bodies and UN system entities to serve as contributions to the discussions on the SDGs for in-depth review at the 2026 HLPF. Emphasis will be placed on coordinated action on the interlinkages between the Goals under review.<sup>1</sup>*

<sup>1</sup> SDGs 6 (clean water and sanitation), 7 (affordable and clean energy), 9 (industry, innovation and infrastructure), 11 (sustainable cities and communities) and 17 (partnerships for the Goals).



Chair: H.E. Mr. Paruyr Hovhannisyan (Armenia), Vice-President of ECOSOC

Moderator: Mr. Máximo Torero, Chief Economist, Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Panelists:

- **Mr. Gerd Müller**, Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) (*video message*)
- **Ms. Anacláudia Rossbach**, Executive Director of UN-Habitat
- **Mr. Mourad Wahba**, Acting Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)
- **Ms. Retno Marsudi**, Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Water
- **Ms. Maria Dimitriadou**, Special Representative of the World Bank to the United Nations and Head of Multilateral Affairs
- **Mr. Pablo Fernández Marmisolle Daguerre**, Deputy Secretary General for Global Partnerships at United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)

Questions for reflection and discussion:

1. How is the ECOSOC system coming together around nexus issues? How are they overcoming institutional silos to address synergies and trade-offs across the SDGs 6, 7, 9, 11 and 17?
2. What accountability and feedback mechanisms should the Council establish to ensure a timely, coherent and effective follow-up to global sustainable development commitments so they result in measurable impact on the ground?

#### LUNCH BREAK

**15:00 – ECOSOC after 80: Strategic imperatives for the future**

**17:45** *UN80 could be an opportunity to revitalize ECOSOC and enhance the understanding of the important role of ECOSOC in the coordination of the UN system and the overall pursuit of sustainable development. This discussion could take a forward-looking approach to identify ways to heighten the impact of ECOSOC and do some early thinking on the upcoming reviews of the ECOSOC-HLPF and of ECOSOC subsidiary bodies.*

Chair: H.E. Mr. Paruyr Hovhannisyan (Armenia), Vice-President of ECOSOC

Moderator: H.E. Mr. François Jackman (Barbados), co-facilitator of the review of GA resolution 75/290 A and B on ECOSOC and the HLPF

Panelists:

- **H.E Ms. Carolyn Schwalger** (New Zealand), Co-Chair of the Informal Ad Hoc Working Group on the Mandate Implementation Review



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Mr. José Antonio Ocampo</b>, Chair of the Committee for Development Policy (CDP)</li><li>• <b>Mr. Guy Ryder</b>, United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Policy</li><li>• <b>Mr. Achim Steiner</b>, Senior Fellow at Oxford Martin School, University of Oxford, Chair of the Hamburg Sustainability Conference (HSC), and former Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) (<i>video message</i>)</li><li>• <b>Ms. Mariana Mazzucato</b>, Professor in the Economics of Innovation and Public Value at University College London (UCL), Founder/Director of UCL's Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose, and Member of the UN High-level Advisory Board on Economic and Social Affairs (HLAB) (<i>video message</i>)</li><li>• <b>Ms. Leticia Leobet</b>, International Advisor, Geledés - Instituto da Mulher Negra (Black Woman Institute)</li><li>• <b>Mr. Jaewon Choi</b>, Thematic Focal Point on International Tax Cooperation, Financing for Development Children and Youth Constituency, Children and Youth International</li></ul> <p>Interactive discussion</p> <p><u>Questions for reflection and discussion:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. What structural reforms are needed to ensure ECOSOC can carry out its Charter-mandated coordination role in a more authoritative and outcome-oriented manner?</li><li>2. How can ECOSOC strengthen coherence between its own cycle, the HLPF cycle, and the work cycles of subsidiary bodies and UN entities?</li><li>3. How can ECOSOC have more impact in the multilateral system to ensure a more inclusive and effective global sustainable development agenda through 2030 and beyond?</li></ol>
<b>17:45 – 18:00</b>	<p><b>Closing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Mr. Li Junhua</b>, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, UNDESA</li><li>• <b>H.E. Mr. Paruyr Hovhannisyan</b> (Armenia), Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council responsible for the Coordination Segment</li></ul>