

COMMEMORATION OF THE 80th ANNIVERSARY OF ECOSOC PROGRAMME

“ECOSOC80: A Turning Point for Multilateralism”

23 January 2026 | 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

ECOSOC Chamber

9:50 am **Musical Performance by the City Symphony Orchestra of New York¹**

10:00 am **Legacy video - “ECOSOC at 80”**

10:03 am **Opening remarks**

- **H.E. Mr. Lok Bahadur Thapa**, President of the Economic and Social Council
- **H.E. Mr. António Guterres**, Secretary-General of the United Nations
- **H.E. Ms. Annalena Baerbock**, President of the 80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly
- **Unveiling of the commemorative stamp collection of ECOSOC at 80** with the Brazilian Artist, Mr. Eduardo Kobra

10:30 am **High-level Interactive Discussion: “ECOSOC at 80: renewing Multilateralism and Global Solidarity for a Sustainable Future”**

Discussion Focus:

1. The vital role of ECOSOC in advancing sustainable development throughout the years and addressing current and future global challenges
2. Strengthening ECOSOC as an effective and inclusive platform for fostering multilateralism and reinforcing global solidarity.

Introduction and Setting the Stage by the Moderator:

- **Mr. Sherwin Bryce-Pease**, UN Bureau Chief and Correspondent, South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC)

Speakers:

- **H.E. Mr. Bob Rae**, ECOSOC President for the 2025 session, and former Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations

¹ **Note:** Member States are kindly requested to be seated in the ECOSOC Chamber at 9:45 a.m. before the musical performance begins.



- **Ms. Joyce Msuya**, Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- **Ms. Maria Dimitriadou**, the World Bank Special Representative to the UN and Head of Multilateral Affairs
- **Dr. Akihiko Tanaka**, President of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- **Dr. Danny Sriskandarajah**, Chief Executive Officer, New Economics Foundation, and Member of the High-level Advisory Board on Economic and Social Affairs
- **Ms. Saru Duckworth**, DPhil Candidate in Management (2025), Green Templeton College & Oxford Saïd Business School, University of Oxford

11:25 am Interventions by Member States and stakeholders²

12:50 pm **Closing Segment**

- Closing Remarks by **H.E. Mr. Lok Bahadur Thapa**, President of the Economic and Social Council

² Priority in the speakers list will be given to statements made on behalf of groups. Member States are encouraged to deliver statements on behalf of groups of States, where possible, in order to accommodate all speakers within the allotted time. Additional information, including on inscriptions, will be provided in due course.