

*Check against delivery!*

**Remarks by Ambassador Andrejs Pildegovičs, Permanent Representative of the  
Republic of Latvia**

**ECOSOC Operational Activities for Development Segment**

***Dialogue with host Governments, Resident Coordinators and United Nations  
country teams: Supporting integrated and transformative policies to achieve the  
SDGs***

*24 May 2023, ECOSOC Chamber*

Thank you, Mr Chair/Madam Moderator for giving me the floor and the opportunity to share some reflections after the first panel discussion.

I thank Minister Buzu, Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Moldova for their insightful presentations. I appreciate the concrete showcase of how the UN Development System reforms translate on the ground in Moldova and the integrated support the UN country team can deliver in achieving the SDGs and overcoming current compounding crises.

Latvia is a long-standing development partner of Moldova and has continuously provided support in the areas of good governance, rule of law, strengthening democratic participation and resilience to disinformation, rural development, and the strengthening of export capacities of SMEs, especially in the agriculture sector.

Latvia acknowledges, commends and encourages Moldova's reform and European integration process. This support was also affirmed in the recent joint Nordic-Baltic foreign ministers' visit in Moldova. We can speak from experience that EU integration is long-term investment in stability, resilience and prosperity.

Latvia will continue to support Moldova's efforts to strengthen its resilience, and appreciate that the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2023-2027 also shares that focus. We especially encourage further work on the implementation of SDGs 16 and 7.

We recognize the considerable strain Russia's aggression against Ukraine has imposed on Moldova and its people. We are grateful for Moldova's principled stance and assistance to over 800 000 Ukrainian refugees that have crossed its borders. Latvia has provided support through UN entities for these efforts, and in this regard, we express our appreciation for the UN country team's dedicated work.

Further, Moldova has been hard hit by the energy crisis. We welcome UN efforts, in cooperation with other donors, including the EU, to support Moldova in managing it. We thank the panel for sharing the experience with the specific initiatives [like the Energy Vulnerability Fund].

In this regard, we would be interested to hear more on the efforts to ensure that measures developed in response to emergency situations also promote lasting transformations in the energy sector and beyond?