



## Integration Dialogue 2

### **Building back better towards inclusive, sustainable, and just economies for recovery: Re-designing the contract between people and planet**

**3 June 2021**

**Opening Remarks by  
H.E. Mr. Juan Sandoval Mendiola, Deputy Permanent Representative of Mexico  
to the United Nations, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council**

Excellencies,  
Dear colleagues,

I am pleased to welcome you all to the second Integration Dialogue that I am convening in preparation for the 2021 Integration Segment of the Economic and Social Council.

First, a few housekeeping announcements:

- I would like to inform you that this meeting is being recorded.
- I would also like to request that all participants keep their microphone muted and their cameras off at all times when you are not speaking.
- I request the Lead Agency, Moderator and panellists to please keep their camera on throughout the meeting while keeping their microphone off except when they have the floor.

Distinguished Participants,

Our second Dialogue today will focus on “*Building back better towards inclusive, sustainable, and just economies for recovery: Re-designing the contract between people and planet*”. I express my appreciation to the ILO for being the lead entity for this dialogue to set the stage.

In response to the pandemic, many countries, especially large countries, have introduced unprecedented stimulus packages to recover from the pandemic. We must seize the opportunity to recover better by aligning the resources freed through these packages with the 2030 Agenda

## Check against delivery

and the SDGs. I would like to highlight an example in this regard. In September of last year, Mexico issued a groundbreaking seven-year SDG Bond for a total value of USD890 million, resources that will be transferred from private funds to finance SDG-oriented programs and invited UNDP to partner with us in this initiative. Considering it was the first sustainable bond, Mexico hopes this experience can be replicated elsewhere.

We need to prioritize economic growth that is inclusive, sustainable and promotes decent work. Our recovery efforts must also build inclusive social systems and respond to the urgent global threat of climate change as well as build resilience in all dimensions of sustainable development.

Today, we will explore transformative and integrated policies that can help respond to the crisis in the short term, while building a resilient and sustainable recovery from the pandemic. We look forward to hearing country experiences in dealing with the pandemic and climate change. We would also like to hear from you about ways to build a new social contract to help recover better and put countries on track to achieving the SDGs. We need to keep in mind that some developing countries are facing major fiscal constraints not only in stopping the pandemic but also in responding to its socio-economic impacts on their people, in particular the most vulnerable. We will also focus on the potential of data and digital technologies for a sustainable recovery, vaccine equity and accelerated progress towards the SDGs. And we examine how these policy responses intersect with each other, creating synergies or leading to tradeoffs that would require tough decisions.

Our discussion will concretely advance the discussions on integrated policy making and give practical meaning to this approach which has come to the forefront with the 2030 Agenda. We can also take inspiration from the Global Sustainable Development report which identified several entry points for integrated policies such as promoting human wellbeing and capacities.

Today's panel reflects the richness and diversity of the work of the ECOSOC subsidiary bodies and the UN system. I hope that we can pull their policy guidance together into a cohesive whole that would be helpful to countries as they continue to adjust and reshape their responses to the pandemic and as they debate in the HLPF. Without further delay, I would like to invite our moderator, Mr. Volker Turk, Assistant Secretary-General for Strategic Coordination, Executive Office of the Secretary-General (EOSG), to moderate the discussion.

Thank you.