



# ECOSOC

United Nations Economic and Social Council

TAKING ACTION TO IMPROVE LIVES

## 2021 ECOSOC Special Meeting

### Reimagining Equality: Eliminating racism, xenophobia and discrimination for all in the decade of action for the SDGs

18 February 2021

#### DRAFT PROGRAMME<sup>i</sup>

**10:00-10:15**    **Opening**

**Welcoming Remarks**

- ECOSOC President, H.E. Munir Akram
- UN Secretary-General, H.E. Antonio Guterres
- Foreign Minister of Pakistan, H.E. Makhdoom Shah Mahmood Qureshi

**10:15-10:30**    **Keynote addresses**

- H.E. Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa, President of the Republic of South Africa
- H.E. Epsy Campbell Barr, Vice-President of Costa Rica
- H.E. Helena Dalli, Commissioner for Equality, European Commission

**10:30-11:15**    **Roundtable on “*Leaving no one behind: Eliminating root causes of racism and discrimination in the SDG era*”**

- H.E. Mr. António Vitorino, Director-General, International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- H.E. Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos, High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC)
- Ms. Nada Al-Nashif, Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Ms Gabriela Ramos, Assistant Director-General for the Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO
- Professor Fernand de Varennes, Special Rapporteur on minority issues
- Ms. Melonie Parker, Chief Diversity Officer, Google
- Ms. Melissa Fleming, Under-Secretary-General for Global Communications  
*(Moderator)*

**11:15-12:00**    **Dialogue with Member States**

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**15:00-15:30 Fireside Chat: *Reimagining equality during and after COVID-19 pandemic***

- Professor Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University
- Professor Irma Pineda Santiago, Member of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
- Ms. Farai Mubaiwa, Co-Founder of Afrika Matters Initiative (AMI) and Lead at Youth Employment Service (YES), South Africa
- Ms. Folly Bah Thibault, Broadcast Journalist, Al Jazeera English (*moderator*)

**15:30-16:55 Dialogue with Member States**

**16:55- 17:00 Closing**

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<sup>i</sup> ***The programme will also include pre-recorded video messages from:***

- Mr. Martin Luther King III, Global Human Rights Advocate
- Professor Dr. Wole Soyinka, Playwright and Poet, President of the Wole Soyinka Foundation
- Mr. Forest Whitaker, Founder and CEO of the Whitaker Peace and Development Initiative, United Nations SDG Advocate, UNESCO Special Envoy for Peace and Reconciliation.