



ECOSOC

United Nations Economic and Social Council

TAKING ACTION TO IMPROVE LIVES

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

2017 INTEGRATION SEGMENT

"Making eradication of poverty an integral objective of all policies: what will it take?"

8 – 10 May 2017

PROGRAMME

[Version 9 May 2017]

DAY I (Monday, 8 May)

10:00 – 11:30

Opening of the Integration Segment

Opening statements

H.E. Mr. Nabeel Munir (Pakistan), Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council

H.E. Mr. Masud Bin Momen (Bangladesh), Acting President of the General Assembly

H.E. Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations

Keynote addresses

H.E. Ms. Joyce Banda, Member, Club de Madrid, former President of Malawi

Dr. Muhammad Amjad Saqib, Founder of Akhuwat and former General Manager of the Punjab Rural Support Programme, Pakistan

Mr. Chernor Bah, Youth Advocate, Youth Representative on the High-level Steering Committee of the United Nations Secretary-General's Global Education First Initiative and Chair of the Initiative's Youth Advocacy Group

Short video on the 2017 Integration Segment: *Making eradication of poverty an integral objective of all policies: what will it take?*

11:30 – 13:00

Session 1: An integrated agenda towards achieving SDG1

This session will set the stage for the rest of the Segment. It will feature expert analysis of poverty and sustainable development as a multi-dimensional phenomenon. Poverty is not merely an income-related problem, and social policy alone cannot eradicate poverty. As other policies have direct or indirect impacts on poverty results, poverty eradication objectives must be included in the design of public policy in a cross-cutting manner. Eradication of poverty requires an integrated approach across policies and SDGs that captures the three dimensions of sustainable development.

Key questions to guide the discussion:

- How can we move towards integrated decision-making and policy design that maximizes synergies across social, economic and environmental dimensions to eradicate poverty?
- In which ways are issues such as fighting inequality, access to livelihood, resilience and poverty inherently integrated?

- What structural or other factors affect the ability to pursue policy integration?
- How can government budgets be designed in an optimal way to facilitate, encourage and incentivize policy integration?

Moderator

H.E. Mr. Courtenay Rattray, Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations, and co-Facilitator of the Ministerial Declaration of the 2017 High-level political forum under the auspices of ECOSOC and the High-level Segment of ECOSOC

Panelists

Mr. Alejandro Cruz Sánchez, Head of the Office of Planning and International Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mexico

Ms. Shamshad Akhtar, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), on behalf of the Regional Commissions

Ms. Azita Berar-Awad, Director, Employment Policy Department, International Labour Organization

Mr. Scott Vaughan, President and Chief Executive Officer of the International Institute for Sustainable Development

Mr. Andrew Shepherd, Director, Chronic Poverty Advisory Network

Interactive discussion

13:15 – 14:30

Side events

Organized by Member States, UN system and civil society

15:00 – 16:30

Session 2: Policy Integration Across Borders

In most governmental structures, water, energy, land, agriculture and food production are managed by different agencies. However, these sectors are physically, economically and socially related, especially in sustaining people's livelihoods. The "nexus" approach promotes the links between these areas. The cross-boundary nature of these issues, as well as the magnitude of resources needed for initial investments, mean that solutions for developing them that are limited to the national level will not suffice. Such investments may include: sustainable energy and other infrastructure; sustainable food chains; protection of biodiversity reserves integrated with regional economic and social development; mitigation, adaption and building resilience to climate change, among others. These areas will impact poverty eradication results, both on the probability of getting out and remaining out of poverty. The session will consider the question of climate change mainstreaming in poverty eradication initiatives, as the poorest people are disproportionately affected by its impacts. The session will feature examples of cross-border initiatives in Central America, as well as perspectives from institutional parties engaged in addressing global challenges.

Key questions to guide the discussion:

- Given the cross-boundary nature of the water-land-energy-climate nexus, how might policy actions be aligned regionally and internationally?
- What pre-conditions are required to implement a nexus approach?
- What are the challenges, benefits and trade-offs of implementing a nexus approach?
- What are the best practices and lessons learned that can be assessed from the existing cross-border initiatives?

Moderator

Mr. Andrew Revkin, Senior Reporter for climate and related issues, ProPublica, former Reporter, The New York Times, and former Senior Fellow for Environmental Understanding, Pace University

Panelists

H.E. Mr. Juan Somavia, Director, Diplomatic Academy of Chile, former Secretary-General's Special Advisor on Interregional Policy Cooperation, former President of ECOSOC, and former Director-General of the International Labour Organization

Mr. Mario Marroquín, Specialist in cross-border management, Tri-National Commission of the Trifinio Plan – The Trifinio-Fraternidad Biosphere

Ms. Karin Fernando, Senior Research Professional, Centre for Poverty Analysis

Interactive discussion

16:30-18:00

General Discussion

Member States have the opportunity to present focused statements on the theme of the 2017 ECOSOC Integration Segment, with its overarching link to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Member States may also wish to reflect on their experiences in pursuit of poverty eradication, within broader national development objectives.

DAY 2 (Tuesday, 9 May)

10:00 – 13:00

Session 3: National Experiences

This session will feature concrete case studies taken mainly from national examples. High-level policy makers from countries representing various geographical regions will present national cases in designing and implementing integrated programmes and policies to address poverty. Inputs received in the preparation of the Segment may be shared in this session, including from the ECOSOC functional commissions whose work supports national implementation. A Conference Room Paper based on those inputs will be available as background.

Key questions to guide the discussion:

- How have countries formulated policies to address poverty reduction taking into account other national policy objectives?
- What instruments or initiatives can facilitate the integration of economic, social and environmental concerns in the formulation of sustainable development policies?
- What trade-offs have been encountered in addressing competing demands of poverty alleviation between the various sectors of the economy?
- What approaches or incentives have proven effective in enabling the participation of non-governmental stakeholders such as civil society organizations, the private sector, or academia in actions to eradicate poverty?
- How can the United Nations and the ECOSOC system better support countries in establishing and implementing integrated policies to eradicate poverty in all its forms?

Moderator

H.E. Ms. Elizabeth Thompson, Former Government Minister and Senator, Barbados, and former UN Assistant Secretary-General and Executive Coordinator for the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20)

Panelists

H.E. Mr. Ahmed Sareer, Permanent Representative of the Maldives in his capacity as the Chair of the Alliance of Small Island States

H.E. Mr. Gustavo Meza-Cuadra, Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations

Mr. Miska Simanainen, Researcher, Social Security Institution (Kela), Finland

Mr. Paulo Luiz Moreaux Lavigne Esteves, General Supervisor, BRICS Policy Center

Mr. Edward Sambili, Faculty Member with the Economics Department, Egerton University, and former Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Kenya

Interactive discussion

13:15 – 14:30

Side events

Organized by Member States, UN system and civil society

15:00 – 16:30

Session 4: Policy instruments for an integrated approach to poverty eradication

This session will more deeply explore innovative instruments used for poverty eradication, as well as the policy environment and capacities that are necessary for their effective deployment. The session will explore the applicability of such policy instruments to a wide variety of sectors, thus contributing to integration in practice. Discussions will connect the work of relevant parts of the ECOSOC system in promoting policy coherence in development cooperation and standard-setting.

Key questions to guide the discussion:

- What policy instruments have been key in triggering poverty reduction?
- What mechanisms can ensure that innovative initiatives inform policies in a bottom-up approach?
- Has the quality of data or technology impacted policy design and implementation for eradication of multidimensional poverty? If so, in what ways?
- What are the key enablers at the international level that could leverage the effectiveness and sustainability of national policies and initiatives on poverty eradication?

Moderator

Mr. Sanjay Reddy, Associate Professor of Economics, New School for Social Research

Panelists

H.E. Ms. Bente Angell-Hansen, Permanent Representative of Norway to the United Nations in Vienna, and Chair of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its 60th session

Mr. Robert Kirkpatrick, Director, UN Global Pulse

Ms. Hanaa Elhelaly, Former Director-General, Social Fund for Development, and Managing Director, Amwal Financial Investments, Egypt

Mr. Shoab Khan, Chairman, Rural Support Programmes Network, Pakistan

Interactive discussion

16:30-18:00

Continuation of the General Discussion**DAY 3 (Wednesday, 10 May)**

10:00 – 13:00

Session 5: Eradicating poverty in Africa

This session will address the particular opportunities and challenges of Africa and the variety of complex situations that confront the continent. The session will highlight efforts to adopt an integrated and holistic approach to poverty and sustainable development against a backdrop of economic growth, climate change impacts, political fragility and structural constraints. The panel will also address the alignment of the Agenda 2063 with the 2030 Agenda. Forward-looking measures will be presented and discussed.

Key questions to guide the discussion:

- What are the key challenges to integrated policymaking for poverty eradication in Africa?
- What are some of the success stories and lessons learnt in the development of integrated approaches to tackle poverty?
- How can Africa's development partners support the implementation of the AU Agenda 2063 and the integration of poverty eradication across policy areas,

including through the fulfilment of commitments and enhancing international cooperation in critical areas such as curbing illicit financial flows?

- What are the mechanisms or the instruments that can facilitate mainstreaming poverty eradication objectives in sustainable development policies?
- Given that poverty reduction has been slowest in fragile states compared to other African countries. How can the international community support African efforts to consolidate peace and security, including through initiatives such as “silencing the guns by 2020”?

Moderator

Mr. David Mehdi Hamam, Director of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa

Panelists

Mr. Pali Lehohla, Statistician-General, South Africa

Ms. Irene Ovonji-Odida, Chairperson, International Board of ActionAid International, Member of the High-Level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows, former Member, East African Legislative Assembly, and former Director, Legal, Directorate of Ethics and Integrity, Office of the President of Uganda

Ms. Zeinab Bashir Elbakri, Member of High-level Panel on Illicit Financial Flows and Member of the Inspection Panel of the World Bank

Mr. Donald Mmari, Executive Director, REPOA – Policy Research for Development, and Member of Southern Voice

Interactive discussion

13:15 – 14:30

Side events

Organized by Member States, UN system and civil society

15:00 – 16:30

Session 6: Bringing the ECOSOC System Together

Representatives of functional commissions and other subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council will present highlights of the conclusions of their respective bodies, on the overall theme of the Council and of the Segment.

Key questions to guide the discussion:

- How has your Commission or subsidiary body addressed the overall theme of the 2017 session of the Council of “Eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions through promoting sustainable development, expanding opportunities and addressing related challenges”?
- What conclusions have been drawn from your deliberations?
- How has your Commission or subsidiary body addressed the “Making eradication of poverty an integral objective of all policies: what will it take?”
- What lessons can be learned from your work in integrating these conclusions, and forwarding them to the High-Level Segment and the High-Level Political Forum?

Moderator

Mr. Elliott Harris, Assistant Secretary-General and Head of Office in New York, United Nations Environment Programme

Panelists

H.E. Mr. Philipp Charwath, Deputy Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations, and Chair of the Commission on Social Development at its 55th session

H.E. Mr. David Donoghue, Permanent Representative of Ireland to the United Nations, and Chair of the Commission on the Status of Women at its 62nd session

Ms. Cristina Popescu, Counsellor in the Permanent Mission of Romania to the United Nations, and Vice-Chair of the Commission on Population and Development at its 50th session

Prof. José Antonio Ocampo, Professor of Professional Practice in International and Public Affairs, Director of the Economic and Political Development Concentration, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University, and Chair of the Committee for Development Policy

Interactive discussion

16:30 – 17:30

Session 7: A Multi-stakeholder Approach: Roles, Responsibilities and Results

In this session, participants will discuss the role of partnerships at local, national, regional and international levels, including the role of the United Nations system, in furthering poverty reduction policy integration objectives. Presentations will contain examples of horizontally and vertically integrated policy-making and norm-setting for poverty eradication, particularly reflecting the work of the ECOSOC subsidiary bodies. The session will feature holistic initiatives in which multiple stakeholders are involved and their possible replication and scaling-up.

Key questions to guide the discussion:

- How can innovative partnerships contribute to integrated policymaking to leave no one behind?
- What are the policy requirements for effective partnerships? What are the risks that should be avoided in building partnerships?
- What role can the ECOSOC system play in setting new norms to leverage partnerships to eradicate poverty?
- What collaborative platforms can be put in place or built on, including at the regional level, to enhance multi-stakeholder partnerships for poverty eradication and sustainable development?

Moderator

Ms. Andrea Ordóñez, Research and Partnership Coordinator, Southern Voice

Panelists

H. E. Ms. Huguette Labelle, Chair of the Independent Advisory Board for Senate Appointments, former Secretary of State and former President of the Canadian International Development Agency, Canada, former Chair and Senior Adviser, Policy and Development, Transparency International, member of Board of Directors, Global Financial Integrity, member of Board of Directors, UN Global Compact

Ms. Shira Kilcoyne, Director, Government Affairs International, GlaxoSmithKline

Mr. Manuel F. Montes, Senior Advisor, South Center

Interactive discussion

17:30 – 18:00

Closing of the Integration Segment

Closing remarks:

Mr. Thomas Gass, Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), United Nations

H.E. Mr. Nabeel Munir (Pakistan), Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council
