

Statement

of HE Sofiane Mimouni

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Activities Segment of the ECOSOC

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**M. Chairman,
Mme Deputy Secretary General,
Excellencies and dear colleagues,**

Allow me to express my appreciation for the convening of this session on “Working together to accelerate SDG progress during the Decade of Action and in light of the COVID-19 pandemic”, and for the opportunity to interact with the Deputy Secretary-General and the heads of UN agencies, in particular WHO and UNDP which are the leading agencies in the UN response to COVID-19, as well as of ILO, UNICEF, UNEP and UN Women.

I would like to thank HE the DSG for her insightful briefing and the Heads of UN agencies for their clarifications and interesting presentations.

I would like also to extend my gratitude to the President of ECOSOC and the members of the bureau for their tireless efforts in steering the continuity of work of the Council despite these challenging times.

M. Chair,

Today, we have realized more than ever that COVID-19 is not only a global health crisis, neither our national health systems nor our collective mechanisms were ready to face, but also a multidimensional crisis exacerbated by the interconnectedness characterizing today's world. To face this unprecedented common enemy, we must have creative solutions that guarantee effective dealing with its effects at all levels.

COVID-19 is responsible for the loss of hundreds of thousands of human lives across the world and I would like to pay tribute to the WHO's role in assisting developing countries to respond to this large-scale public health crisis.

Moreover, as we start feeling the socio-economic impact of COVID-19, particularly in Africa, we look forward to the UN response to be a demonstration of the value added of the UN development system repositioning. The UNDP already plays its role as technical lead and we hope that it will also contribute at the country level in federating all the UN country team under the overall leadership of the Resident Coordinator.

As the international community is responding to this human crisis of immense proportions, Algeria remain, today more than ever, guided by the principle of international solidarity. It is in this context that my country has recently made a financial voluntary contribution to the UNDP "Integrated response offer on COVID-19" fund.

Mr. Chair,

In few weeks, the ECOSOC will have to act on the remaining mandates of the UNDS repositioning, namely the regional review and the Multi-country offices.

It is our hope that the regional assets will also be used as part of the UN response to the COVID-19 pandemic. We believe that the Regional Economic Commissions, ECA in the case of Africa, should be fully involved.

The Regional Collaborative Platforms should also be an avenue for the monitoring of the implementation of the socio-economic framework at the regional level and eventually an ad-hoc Issue Based Coalition on COVID-19 could be created in order to allow Agencies, funds and Programs to better coordinate the covid19 response at the regional level.

Let me conclude, M. Chair, by reaffirming the support of Algeria to the efforts of the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary-General to complete the repositioning of the United Nations Development System as we start the Decade of Action for the SDGs and reiterate my country's availability to work with the UN development system and with the international community to respond to the COVID -19 pandemic.

What would be, in your view, the challenges that you might face in the implementation of the UN Socio-economic framework and how we the members states could help to overcome them?

I Thank you!