



ECOSOC INTEGRATION SEGMENT

Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality

8 July 2019

**Opening remarks by
President of ECOSOC, H.E. Ambassador Inga Rhonda King**

Secretary-General,

ECOSOC Vice-President Ambassador Valentin Rybakov,

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am honoured to welcome you to the 2019 ECOSOC Integration Segment.

Last year, the General Assembly, in its resolution 72/305 on ECOSOC strengthening, changed the duration, mandate and scope of work of this segment. We now have an opportunity deliver a more impactful Integration Segment, that leverages the work of the UN system and the Council's subsidiary bodies to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Today's Integration Segment provides the space to take an overall look at the outcomes of ECOSOC subsidiary bodies and what they have said on the main theme of the Council and the High-level Political Forum. The Segment will bring together the UN system's analysis and policy proposals and pave the way for the thematic review at the HLPF tomorrow.

With less than 11 years to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, it is more important than ever to improve ECOSOC's contribution to sustainable development and SDGs progress. As we learned from the voluntary national reviews over the last four years, the interlinkages

among the SDGs and the trade-offs involved make the implementation of the 2030 Agenda challenging. The Economic and Social Council can help explore policy options, coherence and trade-offs to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs, by building on the wealth of the work of its subsidiary bodies and the UN system.

A critical element of the redefined mandate of the Integration Segment is the introduction of the annual overview report of the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) by the Secretary-General. Today, we are honoured to have the Secretary-General with us to present this report.

Excellencies,

Before I give the floor to the Secretary-General, I would like to give the floor to the Vice-President of the Council, H.E. Ambassador Valentin Rybakov.