

19 March 2021

Excellency,

I wish to refer to my letter dated 4 February 2021 inviting Member States to participate in the 10th Anniversary of the Youth Forum of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), to be held in a virtual format on 7-8 April 2021.

The Forum will provide an opportunity for young people to engage in a dialogue with Member States and with each other on how best to respond to COVID-19 and on concrete actions and commitments to realize the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) during the decade of action. Young people from all countries are being invited to participate, including youth delegates, young Parliamentarians and other youth leaders along with Ministers of Youth.

Ten years after its first meeting, the Forum represents the most institutionalized venue for youth participation in UN processes. As such, it is an important platform to mobilize support among young people for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The Forum's outcome will also contribute to the debates of the High-level Political Forum on sustainable development (HLPF), to be held in July 2021, focusing primarily on COVID-19 recovery efforts and their impact on the implementation of the Decade of Action for Sustainable Development.

Thanks to the collective efforts of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Office of the Secretary General's Envoy on Youth, in collaboration with the United Nations Inter-Agency Network on Youth Development (IANYD), and co-convened by the Major Group for Children and Youth (MGCY) and the International Coordination Meeting of Youth Organizations (ICMYO), preparations are moving to their conclusion.

I therefore wish to seek your support in ensuring appropriate representation of your country, including at the ministerial level. The names of your country's representatives can be communicated through a Note Verbale by 24 March 2021 to be sent to Ms. Patricia Chaves (chavesp@un.org), Mr. Paul Simon (simonp@un.org) at the Office for Intergovernmental Support and Coordination/UNDESA; and Ms. Marija Vasileva-Blazev (marija.vasileva-blazev@un.org) and Ms. Bianca Herzog (bianca.herzog@un.org) at the Office of the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth by 22 March 2021.

The concept notes and draft programme for the Youth Forum are available on the event webpage (<u>https://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/content/ecosoc-youth-forum-2021</u>).

I look forward to the active participation of your country at this important event.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Munir Akram

All Permanent Representatives to the United Nations