

11 April 2022

Excellency,

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your engagement and contributions to the Partnership Forum and the Coordination Segment of the Economic and Social Council, convened on 2-4 February 2022. I have the honour to forward the integrated summary of the ECOSOC Partnership Forum and the Coordination Segment.

The Partnership Forum brought together governments and a wide range of stakeholders to exchange new ideas, expectations and priorities for the work ahead for the Council cycle and the high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF); and to share forward-looking actions and innovative partnerships that are supporting the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). A range of concrete proposals for enhancing inclusive multi-stakeholder engagement and partnerships to advance a more sustainable recovery and development were shared.

The Coordination Segment took stock of the major impacts of the pandemic on the SDGs. It covered a wide range of policies and actions for an inclusive and resilient recovery aimed at the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Member States underscored the importance of ECOSOC, its functional commissions and expert bodies in responding to COVID-19 and promoting a sustainable and balanced recovery from COVID-19. The Segment identified key areas where ECOSOC, its subsidiary bodies and the UN system could deepen the policy reflection, identify innovative solutions or work more closely together.

The attached non-negotiated factual summary has been prepared in consultation with the Bureau of the Council to reflect discussions during the partnership forum and the coordination segment and the strategic proposals made during the coordination segment, as mandated by the General Assembly resolution 75/290 A.

As President of the Economic and Social Council, I am committed to working with you all to support Member States' efforts for an inclusive and resilient recovery from the pandemic, guided by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. I count on your continued engagement with the Council.

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

Collen Vixen Kelapile President of ECOSOC

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations New York, NY



# Summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council ECOSOC Partnership Forum and ECOSOC Coordination Segment (2-4 February 2022)

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) convened its annual Partnership Forum, chaired by the President of the Council, H.E. Mr. Collen Vixen Kelapile (Botswana), on 2 February 2022 and its new Coordination Segment, chaired by H.E. Mr. Suriya Chindawongse (Thailand), Vice-President of ECOSOC, on 3-4 February 2022.

The Partnership Forum and the Coordination Segment, held back-to-back, constitute the first group of ECOSOC segments and forums of the ECOSOC cycle. Both addressed the theme of ECOSOC and the high-level political forum for 2022: "Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."

The General Assembly decided that the Partnership Forum would be focused on "the exchange of new ideas, expectations and priorities for the work ahead for the Council cycle and the high-level political forum held under the auspices of the Council. The Partnership Forum will also discuss forward-looking actions by countries and all relevant stakeholders as well as innovative partnerships that can mobilize commitments and actions to advance the 2030 Agenda"<sup>1</sup>.

The General Assembly also decided that, through the Coordination Segment, the Council would "take up coordination matters arising from subsidiary bodies, principal organs and specialized agencies in the economic, social, environmental and related fields. It will steer the Council system towards an efficient and integrated workflow throughout the Council cycle leading up to the high-level political forum on sustainable development. It will provide forward-looking policy guidance to ensure coherence and direction in the policies and normative work of subsidiary bodies and specialized agencies relating to the 2030 Agenda as well as to other aspects of the work of the Council".

The present non-negotiated factual summary has been prepared by the ECOSOC President in consultation with the Bureau of the Council to reflect discussions during the partnership forum and the coordination segment and the strategic proposals made during the coordination segment, as mandated by the General Assembly <u>resolution</u> 75/290 A.

## **ECOSOC PARTNERSHIP FORUM**

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 75/290A on the Strengthening of the ECOSOC, the Partnership Forum brought together governments and a wide range of stakeholders, including the United Nations system, international financial institutions, as well as international organizations, parliamentarians, local governments, NGOs, the private sector, civil society, scientists, academia, women, youth as well as other stakeholders, to exchange new ideas, expectations and priorities for the work ahead for the Council cycle and the HLPF; and to share forward-looking actions and innovative partnerships that are supporting the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). To prepare for the Forum, the President had established an informal

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> A/Res/75/290 A



Multistakeholder Advisory Group<sup>2</sup> to advise on both substantive and organizational aspects of the Forum. The preparations were further informed by an open online stakeholder consultation<sup>3</sup> which was conducted by UN DESA in late 2021 to solicit additional views and proposals.

# COVID-19 Recovery and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Participants noted with concern that the COVID-19 pandemic had greatly accelerated inequality both between and within countries. The gap between rich and poor nations was seen to have been widening for the first time in a generation, while poverty has also risen for the first time in decades, generating multiplier negative impacts, in particular on women. Speakers underlined the urgent need to rekindle the spirit of global solidarity and international cooperation, including South-South cooperation, to address the multiple challenges brought on by the pandemic. Some participants noted the roadmap provided by the report of the Secretary-General on Our Common Agenda, with global multilateralism and solidarity at its core. In line with the Secretary-General's initiatives on prevention proposed in the report, one Member State reiterated its proposal for holding an ECOSOC event on structural measures to prevent conflict and atrocity crimes, linking the activities of ECOSOC, the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Human Rights Council, the Peacebuilding Commission and the World Bank. Speakers noted the need to prioritize the sustainable recovery of countries in special situations, including least developed countries (LDCs), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and small island developing states (SIDS) as well as middle-income countries (MICs), that are facing severe challenges due to their already limited fiscal space and structural constraints. In this context, an early finalization of the Multidimensional Vulnerability Index (MVI) by the General Assembly, which captures the inherent and specific vulnerabilities of SIDS, was encouraged.

A number of speakers called for more coordinated multilateral cooperation amongst the UN, relevant G20 initiatives and multilateral organizations to address the worsening problem of unsustainable external debt burdens facing developing countries, due to additional borrowing during the pandemic and growing debt servicing costs, among others, while acknowledging some of the collective responses undertaken so far, including the Debt Service Suspension Initiative (DSSI) provided from May 2020 to December 2021; the ongoing implementation of the Common Framework for Debt Treatments; and the USD 650 billion general allocation of special drawing rights (SDRs) issued in August 2021 by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Some participants noted with concern that external debt service cost is higher than education expenditure in over 62 developing countries and that SIDS have been unable to access the DSSI.

Many participants stressed the importance for developed countries to honor their pledge of providing 100 billion USD for climate finance, and called for enhanced support for countries that are transitioning to clean energy sources. Speakers also noted the need to provide compensation for loss and damage and the importance of promoting sustainable development in harmony with the planet, taking green, circular and bioeconomy approaches. One speaker proposed an international partnership among states, businesses and the scientific community to combat climate change.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://sdgs.un.org/sites/default/files/2022-

<sup>01/</sup>Summary % 202022% 20ECOSOC% 20 Partnershp% 20 Forum% 20 MultiStakeholder% 20 Advisory% 20 Group% 20 GM% 2015-16% 20 December% 202021.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://sdgs.un.org/sites/default/files/2022-01/online%20consultation%20report\_final.pdf



In order to address the issue of vaccine inequality, speakers called for open sharing of intellectual property and technology related to vaccines. Participants also noted the value of a one health approach including for future pandemic preparedness, with the engagement of relevant UN entities, governments and other stakeholders. One speaker discussed the value of facilitating high-level meetings on the topic.

**Integrated education systems were** recognized as a key to recovery. By taking a holistic approach and connecting child protection and education as well as enhancing intercultural equality and crisis management, education systems could become more resilient while contributing to sustainable recovery of society.

Participants acknowledged that relying solely on corporate-driven digital technologies without proper regulatory frameworks risk further exacerbating inequality and that the capacity of developing countries to enact and implement viable policies for digital access and regulatory control is severely challenged. In this context, speakers stressed the need for more policy foresight; and to set up and incentivize key institutions for inclusive, sustainable innovations. Participants welcome UNCTAD's call for global data governance framework and acknowledged technology assessment platforms (TAPs) as one of possible bottom-up governance tools. Speakers highlighted the importance of promoting and supporting smart innovations and technologies which are developed based on local, traditional and indigenous knowledge systems.

In tandem with strengthened multilateral actions, speakers also recognized the importance of inclusive multistakeholder engagement and partnership at all levels. To leave no one behind, all actors including the most vulnerable groups should be engaged, while bearing in mind that they often have the weakest capacities to participate. Women and girls should be at the heart of all recovery processes and gender considerations should be at the core of key policies, including those related to labour markets and social protection. There is a pressing need to engage youth more meaningfully including in discussions on the "new normal", from health, to economic policies, to social protection, to security, as they have been particularly hard hit by the pandemic. It would also be important to collect data on persons with disabilities to identify policy gaps and to recognize the standards of accessibility as a norm throughout all efforts to rebuild societies.

There is an urgent need to determine how to better attract partnerships and transform them into tangible projects, including by fostering an enabling environment for collaboration. In this context, some participants called for a more accountable and equitable partnering system that is people-centered. The key role of Governments in fostering broad-based partnerships and dialogue with civil society was stressed. Participants noted the need for more effective mechanisms to hold private sector companies accountable for the impacts of their operations on people and planet; proposed that the UN cooperate with leaders of major private companies to have their work aligned with the SDGs; and underlined the pivotal role of the UN Global Compact in facilitating private sector actions in support of the SDGs. Post-pandemic policy responses should consider both immediate and long-term policy measures for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), considering their important role in generating jobs and fueling innovations, especially in low- and middle-income countries. Participants also recognized the importance of engaging sub-national governments, including in the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) and noted that the scientific and academic communities can contribute towards more effective science-policy interface including through building institutional capacities for knowledge-sharing, in particular in the global South.



# Recommendations for the ECOSOC / UN system

Participants shared a range of concrete proposals for enhancing inclusive multi-stakeholder engagement and partnerships to advance a more sustainable recovery and development. The following recommendations can be considered, in particular, by the UN / ECOSOC system:

- To follow up on the proposal for the Council to host an **ECOSOC** event on structural measures to prevent conflict and atrocity crimes.
- To further support efforts to mobilize SDG financing, taking into account the three blended finance funds of the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), and to organize an **event on innovative and blended financing**.
- To create more spaces for civil society and youth groups at all levels to work together towards building back better and achieving the SDGs.



# ECOSOC COORDINATION SEGMENT<sup>4</sup>

The <u>Coordination Segment</u> brought together UN system entities, including specialized agencies, and ECOSOC subsidiary bodies. It took stock of these entities' assessment of the major impacts of the pandemic on the SDGs. It covered a wide range of policies and actions for an inclusive and resilient recovery aimed at the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It highlighted the immense wealth of knowledge and expertise of the ECOSOC <u>subsidiary bodies</u> and the UN system entities. Member States underscored the importance of the <u>ECOSOC system</u> in responding to COVID-19 and promoting a sustainable and balanced recovery from COVID-19. The Segment also identified key areas for the Council, its subsidiary bodies and the UN system to deepen policy reflections, identify innovative solutions or work more closely together. A series of recommendations were made to further strengthen the contribution of the ECOSOC system to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The President presented key messages of the Partnership Forum at the opening of the Coordination Segment, which was then chaired by H.E. Mr. Suriya Chindawongse (Thailand) Vice President of ECOSOC.

#### COVID-19 Recovery and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Many speakers highlighted the challenges the COVID-19 pandemic was posing to sustainable development, in particular in developing countries, and for vulnerable populations, which were disproportionally affected by the pandemic in all countries. The negative impacts of the pandemic both on the labor market as well as health care systems globally were stressed. Many participants pointed to the great challenge of overcoming the crisis due to inequitable access to and distribution of COVID-19 diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines as well as the inaccessibility or disruption of essential health care services more generally. Countries called for the treatment of COVID-19 vaccines as a global public good. The world's current path of vaccine inequity as well as the divergence in the vaccine response and economic recovery between developed and developing countries risks leading to an even more divided and diverging world.

The SDGs were considered as a unified compass to address inequality in its different forms and achieve an inclusive recovery. There was a convergence of concern at the trends of growing inequalities and gaps in development. In order to overcome new and existing inequalities that have been exacerbated and deepened by the pandemic and leave no one behind, investments in social protection measures are urgently needed. Speakers highlighted that a people-centered, inclusive recovery requires an integrated, cohesive and multidimensional response that enables equitable vaccine access, bolsters health and social protection systems, and systematically considers gender, poverty and environmental concerns. Many speakers identified universal health coverage together with universal social protection measures as key components of an inclusive and equitable recovery and as important preventive measures to lessen the socio-economic impact of future crisis. Some also called for the revitalization of the concept of human security for a people-centered and prevention-oriented response to crises. Others underscored the importance of pursuing balance between a people-centred approach and a planet-based approach. Heightened attention and urgent action with a focus on the most vulnerable countries and the most vulnerable populations within those countries is needed by the international community in the spirit of cooperation and solidarity. There was recognition that a new international WHO

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The programme and statements by panelists, the infographics on the latest sessions of the ECOSOC subsidiary bodies, the informal note prepared by the Secretariat and its key messages, as well as the mapping of the work of ECOSOC functional commissions and expert bodies and SDGs are available on the Coordination Segment website.



**instrument on pandemic prevention, preparedness and response** could help strengthen the global health architecture for future preparedness and response.

**Gender equality** and the need for a **gender-sensitive response** to the pandemic and to the recovery efforts was highlighted as a priority area for action throughout the two-day meeting. COVID-19 recovery strategies and policies that put women and girls at the center of recovery efforts are necessary to tackle gender-based violence and enhance the economic and social protection of woman and girls. Gender-responsive policies, actions and investments are also needed to support women in care economy, job creation and climate action.

In addition, some speakers made reference to the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions, announced in September 2021 by the UN Secretary-General, which aims to help countries create 400 million decent jobs. The Global Gender Response Tracker, developed by UN Woman and UNDP, was seen as a useful for tool for tracking gender-sensitive policies in the COVID-19 response. The successful implementation of these and other measures requires the support of international financial institutions, the private sector and civil society.

The financial aspects of the recovery assumes even greater importance in view of the existing inequalities including gaps in financing capacities and fiscal space and thus needed to be addressed urgently, ranging from funding for vaccines and vaccine manufacturing, to foreign direct investments and addressing the debt crisis and illicit financial flows as well as investments in crisis prevention, preparedness, and resilience, including early warning systems. The global economic and financial system is indeed needed to be reexamined to better serve the global community, especially the global south. New financial mechanisms such as debt for climate or nature swaps as well as catalytic investments by the private sector could also provide developing countries with the necessary funds and capacities to help close gaps. The upcoming ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development follow-up could provide an opportunity for Member States to address these issues and assist in mobilizing resources and structural measures for a resilient and inclusive recovery.

Statistics and reliable and high-quality data are critical for crisis management and resiliency planning, including for identifying who and where the most vulnerable are. Risk and vulnerability adjusted indexes, such as the Multidimensional Poverty Index and the Vulnerability Index, were considered crucial to measure the broader concept of development and its challenges. Some participants also discussed the need for a reformed global trade and financial architecture. The role of the private sector in driving and addressing financing gaps was highlighted.

Several Member States stressed the special needs and disadvantaged situations of LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS, and connecting the recovery to climate action and safeguarding the environment. The centrality of productive capacities to support LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS and other developing countries with achieving the 2030 Agenda was highlighted. Structural transformation and productive capacity building can create new opportunities for developing countries which can accelerate economic growth and help with the recovery from the pandemic. Solutions with context-tailored approaches are needed to allow middle-income countries to overcome the middle-income trap to achieve an inclusive, resilient and sustainable recovery. Others emphasized that the recovery efforts need to strengthen the global health architecture, enhance support to MSMEs, and support a just energy transition.

Recognizing the health impact of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution/waste, and noting that the triple planetary crises are among the greatest challenges to the achievement of the SDGs, many emphasized



the need for an integrated and balanced approach that addresses environmental challenges, promotes human, animal and planetary health and fosters sustainable development. Several highlighted the green and circular economy approaches, as well as bio economy, as a possible solution while others noted that nature-based solutions were cost-effective measures to address the triple planetary crises, which also requires global stewardship of nature and biodiversity as well as integrated, multistakeholder initiatives. The need to adopt an ambitious post-2020 global biodiversity framework was emphasized. The One Health Approach, which focuses on human, animal and environmental health in an integrated way, was mentioned as an example of how to pursue science-based actions for more coordinated interventions to address multidimensional challenges and support the achievement of the SDGs. Effective, coordinated and consistent international cooperation, and political will, is needed to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all (SDG6), which is also a catalyst for the 2030 Agenda.

Several speakers also emphasized the need for more efficient use of natural resources and for taking concrete steps towards sustainable consumption and production. The Global Alliance on Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency (GACERE) launched in 2021 by UNIDO, UNEP and the European Commission, was given as an example of a multistakeholder initiative to promote a transition towards a green economy that supported the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. Sustainable urbanization was considered key for a green recovery. Reversing deforestation and sustainable forest management has the potential to lift millions of people out of poverty and help build resilient economies and societies, in support of the Glasgow's Leaders Declaration on Forest and Land Use which aims to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation by 2030. Accelerating investment in clean energy technologies and climate-smart agriculture and food systems innovations could help raise global climate ambition. Some underscored that a balance needs to be struck between peoplecentered socio-economic development and environmental protection, bearing in mind countries' different stages of development and common but differentiated responsibilities.

There was wide agreement on the importance of science, technology, and innovation for the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic, implementing the Sustainable Development Goals and achieving the 2030 Agenda, and serving as a force multiplier to meet these and other goals. There was a recognized need to close the digital divide through education and digital literacy. Education has been identified as a central issue to achieve the SDGs and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. Investing in quality education with special programmes and internet access for children to attend virtual classes as well as mainstreaming gender, environment and nature in curriculums was highlighted.

The need to look at the challenges of COVID-19 pandemic and the path to recovery, increasing inequalities, climate change, and the digital divide in a **holistic manner** was emphasized. This required greater flexibility in decision making, structural changes of multilateral systems, stronger cooperation between countries and sectors at all levels to make the process systematic and synchronized.

Many delegations referred to Our Common Agenda proposals by the Secretary-General and highlighted the role of the ECOSOC system to work together to take a coordinated and focused approach. Many others reminded that the intergovernmental discussions on these proposals were only just starting.



## **Recommendations for the ECOSOC system**

Participants identified a range of issues that ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies and the UN system should address. Sustainability, gender equality and leaving no one behind must be considered as cross-cutting issues and integrated in the work of all UN bodies. The following recommendations emerged from the discussions.

#### The ECOSOC system must:

- remain an open and unique platform for dialogue and exchange of views among countries and stakeholders providing for coherent policy guidance on sustainable development and an SDG-guided recovery.
- forge multisectoral partnerships among organizations and bodies with relevant stakeholders. Participation of non-state stakeholders in the activities of the ECOSOC functional commissions can help them become more effective and efficient to fulfil their mandates.
- mainstream a gender perspective in all aspects of its work by strengthening gender analysis, considering
  the impact of policies on women and girls, men and boys and providing recommendations to advance gender
  equality.
- put people at the centre of their work, in particular the most vulnerable, to address inequalities and promote international solidarity and transformative change for a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery, including through a focus on:
  - o poverty and hunger
  - o decent jobs;
  - universal health coverage and social protection systems as stressed by many delegates, promoting the One Health Approach;
  - access to science, technology and innovation (STI) and addressing the digital divide;
  - combating environmental degradation, including reforestation, and promoting nature-based solutions;
  - o the issue of human security;
  - o new approaches to quality education;
  - o reforming the **global financial architecture** to address the financial needs of developing countries, including through debt swaps and restructuring, and to strengthen tax cooperation;
  - o crisis prevention, building resilience and global preparedness for future shocks.
- play a leading role in global efforts to strengthen health systems' resilience against health emergencies.
  The UN system could explore cost efficiencies and innovative sources of funding, wherever possible,
  to advance the UN's role in global health security, seeking to ensure that funds are accessible and able to
  be effectively deployed to areas in greatest need. In addition, the UN system should continue to make
  progress on transparency and accountability on health-related issues.
- promote sustainable and balanced recovery and growth that focus on the people while taking care of the planet and address the environment-related SDGs within the context of their work, and to this end, advancing a holistic approach that includes bio-economy, circular-economy, and green-economy (BCG) components to help pursue sustainable and inclusive development.
- focus on climate change. The ECOSOC system could help countries deliver on the climate ambition needed
  to achieve the long-term temperature goal set out in the Paris Agreement and the climate-related SDGs. At
  the same time, it would be important for the work of ECOSOC to be fully coordinated and in line with the
  carefully negotiated outcomes from the UNFCCC COPs. The ECOSOC system could help integrate climate
  action, actions to reverse biodiversity loss and forest-based solutions into short and long-term response to



COVID-19 through a comprehensive approach. The Council could also support countries in the discussion on plastic pollution and a Global Agreement on Plastics which is being discussed at UNEA.

- ensure that disaster risk reduction is integrated into the work of ECOSOC. The mid-term review of the Sendai Framework in 2023 would be an important opportunity in this regard.
- strengthen youth perspectives in its work.
- give a voice to the most vulnerable LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS. Once the Doha Programme of Action for the LDCs is adopted, it would be important for ECOSOC, its subsidiary bodies and the entire UN System to prioritise its integration and implementation.
- upscale its support to middle-income countries to overcome the middle-income trap and their multidimensional challenges such as weak or severely impacted health and education systems, high levels of indebtedness and limited fiscal space, dependence on imports of food and essential medicines, large influx of refugees, inclusion of migrant workers in the COVID19 response efforts, access to concessional finance, humanitarian assistance, funds and recovery programs from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- draw on reliable and quality data, including disaggregated data. The Statistical Commission plays an
  important role in this regard as well as many other subsidiary bodies, often working in collaboration with
  the Commission while monitoring progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda within the scope of
  their existing mandates.
- fully utilize the potential of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism established by the 2030 Agenda to strengthen coordination on STI.

## **Recommendations for ECOSOC**

The Council should:

- continue to work in a holistic manner including by complementing and enhancing the work of the other Charter bodies, including the General Assembly.
- draw on the expertise of the UN specialized agencies, regional commissions and its functional commissions and expert bodies to provide data and evidence-based policy guidance to Member States. Regional dimensions must feature prominently in the work of ECOSOC and the HLPF.
- ensure that outcomes and inputs of subsidiary bodies should feed into the deliberations of the Council and the HLPF, including the Ministerial Declaration of ECOSOC and HLPF. Furthermore, SDGs under review should be present throughout the ECOSOC cycle. The HLPF must address not only the SDGs under review but also their interlinkages.
- integrate gender considerations more systematically in the work of ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies and utilize the ongoing review of the ECOSOC subsidiary bodies as an important entry point in this regard.
- amplify the call for international solidarity and for moving from commitment to implementation. This includes promoting access to the COVID-19 vaccine for all and supporting capacities to implement vaccinations as well as supporting the mobilization of the resources that developing countries need to recover and get on track for achieving the SDGs. The ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development follow-up and the joint meeting of ECOSOC and the Second Committee of the General Assembly could help mobilize political will for addressing the financial needs of developing countries and solving the issue of unsustainable debt.
- promote effective measures to ensure the recovery efforts are free from corruption, waste, and abuse by promoting the implementation of international anticorruption obligations and commitments.
- discuss ways to strengthen international tax cooperation, including addressing tax avoidance and evasion, through the work of the UN Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters.



- encourage Regional Commissions to support countries in the design and implementation of targeted
  policies and programmes and in developing regional approaches to supporting sustainable and inclusive
  development in the region, and support the efforts of Regional Commissions in attaining these goals.
- Encourage greater coordination among regional organizations, including the regional economic commissions, to assist in aggregating demand and joint procurement, coordinate resource management and planning, and strengthen coordination to address unique local challenges.
- Avoid overlaps, enhance complementarities, and promote synergies in the work of ECOSOC subsidiary bodies and leverage synergies between them as well as with the UN system, to ensure effective delivery on mandates and assure alignment of the ECOSOC system with the 2030 Agenda. Existing ECOSOC subsidiary bodies must be leveraged, rather than creating new ones. In this regard, the current review of the work of subsidiary bodies of ECOSOC was seen an opportunity to promote high-quality, evidence-based assessments and policy recommendations by the Council through its subsidiary bodies in support of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, in parallel to their follow up and implementation of outcomes of UN Conferences and Summits under their respective mandates.

#### **Beyond ECOSOC and Next Steps**

Along with ECOSOC and the HLPF, the high-level meetings in 2022 (UNEA-5, Stockholm+50, CBD COP-15, 2022 UN Ocean Conference, UNFCCC COP27) and 2023 (UN 2023 Water Conference, Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Sendai Framework, High-level Meeting on Universal Health Coverage) offer opportunities for enhanced ambitions on biodiversity, oceans, climate change, biodiversity and environmental protection – including in finance, adaptation and supports, as well as on the vaccine, preparedness for pandemic, and financing for development.

Partnerships within and beyond the ECOSOC system, including the international financial institutions, were considered crucial for an inclusive and resilient recovery from the pandemic. References were also made to potential partnerships with other regional groupings and other non-regional groupings, such as the Group of Twenty (G20), on issues of potential dialogue and cooperation. Many including the Chair of the Group of Twenty (G20) called for strengthening ECOSOC-G20 cooperation.

Building on the 2022 Coordination Segment, the Economic and Social Council will convene a discussion to integrate key messages from ECOSOC subsidiary bodies and the UN system on the Council's main theme, develop action-oriented recommendations for follow-up and feed into the HLPF, during the ECOSOC Management Segment in June 2022 (as mandated by GA resolution 75/290 A).



**ANNEX 1: Programme of the Partnership Forum** 

**ANNEX 2: Programme of the Coordination Segment**