



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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Closing Remarks by His Excellency Collen Vixen Kelapile

President of ECOSOC

Global Media Forum

“Leveraging the power of the media to achieve the SDGs”

Friday, 15 July 2022

**Excellencies;
Representatives of the Press around the world;
Distinguished Participants;
Ladies and Gentlemen;**

1. As we come to the conclusion of this Global Media Forum, I would like to thank all of you for your great contributions.
2. We heard both hard facts and innovative and inspiring ideas on how the press could engage more positively and robustly in the journey to the SDGs as we transition the mid-point to 2030. We also listened to experts on best practices for story-telling around the SDGs.
3. Too often, the influence of media, journalism and entertainment on our lives is overlooked. And yet, we have witnessed in recent decades how our economies, norms and values can be shaped by the prevailing popular trends that are reflected to us via the news, information, and entertainment industries.
4. To ensure an inclusive and sustainable future, our global society counts on the power of media and information sectors to accurately and creatively reflect challenges and opportunities in areas central to people’s lives -- including the environment, education, health, renewable energy and technological development, among others.
5. We must more consistently engage and partner with the media around the world as vital actors for knowledge-sharing, information-sharing, source of inspiration, and champions of accountability and transparency.
6. It is my hope that today's dialogue will generate increased collaboration and partnerships between the United Nations, its individual member states and media actors.





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7. I also hope that this informal forum can become a special initiative of the successive Presidencies of ECOSOC, and organized annually on the margins of the High-Level Political Forum in collaboration with the media.
8. We look forward to maintaining a frank and candid dialogue with our partners in the media, including those members of the SDGs media compacts and all organizations present today, on this follow-up initiative.
9. Working together, we can increase the level of awareness and motivation among the global citizens in addressing the enormous challenges we face and building the better world envisioned in the 2030 Agenda.

I thank you for your kind attention.

