



## **CLOSING STATEMENT**

**BY**

**H.E. MR. COLLEN V. KELAPILE  
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC  
AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (ECOSOC)**

**AT THE**

**JOINT MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL  
COUNCIL AND THE SECOND COMMITTEE OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

***"Building productive capacities in LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS as  
well as MICs for more  
resilient recovery and sustainable development in the  
post-COVID-19 era"***

**Conference rooms 1-2-3 - 20 October 2021 - 10:00 am -  
1:00 pm (EDT)**

**Madame Chair;  
Honorable Ministers and Excellencies;  
Distinguished Delegates;  
Ladies and Gentlemen;**

1. We heard multiple and rich ideas during today's Joint Meeting. We got a better understanding of the situation and efforts related to building productive capacities in countries in special situations and in Middle Income Countries.
2. We heard the conviction that building productive capacities is a critical ingredient for recovering better from COVID-19 and realizing the SDGs in the poorer countries.
3. The ambition, scope and integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda has challenged us to change the way we think, act and live.
4. It has become apparent that some policies and tools have a particular strong impact across all the SDGs, notably those that build on the synergies and address the trade-offs among the SDGs.
5. This should inform our efforts to build productive capacities.
6. It was also made clear today that, in building productive capacities, we must look beyond the short term horizon and emergency actions.
7. The response to the terrible impacts of the COVID-19 crisis has shown us the importance of rethinking our systems and the policies that have perpetuated vulnerabilities and inequalities for decades.

8. Likewise, we must find new ways to build productive capacities so as to best support developing countries in a resilient recovery and progress towards the SDGs on a safe planet.
9. We have also heard that the need to strengthen multilateralism, solidarity and global partnership to achieve the 2030 Agenda, as laid out in SDG 17, is stronger than ever before.

**Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,**

10. I wish to thank the Chair of the Second Committee, for her gracious collaboration on this Joint Meeting.
11. I thank all of you, especially the Honorable Ministers, for your contributions as well DESA, UNCTAD, OHRLLS and DGACM for their support in organizing this important joint meeting.
12. I will use the outcome of today's meeting to inform ECOSOC, and the ECOSOC system as a whole, so that we understand better the role of building adequate productive capacities in overcoming the impacts of the pandemic and realizing the SDGs.

**I thank you.**