



H.E. Lachezara Stoeva, Permanent Representative of Bulgaria to the United Nations, and President of the Economic and Social Council, 2022-2023

Introduction of the Session of the Resident Coordinators' Exchange with Member States during the 2022 Global meeting of United Nations Resident Coordinators

Thursday, 20 October 2022, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m., ECOSOC Chamber

**Resident Coordinators' Exchange with Member States
ECOSOC CHAMBER**

*Exchange between 5 Resident Coordinators and Member States.
Other Resident Coordinators requested to attend in the audience.*

- Welcome remarks by the Deputy Secretary-General and Chair of the UN Sustainable Development Group
- **Introduction of the session by H.E. Ms. Lachezara Stoeva, President of the Economic and Social Council**
- Keynote address by H.E. Mr. Csaba Kőrösi, President of the General Assembly
- Moderator: Navid Hanif, Assistant Secretary-General, Department for Economic and Social Affairs.

[...end of welcome remarks by the Deputy Secretary-General and Chair of the UN Sustainable Development Group]

Thank you Chair. Let me first thank the Deputy Secretary-General for her welcome remarks.

It is a great pleasure to introduce this session when the Resident Coordinators will have a dialogue with Member States.

Our world is beset by multiple and interlocking crises. The challenges are especially acute in developing countries. A great deal is expected of the UN development system.

On behalf of the Economic and Social Council, I would like to stress how valuable this exchange is to delegations. I thank the Resident Coordinators on the panel and in the audience today for this opportunity.



ECOSOC is your home. ECOSOC supports the General Assembly in setting out the UN development system's system-wide policy orientation and operational modalities.

ECOSOC is also the governance body of the Resident Coordinators system. As such, ECOSOC has closely followed the progress of the RC system and is privy to the successes, achievements and challenges in implementing the reform at country level.

This role is delivered through ECOSOC's Operational Activities Segment. The Segment is held annually in May. It serves as a platform for accountability and oversight of system-wide support to Member States for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. It provides overall guidance and coordination of the UN development system.

It considers progress in the implementation of the mandates of the Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review (QCPR), including the repositioning of the UN development system (UNDS). It reviews the functioning of the resident coordinator system, including its funding.

The Council adopts resolutions that further guide the System and inform the General Assembly when it reviews the QCPR implementation later in the year.

The Segment is very interactive and benefits from the vision and hands-on perspectives of the senior leadership of the UN system, as well as regional and country leaders and practitioners and you, the Resident Coordinators and your country teams.

In 2022, this included interactions with the Secretary-General for a full half day, the Deputy Secretary-General at several sessions and the Executive Heads of over 15 UN development system entities.

In the interactive sessions with Resident Coordinators and some members of United Nations country teams, Member States gain critical insights into results and challenges on the ground. Those help to frame the perspectives of the guidance the Council and the General Assembly set out.

For the 2023 ECOSOC Operational Activities Segment, I look forward to continuing this frank discussion for guiding the complex multilateral development system.



In today's exchange, we hope to hear from you about your work on the ground, where gains have and can be made in ensuring that the UN system works as one. We also want to hear about challenges you face so that Member States can help you in addressing them. For example, how can we build on the existing collaboration with international financial institutions to mobilize resources on the ground?

The voluntary national reviews bring the country-level review of progress on the 2030 Agenda to the global level. The VNRs are a tremendous success – this year 55 countries expressed interest in presenting a review at the 2023 High-level Political Forum. Time constraints meant that only 42 presenters could be accommodated. But of these, 28 are programme countries, so your support and that of the UN country teams will be vital.

I expect that the 2023 VNRs will be even more firmly founded on data and statistics and informed by meaningful engagement with stakeholders. Wherever possible, I invite you to encourage countries to raise the bar.

The 2023 HLPF will conduct thematic reviews of SDG 6 on water; SDG 7 on sustainable energy; SDG 9 on industry, infrastructure and innovation;11 on cities; and SDG 17 on the global partnership. These SDGs present core concerns of developing countries.

The SDG Summit in September 2023 will take place at mid-point in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. While taking stock of the impacts of the ongoing crises on the SDGs, the Summit will also serve as a springboard to for transformative actions to and policies to close the SDG gap by 2030.

The engagement of RCs will be critical for energizing national-level preparations for the SDG Summit, on the part of governments and stakeholders. I hope that countries will come to the SDG Summit with forward looking plans and policies on how they plan to advance towards the SDGs by 2030. I count on your support to make it happen. I will also work with the President of the General Assembly so that the July 2023 HLPF paves the ground for the SDG Summit. We will also encourage the launch of major international and regional initiatives so that the SDG Summit marks a turning point in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Ahead of the SDG Summit in 2023 and the Summit of the Future in 2024, we look forward to your insights and perspectives which will be invaluable to feed into the preparations.



Thank you.
