In ECOSOC resolution 2014/14, the Council decided to convene a transparent and inclusive dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the interlinkages between the alignment of functions, funding practices, governance structures, organizational arrangements, capacity and impact, and partnership approaches. The outcome of the ECOSOC Dialogue will inform intergovernmental deliberations on operational activities of the UN system to be undertaken by the General Assembly in the second half of 2016.

The first phase of the ECOSOC Dialogue, which concluded on 9 June 2015, focused on building a solid understanding among Member States of the current state of play in the UN development system as a whole. The first phase included a civil society dialogue that took place on 28 April 2015. The report of the first phase can be located on the ECOSOC Dialogue web page (http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/qcpr/). The second phase of the ECOSOC Dialogue, launched on 17 December 2015, is expected to result in the development of concrete proposals and options for strengthening the UN development system in response to the requirements of the 2030 Agenda for further discussion and consideration by Member States. The roadmap for the second phase of the ECOSOC Dialogue can be obtained on the above-cited home page.

In this informal civil society briefing, the Vice-President of ECOSOC, H.E. Mr. Alejandro Palma Cerna, will discuss the objectives and expectations for the second phase of the Council’s Dialogue process.

10.00 – 10.15 a.m.  Introductory statement
H.E. Mr. Alejandro Palma Cerna, Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council

10.15 a.m. – 1.00 p.m.  Proposed discussion questions

1. What are the kinds of reform of the UN development system, with particular reference to the ECOSOC Dialogue priority areas (see above) that need to take place in the coming years if the Organization is to be able to effectively meet the requirements of the 2030 Agenda?

2. How can civil society contribute to the second phase of the ECOSOC Dialogue process?