

PGA Key Points

2015 was a landmark year in the history of the United Nations. Three major agreements: the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, the *Addis Ababa Action Agenda* and the *Paris Agreement on Climate Change*, which were adopted last year, affirm the enduring value of the United Nations in building bridges among Member States so that major common challenges can be effectively addressed.

As the result of these agreements, the issue of sustainable development has moved center stage in international cooperation for development, and its pursuit is increasingly recognized as the responsibility of all countries, both individually and collectively.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development reflects this transformation in international cooperation. One cornerstone of the agenda, namely its universality, has far-reaching impact. Among other changes, it signals the end of the rigid division between developed and developing countries, and in the long run, will fundamentally change the nature of multilateral cooperation.

The breadth, complexity, and interlinked nature of the 2030 Agenda requires integrated approaches that bring together minds, capacities, and resources from across different entities of the UN development system as well as among the different pillars of the Organization. No single UN entity working in isolation can make an optimal contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

We have a historic opportunity to rethink together the work of the organization, through the ongoing ECOSOC Dialogue on the longer-term positioning of the UN development system, and later in the year, the subsequent intergovernmental consultations under the auspices of the General Assembly on the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities of the UN system.

I call on Member States to actively participate in the ECOSOC Dialogue and QCPR processes in the course of this year. At a time of growing interconnectedness, complexity of development challenges and uncertainty in today's globalizing world, we need, to ensure the UN development system is truly "fit-for-purpose" in serving Member States, particularly programme countries, and renew the legacy of the Organization.

We must seize this moment.