



**Economic and Social Council Press Statement on
ECOSOC Special Ministerial Meeting,
“Building the Future We Want”
24 September 2012
(Embargoed until 4.00 pm EST, 24 September)**

The Bureau of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) met on 24 September at the ministerial level and adopted a statement in response to the ECOSOC Special Ministerial Meeting, “Building the Future We Want”.

The Bureau of ECOSOC called on strengthening the multilateral system in order to implement the decisions taken at this June’s Rio+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development on the urgent global challenges of sustainable development.

The Bureau of ECOSOC expressed its strong conviction that sustainable development, a common understanding of current and emerging challenges and a consensus on approaches to address them can only be achieved through a strengthened multilateral system. The United Nations plays a central role in ongoing efforts to find common solutions to current challenges.

The Bureau of ECOSOC reaffirmed its full support for a more sustainable development model as stated in “The Future We Want” outcome document.

The Bureau of ECOSOC emphasized the key role of the Council as a central mechanism for the coordination of the United Nations system and in promoting a strengthened multilateral system; achieving a balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development; and serving as a forum for multi-stakeholder involvement.

See below the official text of the Ministerial Statement:

1. We, the Ministers of Egypt, Indonesia, Mexico, Slovakia and Spain, representing the Bureau of ECOSOC, met in New York on 24 September 2012.
2. We recognize that the world is facing a wide range of development challenges. We are deeply concerned about the fragile state of the world economy and serious risk of reversal of the development gains made so far. We are also concerned about threats to the economic, social and ecological well being of humanity and our planet.
3. We strongly stress the need for collective action to address the challenges of sustainable development. We express our strong conviction that sustainable development, a common understanding of current and emerging challenges and a consensus on approaches to address them can only be achieved through a strengthened multilateral system.
4. We are determined to promote an inclusive, transparent and effective multilateral system in order to better address the urgent global challenges of today, and reaffirm our commitment to promote and strengthen the effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations system.
5. We reaffirm the central role of the United Nations in on going efforts to find common solutions to current challenges.





6. We reaffirm our full support for a more sustainable development model and underscore that it can only be achieved with a broad alliance of people, governments, civil society and the private sector, as stated in the "The Future We Want" the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20).
7. We reaffirm the key role of ECOSOC as a central mechanism for the coordination of the United Nations system and in promoting a strengthened multilateral system; achieving a balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development; and serving as a forum for multi-stakeholder involvement.
8. We commit to strengthen the Council within its Charter mandate, to make it more effective and efficient, reinforcing coherence and coordination and avoiding duplication of efforts.

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