



ECOSOC FORUM ON FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT

Trusteeship Council Chamber, 23-26 April 2018

DRAFT PROGRAMME

as of 20 March 2018

The 2018 FfD Forum will assess progress and identify obstacles and challenges to the implementation of financing for development outcomes, promote sharing of experiences, address new and emerging topics, and provide policy recommendations for action by the international community in the following areas of the 2015 Addis Ababa Action Agenda (Addis Agenda): (i) domestic public resources; (ii) domestic and international private business and finance; (iii) international development cooperation; (iv) international trade as an engine for development; (v) debt and debt sustainability; (vi) systemic issues; (vii) science, technology, innovation and capacity-building; as well as (viii) data, monitoring and follow-up.

MINISTERIAL SEGMENT

Monday, 23 April 2018

10:00 – 10:30 am	Opening of the meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> H.E. Ms. Marie Chatardová (Czech Republic), President of the Economic and Social Council<input type="checkbox"/> H.E. Mr. Miroslav Lajčák (Slovakia), President of the General Assembly<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations (TBC)
10:30 – 10:45 am	Key note address by a renowned opinion leader on the global context and mega trends <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> TBD
10:45 – 11:30 am	Global trends and prospects for financing sustainable development <i>Perspectives from the 2018 Report of the Inter-agency Task Force on Financing for Development</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Mr. LIU Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, and Chair of the Inter-agency Task Force (IATF) on Financing for Development<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Mukhisa Kituyi, Secretary-General, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Tao Zhang, Deputy Managing Director, International Monetary Fund (IMF)<input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, Senior Vice President for the 2030 Development Agenda, United Nations Relations and Partnerships, World Bank Group (WBG)<input type="checkbox"/> Ms. Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (<i>on behalf of five regional commissions</i>)



Ministerial Round Tables

The ministerial round tables offer space for ministers and vice-ministers to share national policy and institutional developments in support of the implementation of the Addis Agenda, as well as challenges encountered and international support measures needed.

Guiding questions:

- Has the upturn in the world economy translated into a more enabling environment for financing sustainable development across countries?
- What are the main enablers that can help countries better capitalize on the broad-based recovery and improved outlook?
- Which national strategies and policies have proven effective in facilitating long-term and quality investment?
- Which policy actions are needed to address both long-standing concerns and near-term challenges in the international trade and financial system?

11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Ministerial Round Table 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Ministers and vice-ministers <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of non-institutional stakeholder
1:00 – 3:00 pm	Lunch break
3:00 – 4:30 pm	Ministerial Round Table 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Ministers and vice-ministers <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. LIU Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs <i>[Report on the outcome of the first Global Conference of the inter-agency Platform for Collaboration on Tax]</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of non-institutional stakeholder
4:30 – 6:00 pm	General Debate Statements by ministers and high-level officials

Tuesday, 24 April 2018

Special High-level Meeting with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Ministerial Round Tables (continued)

10:00 – 11:30 am	Ministerial Round Table 3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Ministers and vice-ministers <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of non-institutional stakeholder
11:30 am – 1:00 pm	Ministerial Round Table 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Ministers and vice-ministers <input type="checkbox"/> Representative of non-institutional stakeholder

1:15 – 2:45 pm	Luncheon hosted by President of ECOSOC on the topic “Manufacturing and competitiveness” (by invitation)
3:00 – 5:00 pm	<p>Interactive dialogue with intergovernmental bodies of major institutional stakeholders</p> <p>The interactive dialogue, as part of the a one-day Special High-level Meeting of the Council with the Bretton Woods Institutions, WTO and UNCTAD aims to improve mutual understanding and policy coherence among the policy-making intergovernmental bodies of the international trade and finance institutions. The 2018 dialogue will address two themes: (i) Disaster risk and resilience; and (ii) Taxation in the digitalized economy.</p> <p>Statements by intergovernmental representatives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> H.E. Ms. Marie Chatardová (Czech Republic), President of the Economic and Social Council <input type="checkbox"/> H.E. Ms. Sri Mulyani Indrawati, Chair, Development Committee, WBG (TBC) <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Lesetja Kganyago, Chair, International Monetary and Financial Committee (IMFC) <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Junichi Ihara, Chair, General Council, WTO (TBC) <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Tudor Ulianovschi, President, Trade and Development Board, UNCTAD <p>Opening remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Merza Hasan, Dean of the Board of Executive Directors, WBG <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Aleksei Mozhin, Dean of the Executive Board, IMF <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> TBD <p>Interactive discussions</p> <p>Topic 1: “Disaster risk and resilience”</p> <p>Topic 2: “Taxation in the digitalized economy”</p> <p>Discussant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. Martin Kreienbaum, Chair of the OECD’s Committee on Fiscal Affairs <p>Closing remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> H.E. Ms. Marie Chatardová (Czech Republic), President of the Economic and Social Council <p>Guiding questions:</p> <p>Disaster risk and resilience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are effective ways to move from ex-post, ad-hoc responses to shocks (natural disasters) towards ex-ante prevention, risk-reduction, and preparedness? • How can a risk-informed approach be integrated into all bilateral and international support for sustainable development?



	Taxation in the digitalized economy <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How can the international community ensure a universal approach in changing tax norms in response to the digitalization of the economy, taking into account the needs and capacities of developing countries?• How can we contribute to closing the capacity gap between tax administrations of developed and developing countries?
5:00 – 6:00 pm	Presentation and adoption of the intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations General Debate Statements by ministers and high-level officials

EXPERT SEGMENT

Wednesday, 25 April 2018

Thematic Round Tables

10:00 – 11:30 am	Round Table A: “Domestic public resources” (Action area A) <p>Discussion in this round table will reflect on the recent progress and challenges faced by developing countries in domestic resource mobilization. It will focus on measures put in place to broaden the tax base and strengthen tax administration against a backdrop of changing economic structures and technologies. It will further review the steps taken by developing countries to meet their revenue goals, including through agreement and implementation of pro-development international tax norms, capacity development and curbing illicit financial flows.</p> <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> TBD <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> TBD <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What policies are effective in improving the progressivity of fiscal systems to address growing inequalities against the backdrop of structural transformation?• What policy incentives and institutional changes are required to ensure countries take a whole-of-government approach to taxation?• What support do countries need to help them develop medium-term revenue strategies (MTRS)?
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What can be done to further improve international tax cooperation to reduce the gap between developing and developed countries and to avoid a race to the bottom, while respecting national sovereignty?
<p>11:30 am – 1:00 pm</p>	<p>Round Table B: “Domestic and international private business and finance” (Action Area B)</p> <p>The focus of this round table will be on progress and challenges in aligning private sector activities and investment with sustainable development objectives. The discussion will cover actions on both the supply and demand side, including country efforts to strengthen enabling environments and develop local capital markets, and efforts to incentivize long-term SDG investments. The discussion will further address progress on financial inclusion, including reaching to small and medium sized enterprises. This will also address the use of financial technology.</p> <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> TBD <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> TBD <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the impediments to long-term investments for sustainable development at the local, national and international levels? What policies and regulatory frameworks can help overcome the impediments? • How can technology best serve the goals of financial inclusion? • What are key features of successful, gender-responsive financial inclusion strategies and how can they be implemented?
<p>1:00 – 3:00 pm</p>	<p>Lunch break</p>
<p>3:00 – 4:30 pm</p>	<p>Round Table C: “Trade, science, technology, innovation and capacity-building” (Action areas D and G)</p> <p>The round table will address how international trade can serve its function as an engine for inclusive economic growth and poverty reduction. It will further reflect on the potential of science, technology and innovation (STI) to contribute to sustainable development and highlight critical areas for capacity development. The discussion will focus on ways to boost trade that is fair and contributes to inclusive growth as well as measures to better align trade agreements with the SDGs. In addition, the discussion will address the impact of trade and new technologies on labour markets, and how gaps in the access to technology, including for countries in special situations and marginalized groups, can be closed.</p>

	<p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> TBD <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> TBD <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can the international community ensure that the multilateral trading system continues to contribute to sustainable development, while sharing the gains from trade more widely? • How can social and environmental concerns, such as gender equality and labour standards, be incorporated in trade policy to ensure alignment with the SDGs? • Which policies, for example in education and social protection, are showing promise in harnessing benefits of trade and technological progress while addressing associated challenges and risks, e.g. for labour markets? • What are the necessary steps to increase long-term investment in STI? How can international cooperation and capacity building ensure that no one is left behind in this process?
4:30 – 6:00 pm	<p>General Debate Statements by ministers and high-level officials</p>

Thursday, 26 April 2018

Thematic Round Tables (continued)

10:00 – 11:30 am	<p>Round Table D: “International development cooperation” (Action area C)</p> <p>This round table will review major shifts in development cooperation policies and approaches adopted by traditional providers and multilateral development banks in response to the 2030 and Addis Agendas. It will shed light on the continued importance of ODA, the expanding role of development banks, and the opportunities and challenges presented by blended finance. It will further highlight the new developments in South-South cooperation and its complementarity with traditional development cooperation.</p> <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> TBD <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> TBD
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	<p>Guiding questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the impact of the shift of aid from social sectors to productive sectors on the sustainable development of aid-dependent countries, in particular LDCs? • How can we ensure sufficient support for developing countries that lose access to concessional financing windows? • What additional steps can the MDBs take to further align their lending with the SDGs? • What are the right conditions to ensure that blended finance yields better results? What has prevented the scaling-up of this approach in LDCs? • How can South-South cooperation complement efforts by other actors to jointly address structural impediments to financing sustainable development?
<p>11:30 am – 1:00 pm</p>	<p>Round Table E: “Debt and systemic issues” (Action areas E and F)</p> <p>This round table will review emerging debt trends and challenges. It will further reflect on progress in the implementation of institutional reforms to the international financial architecture following the 2008 world financial and economic crisis. The round table will also examine innovative instruments to address shocks.</p> <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> TBD <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> TBD <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Which innovative instruments and measures could unlock debt financing for investments that boost productive capacity, while maintaining debt sustainability? • What are the options to engage non-traditional bilateral creditors, new multilateral lenders and private sector creditors in creditor-debtor dialogues, to avoid disorderly and potentially disruptive restructurings in case of debt distress? • Is the international financial architecture well positioned to address systemic risks? What measures are most urgent to address remaining regulatory gaps and misaligned incentives? • How can reforms of international organizations ensure that the international financial, monetary and development systems are fit-for-purpose for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?
<p>1:00 – 3:00 pm</p>	<p>Lunch break</p>
<p>3:00 – 4:00 pm</p>	<p>Financial needs of countries in special situation</p>



	<p>The expert discussion will review initiatives and efforts to support the adoption and implementation of investment promotion regimes for countries in special situations, including LDCs. Specifically, the session will explore how to provide financial and technical support for project preparation, access to information on investment facilities and risk insurance guarantees.</p> <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> TBD <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> TBD
<p>4:00 – 5:00 pm</p>	<p>Expert discussion: Gender equality and the empowerment of women</p> <p>This expert discussion will review trends in financing for gender equality and explore options to increase fiscal space at the national and local level. It will assess the extent to which integrated national financing frameworks address gender gaps and the need for high quality, sex disaggregated data for improved monitoring and tracking of resources. It will also reflect on what strategic investments are needed to support women’s economic empowerment and rights.</p> <p>Chair:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council <p>Moderator:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> TBD <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> TBD
<p>5:00 – 5:45 pm</p>	<p>General Debate Statements by ministers and high-level officials</p>
<p>5:45 – 6:00 pm</p>	<p>Closing of the meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption of the report of the FfD Forum <input type="checkbox"/> Closing remarks by the President of ECOSOC