



The President  
of the  
Economic and Social Council

6 March 2009

Excellency,

Following consultations with all relevant stakeholders, I am writing to advise you of the substantive focus and format of the Special high-level meeting of the Economic and Social Council with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to be held in New York on 27 April 2009.

Under the overall theme of “Coherence, coordination and cooperation in the context of the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus and the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development,” the meeting will address the following two sub-themes:

1. Addressing the impact of the global financial and economic crisis on development, including issues related to the international financial and monetary architecture and global governance structures; and
2. Strengthening of the intergovernmental inclusive process to carry out the financing for development follow-up.

As for the format of the meeting, the objective is to facilitate a truly dynamic and interactive dialogue among all stakeholders. Building on the past experience, we shall explore new modalities and further innovations to promote an open exchange of views between government representatives and major institutional stakeholders on the selected substantive matters. Following a short opening plenary with brief statements by the heads of relevant intergovernmental bodies and other senior officials, the meeting will be organized in the form of two thematic debates on the above topics, which will be held consecutively in an informal plenary setting, in order to provide an opportunity for greater engagement in the discussion of all participants, within the full time available. Following last years practice, the morning session will also feature a presentation on the joint World Bank/IMF flagship publication, *Global Monitoring Report 2009*, on the theme: “The Impact of the Financial Crisis on Development”. Closing remarks by the President of the Council will conclude the meeting.

The full programme and timetable of the event will be circulated at a later date.

Looking forward to an active participation of your delegation in the upcoming meeting, please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

  
Sylvie Lucas