



Monday 25 April

10:00–10:30 **Opening of the Forum** [Informal meeting - in-person and virtual participation]

Chair: H.E. Ambassador Collen Vixen Kelapile, President of ECOSOC

[Opening statement by H.E. Dr. Mokgweetsi E. K. Masisi, President of Botswana]

Remarks by H.E. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations

Remarks by H.E. Abdulla Shahid, President of the General Assembly

Youth representative

10:30–12:00 **Financing the SDGs by increasing fiscal space for an inclusive and sustainable recovery** [Informal meeting - in-person and virtual participation]

This session will address how the uneven and uncertain global economic outlook is impacting: 1) financing for vaccines and other health-related expenditures necessary to bring an end to the pandemic; and 2) the long-term SDG financing landscape including the financing for health systems and pandemic preparedness in developing countries in line with SDG 3. Governments will reflect on the impact of the global economic situation including the monetary policy shift in major developed economies on the ability of developing countries to invest in the SDGs and present actionable proposals to bridge financing gaps.

Guiding questions:

1. What lessons can be learned from the first two years of the pandemic to finance the international coordinated health response and ensure equitable and affordable access to vaccines in developing countries?
2. What immediate international support measures can be taken to address shrinking fiscal space and liquidity needs in the most vulnerable developing countries?
3. How can enhanced policy coordination facilitate a smooth transition to a higher interest rate environment, ensuring global financial stability, avoiding negative spillover effect to developing countries and minimizing adverse impacts on debt sustainability and access to financing in developing countries?

Keynote addresses by Heads of State and Government

Moderated panel discussion

15:00–17:00 **Aligning the global debt architecture with the SDGs: What will it take?** [Informal meeting - in-person only]

This session will explore: 1) the benefits of DSSI and the Common Framework and steps to make current initiatives work more effectively, including improving information and the role of credit rating agencies, e.g. the procyclicality of sovereign credit ratings; 2) suggestions for greater use of innovative instruments that link increasing debt repayment capacity to risk exposure i.e., state-contingent debt instruments and other measures of international support; and 3) steps to create the conditions to reform the international debt architecture.

Guiding questions:

1. Learning from past debt relief initiatives, what steps can be taken to facilitate fair and efficient write-downs when necessary to give countries greater room for investing in sustainable development?
2. What action can be taken by multilateral and official bilateral creditors to encourage private sector participation in debt renegotiations?
3. What scope exists to address the procyclicality of sovereign credit ratings?

Keynote addresses by Heads of State and Government

Moderated panel discussion

17:00–17:10 **Introduction of FSDR** [Informal meeting - in-person and virtual participation]

Presentation by Mr. LIU Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General, UNDESA

17:10–18:00 **General debate** [Informal meeting - in-person with pre-recorded video statements]

Tuesday 26 April

10:00–12:00 **Special High-level Meeting with Bretton Woods Institutions, WTO and UNCTAD** [Informal meeting - in-person and virtual participation]

Theme: Securing an Inclusive and Sustainable Recovery

Statements by intergovernmental representatives:

- *President of the Economic and Social Council*
- *Chair of World Bank Group Development Committee*
- *Chair of the IMFC*
- *Chair of the WTO General Council*
- *President, Trade and Development Board, UNCTAD*

Interactive Dialogue with Executive Directors of World Bank and IMF

15:00–18:00 **General debate** [Informal meeting - in-person with pre-recorded video statements]

Wednesday 27 April

10:00–12:00 **Building a fair and effective tax system and combatting illicit financial flows** [Informal meeting - in-person and virtual participation]

This session will discuss the way forward for international tax reform and domestic resource mobilization as well as public financial management to ensure that developing countries can increase fiscal space and their capability to manage current and future risks. It will also look at the policies and institutional mechanisms that can help staunch the leakage from illicit financial flows, including tax evasion and avoidance, and contribute to greater resource mobilization to achieve the SDGs.

Guiding questions:

1. What steps can governments take to raise revenue to generate additional fiscal space for investments in the SDGs?
2. How can tax systems be used to make progress on the SDGs in areas such as inequalities, health, the environment, and social protection?
3. How can it be ensured that international agreements regarding the taxation of the digital economy respond to and benefit developing countries?

Keynote addresses by Heads of State and Government

Moderated panel discussion

15:00–16:00 **Boosting private investment in the SDGs** [Informal meeting - in-person and virtual participation]

This session will look at different private financing sources that can be leveraged as well as market and public policy levers needed to mobilize private investment in the SDGs in developing countries. Discussions will also highlight financing strategies and measures to increase the long-term sustainability and resilience of such investments for present and future generations, including through more effective infrastructure asset management policies and practices. It will also offer developing country perspectives on the global norms and standards that are under development to measure the impact of sustainable investments.

Guiding questions:

1. What public policies and regulatory frameworks will facilitate the participation of developing countries in the burgeoning SDG bond market?
2. What policy frameworks should be put in place to address information gaps and asymmetries to boost FDI in SDG-relevant sectors in developing countries?
3. How can developing country perspectives be adequately captured in sustainability norms and standards?

Keynote addresses by Heads of State and Government

Moderated panel discussion

16:00-17:00 Expanding concessional finance aligned with national sustainable development strategies [Informal meeting - in-person and virtual participation]

This session will explore the adjustments needed in policy frameworks and instruments that can help expand bilateral and multilateral finance. Discussions will center on the lessons from COVID-19 for fostering more risk informed and resilient international development cooperation to achieve the SDGs and address global crises, building on the 2021 High-level Meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum.

Guiding questions:

1. How can international cooperation be leveraged and oriented to better support responses to challenges such as pandemic preparedness, biodiversity, climate action and disaster-risk reduction at country level?
2. What lessons can be drawn from the COVID-19 experience on how to strengthen the importance and relevance of effective development cooperation?
3. What measures can be taken to enhance the lending and response capacity of public development banks to invest in the SDGs?

Keynote addresses by Heads of State and Government

Moderated panel discussion

Thursday 28 April

10:00–11:00 Sustainable and just transition [Informal meeting - in-person and virtual participation]

The United Nations plays a key role in ensuring that the energy transition, including any instruments to implement such transition at an international level, produce a sustainable outcome for all stakeholders. This session will explore finance and policy tools, incentives and international coordination needed to support developing countries' transition to sustainable economies.

Guiding questions:

1. What policy and practical measures can encourage the transition to net-zero in developing countries, taking into consideration their national circumstances?
2. What are the respective roles for financial sector regulations and fiscal and monetary policies in addressing climate risks and enabling a sustainable and just transition?
3. How can we facilitate/advance a shared understanding of minimum effective carbon price? How can carbon pricing and market-based measures contribute to the energy transition, and what are opportunities for collaboration among countries?

Keynote addresses by Heads of State and Government

Moderated panel discussion

11:00–12:00 Digital transition: opportunities and risks [Informal meeting - in-person and virtual participation]

This session will explore 1) innovative financing models and regulatory policies to scale up investment in digital infrastructure and infrastructure digitization to achieve universal digital connectivity and inclusion; 2) the impact of crypto assets and digital currencies, including central banks digital currencies (CBDCs), on financial stability, their implications for developing countries and potential policy responses, including to prevent tax leakages.

Guiding questions:

1. What are the barriers and financing solutions to greater investment in digital infrastructure in developing countries?
2. What role is there for public-private partnerships and blended finance to promote additional investment in the sector? How are innovative financing models and regulatory policies impacting the 21st century production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services?
3. What measures can central banks and regulators in developing countries take to address the potential spillovers and macrofinancial impacts of crypto assets, so-called global “stablecoins” and central bank digital currencies?

Keynote addresses by Heads of State and Government

Moderated panel discussion

15:00–16:00 General debate [Informal meeting - in-person with pre-recorded video statements]

16:00–18:00 Closing of the Forum [Formal meeting - in-person only]

Closing remarks by the Deputy Secretary-General

Closing statement by the President of ECOSOC

Adoption of the Outcome Document