



ECOSOC

United Nations Economic and Social Council

TAKING ACTION TO IMPROVE LIVES

2017 Special Meeting of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

“Innovations for infrastructure development and promoting sustainable industrialization”

31 May 2017, ECOSOC Chamber (UNHQ)

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

[v. 30 May]

10:45 – 11:15

Opening remarks: An Integrated Approach to Achieving SDG 9

- H.E. Mr. Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava, President of ECOSOC
- Mr. Wu Hongbo, Under Secretary-General, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Keynote addresses

- Mr. Li Yong, Director General, United Nations Industrial Development Organization
- Mr. José Graziano da Silva, Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (recorded message)

11:15 – 13:00

Session 1: The Industrialization-Infrastructure Nexus in Developing Countries

Sustainable industrialization is a necessary condition for the structural transformation and economic diversification of developing countries. Planning for and investing in the requisite infrastructure for sustainable industrialization is therefore essential, and can foster social inclusion and expand opportunities for poverty eradication. Through a synergistic consideration of the industrialization-infrastructure nexus, this session will discuss how policies and programmes can be devised to overcome obstacles to the various constraints and fast-track progress.

Moderator: H.E. Mr. Macharia Kamau, Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations

Special address: Ms. Fekitamoeloa Katoa 'Utoikamanu, High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States

Presenters:

- H.E. Dr. Ibrahim Mayaki, CEO, NEPAD
- H.E. Mr. Abdou Maman, Minister of Industry, Niger



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17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

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- H.E. Mr. Brian Mushimba, Minister of Transport and Communications, Republic of Zambia
- Hon. Maria Kiwanuka, Special Presidential Advisor, Uganda

Interactive discussion

Possible discussion questions

- How can the synergies across infrastructure, industrialization and innovation be supported, and the infrastructure-industrialization nexus strengthened?
- What can Governments do to stimulate the development of infrastructure and sustainable industrialization, including through policies, investments and partnerships?
- What innovations have been shown to stimulate the infrastructure-industrialization nexus, and how can they be replicated or scaled up?

13:00 – 15:00

Lunch

15:00 – 16:30

Session 2: The Potential of Agro-industry and Agricultural Systems for Sustainable Development

Contemporary challenges to poverty eradication, social inclusion and climate change require new and innovative approaches to agriculture and agro-industries development. These approaches should emphasize the importance of sustainable and resilient food systems for ensuring food security, creating employment opportunities, supporting value chain development and bolstering poverty eradication efforts. This session will highlight lessons learned and successful innovations for enhancing the contributions made by agriculture and agro-industries to sustainable development, particularly in developing countries.

Moderator: Mr. Gerardo Pataconi, Acting Director, Department of Agri-business Development, UNIDO

Presenters:

- Dr. Desire M. Sibanda, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Macro-Economic Planning and Investment Promotion, Zimbabwe
- Mr. Magnus Arildsson, Head of Internet of Things (IoT) Product Management, Ericsson
- Ms. Lisa Dreier, Head of Food Security and Agriculture Initiatives, World Economic Forum LLC
- Mr. Bill Polidoro, President and CEO, ACDI/VOCA

Interactive discussion

Possible discussion questions

- What elements are essential for transforming agriculture and agro-industrialization into key drivers of growth and poverty eradication in developing countries? How should national, regional and international efforts be focused?

- What role can be played by public-private partnerships in support of agriculture and agro-industries development, and what issues can they address most effectively?
- How can the business-enabling environment be strengthened to facilitate a more inclusive development of agro-industries within food systems?
- What are some of the key lessons learned and emerging examples of good practice from national and international initiatives in this sector?

16:30 – 17:45

Session 3: Building Capacities and Mobilizing Resources for Infrastructure, Industrialisation and Innovation

The amount invested world-wide in infrastructure each year is significant, yet falls short of what is needed. This is especially true in countries that are already lagging behind in key areas (e.g., public services, transport, telecommunications, etc.). In addition, infrastructure development and sustainable industrialization rely on important human and institutional resources, which could be lacking in some countries. Although the financial and technical resources required are usually vast and context-specific, there are a number of innovative examples which can point the way forward for the achievement of SDG 9.

Moderator: Ms. Lisa Dreier, Head of Food Security and Agriculture Initiatives, World Economic Forum LLC

Presenters:

- The Honourable Tadeo Garcia Zalazar, Mayor of Godoy Cruz, Argentina
- Mr. Marcos Bonturi, OECD Special Representative to the UN
- Mr. Paul Winters, Associate Vice-President, a.i. Strategy and Knowledge Department, International Fund for Agricultural Development

Interactive discussion

Possible discussion questions

- How can the world bridge the current infrastructure gap? What have traditionally been the biggest obstacles to infrastructure development and sustainable industrialization?
- What measures at the national level have had the greatest impact in terms of stimulating investment, whether domestic or external?
- What areas are critical for building national capacities to support the sustainability, resilience and inclusiveness of infrastructure and industrial programmes and policies?
- What roles can development cooperation and partnerships play in support of this Goal and related targets?

17:45 – 18:00

Closing remarks

- Mr. Wu Hongbo, Under Secretary-General, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs
- H.E. Mr. Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava, President of ECOSOC