



NOTE on the ECOSOC Integration Segment (8 July 2019)

Mandate

The [ECOSOC Integration Segment](#) was established by the General Assembly, in its resolution 68/1, to facilitate discussions on integration and consolidate inputs to ECOSOC from Member States, the ECOSOC system, the wider UN system and other relevant stakeholders. In its latest resolution on ECOSOC strengthening (72/305), the General Assembly redefined the mandate of the ECOSOC Integration Segment, and decided that the Integration Segment would:

- be held for one day immediately before the HLPF.
- discuss and consolidate all the inputs of Member States, including case studies and lessons learned, the ECOSOC subsidiary bodies, the UN system and other relevant stakeholders to promote the balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development.
- bring together the key messages from its subsidiary bodies and the UN system on the main theme, develop action-oriented recommendations for follow-up and feed into the HLPF.
- coordinate the work of the subsidiary bodies of the Council, promoting a clearer division of labour among them, and the policies and activities of the specialized agencies relating to the SDGs and other internationally agreed development goals.

Furthermore, the Secretary-General will present to the Council the annual overview report of the UN System CEB during the Integration Segment. With the redefined mandate of the Integration Segment, the Council has an opportunity to deliver a more effective Segment to prepare the HLPF thematic reviews and coordinate the work of the UN system and subsidiary bodies. All inputs of the ECOSOC subsidiary bodies would be consolidated through the Integration Segment.

2019 Integration Segment

The theme of the 2019 Integration Segment will be *“Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”* in line with the theme of ECOSOC and HLPF. Given the interlinkages between the commitments and SDGs contained in the 2030 Agenda, their effective implementation requires a coordinated and coherent approach at all levels. The Segment will focus on the interlinkages among the SDGs that will be reviewed at the July HLPF, namely SDG 4 on quality education, SDG 8 on inclusive growth and decent work; SDG10 on inequalities; SDG 13 on climate action; SDG 16 on peaceful and inclusive societies and robust institutions and SDG 17 on global partnership.

It will examine the interlinkages among the SDGs through the lens of **people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnerships**. It will offer solutions for their integrated implementation based on the rich work of its subsidiary bodies and the UN development system.

It will discuss how to further improve the coordination and integration of UN system and ECOSOC subsidiary bodies in addressing these interlinkages.

SDGs and People, Planet, Prosperity, Partnership and Peace

The integrated implementation of the SDGs requires an understanding of the deep interconnections between the SDGs and their targets. This allows to identify trade-offs and synergies for policy coherence for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Pursuing a people-centered 2030 Agenda in a healthy planet requires managing potential trade-offs, as well as synergies. For example, access to quality education (SDG4) would provide opportunities

for social mobility and reducing inequalities (SDG10). It would give people the knowledge and skills needed to access decent jobs (SDG 8). A more inclusive and future-focused quality education (SDG 4) would be needed to address the skills-mismatch that is expected to increase, notably with the impact of frontier technologies. Particularly critical is dealing with trade-offs and synergies when taking action to combat climate change (SDG 13). The shift to a green economy has the potential to generate a significant amount of economic progress (SDG 8) and positive impacts for environment. Appropriate social protection measures would be necessary to alleviate the social impacts of climate change and to build the resilience of affected population (SDG 10).

The 2030 Agenda is an ambitious agenda striving for a prosperity and peace as well as a healthy planet. In conflict-related situations, climate change can exacerbate existing vulnerabilities and drivers of conflict, such as unequal access to resources and economic shocks, undermining efforts to promote peaceful and inclusive societies (SDG 16). Effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels (SDG 16) are critical for accelerating progress for a prosperous and healthy planet. Quality education (SDG 4) could help sow the seeds of peaceful and inclusive societies by fostering mutual understanding and social cohesion (SDG 16).

Reducing inequalities (SDG 10) is critical for the commitment to leave no one behind. Various targets across the SDGs highlight the interlinkages to reducing inequalities, through equal or universal access to resources, services and opportunities. For example, SDG 4 on quality education calls for equal access to quality pre-primary through tertiary education and other learning programmes. Access to justice for all as well as strong institutions (SDG 16) can help reduce inequalities (SDG 10).

Finally, partnership cuts across the entire agenda, through financing, science, technology and innovation and multi-stakeholder partnerships. Financing for development and science, technology and innovations are critical for realizing all the SDGs.

Reporting on the work of the Chief Executives Board

The General Assembly mandated the Secretary-General to report on the work of the CEB during the Integration Segment. An interactive session will be organized to this end.

Format and programme

The meeting will be a one-day event, chaired by the Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council, H.E. Ambassador Valentin Rybakov (Belarus). The Segment will feature opening and closing sessions as well as dialogues. An informal summary by the ECOSOC Vice-President will be prepared to highlight the main recommendations from the Segment. A set of key messages will be prepared to inform the thematic reviews at the HLPF. One part of the meeting will be dedicated to a dialogue with the Secretary-General on the report of the Chief Executives Board (CEB).