



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

9 April 2021

Excellency,

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 8 April 2021 from H.E. Mr. Alexander Marschik, Permanent Representative of Austria and H.E. Mr. Cheikh Niang, Permanent Representative of Senegal, the co-facilitators for the intergovernmental negotiations for the review process of the Economic and Social Council and the High-level Political Forum as per General Assembly resolution 74/298 of 12 August 2020 entitled “Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/290 on the high-level political forum on sustainable development, resolution 70/299 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level and resolution 72/305 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council”.

Following the virtual consultation held on 31 March, the aforementioned letter conveys a revised draft resolution based on the views and suggestions of delegations. In this regard, the co-facilitators will convene a virtual consultation on the revised draft of the resolution for the HLPF/ECOSOC Review on Monday, 19 April 2021 at 3 p.m. Connection details for the meeting will be provided by the Department of General Assembly and Conference Management in a subsequent correspondence for delegations.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Volkan Bozkir'.

Volkan BOZKIR

All Permanent Representatives and  
Permanent Observers to the United Nations  
New York



8 April 2021

Excellency,

We write to you in our capacity as co-facilitators of the intergovernmental negotiations related to General Assembly resolutions 74/298 on the review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/290 on the high-level political forum on sustainable development, 70/299 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level and 72/305 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council.

We wish to thank you for your active engagement during our recent informal consultations on 31 March. Further to these consultations, we are pleased to invite you to the next informal consultations on Monday, 19 April, at 3pm. The technical details for the link will be provided by the Secretariat of the United Nations in due course via e-mail.

We also wish to thank you for the concrete proposals you shared both orally at the meetings and in writing on the revised draft resolution dated 17 March. We have listened to your views and studied your proposals very carefully.

Based on the discussions and your inputs, we are pleased to convey to you with this letter a further revised version of the draft resolutions, which have been adjusted and refined based on your views and inputs. We hope that you will find some of your suggestions included in this updated draft. There are several instances where your views converge. However, as you are also aware, there remain diverging views on some aspects of the review. We continue to do our best in these instances to strike an appropriate balance.

We continue to seek your flexibility. We are hoping that, in a spirit of compromise, you will accept this updated version so that we may achieve the objectives of this process, namely strengthening ECOSOC and the HLPF to better support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the recovery from COVID-19.

All Permanent Missions of Member States to the United Nations and  
Permanent Observers of Non-Member States to the United Nations  
New York

To seek a convergence of views, we have proposed an adjustment to the format. As you will see, the newly proposed format is to have two draft resolutions with one unifying title and with a resolution A on the ECOSOC review and a resolution B on the HLPF review. They would have a separate, yet substantively identical, chapeau, followed by their respective annexes. The draft resolutions would be adopted separately and, once adopted, contain the same resolution number followed by the designation “A” or “B”. While separating the outcome into two separate resolutions, this approach maintains the interconnected nature of the reviews by keeping them under one title with identical chapeaux. A similar format is regularly used for resolutions in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> committee and has been used in some instances in the past such as “Questions relating to information” (draft resolutions contained in the report of the Fourth Committee A/75/415, pages 3-25 and the final resolutions 75/101 A-B) and the GA resolutions on the “United Nations common system”, adopted through the Fifth Committee (A/C.5/74/L.3 and A/C.5/74/L.4 and final resolutions 74/255 A-B). This approach therefore balances both views of merging and separating the outcomes. It is our sincere hope that this will be a compromise solution to this question.

Regarding the content of the draft resolution, on the measures for the review of the Economic and Social Council, further to your inputs, we have revised the resolution to streamline the text by eliminating repetition of mandates and removing proposals that lacked broad support. This revised version aims to better articulate some of the proposals to strengthen the Council’s work and clarify the purpose of some meetings and segments where adjustments are proposed. The Council’s high-level segment, the operational activities for development segment and the humanitarian affairs segment would continue to discharge their respective functions provided in relevant General Assembly resolutions. We are proposing an additional day for the high-level political forum, resulting in a total duration of five days for the high-level segment, including the four ministerial days of the high-level political forum. The text on the Coordination Segment and the former special event to discuss the transition from relief to development have been adjusted for further clarity.

On measures for the review of the high-level political forum, further to your expressed views, the draft further highlights the central role of the HLPF established in the 2030 Agenda in overseeing follow-up and review of the Agenda at the global level, while contributing to knowledge sharing, the science-policy interface and creating synergies to achieve the SDGs. In addition, the themes for the HLPF in 2022 and 2023 have been slightly revised based on comments from delegations. The section on voluntary national reviews has been further streamlined, aiming to strengthen the preparation, presentation and follow up of VNRs at various levels while respecting the country-led and country-owned nature of the VNRs. The draft also highlights further participation of the major groups and other stakeholders in the HLPF, while retaining the intergovernmental nature of the forum.

To assist delegations in their preparations, we are sharing an updated diagram illustrating the proposed structure of the Economic and Social Council. We will be also sharing shortly two co-facilitators’ non-papers that explain and elaborate on this draft of 8 April 2021. The first is entitled “Resolution format”, and the second is entitled “Coordination Segment”. It is our hope that these documents will clarify further the proposals and text contained in the draft resolution of 8 April.

We encourage Member States to come prepared to express their views on the revised draft resolution and its annexes during our upcoming meeting on 19 April. We look forward to hearing your views and to your active engagement.

We also wish to appeal to you to come to the meeting in a spirit of flexibility and compromise with a view toward achieving common ground. It is only through such flexibility and compromise that we will succeed in strengthening ECOSOC and the HLPF and arrive at a consensus document.

We wish to remind you that you can use the following e-mails to send us any further inputs or statements at any time during this process: [new-york-ov@bmeia.gv.at](mailto:new-york-ov@bmeia.gv.at) and [senegal.mission@yahoo.fr](mailto:senegal.mission@yahoo.fr) with a copy to [olsone@un.org](mailto:olsone@un.org) and [mahmassani@un.org](mailto:mahmassani@un.org).

Once again, we reiterate our commitment to ensuring that the process is completely open, transparent and inclusive and count on your active participation and support to arrive at an agreed collective outcome.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Alexander Marschik  
Permanent Representative of Austria  
to the United Nations



Cheikh Niang  
Permanent Representative  
of the Republic of Senegal to the United Nations

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# General Assembly

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## **WORKING DRAFT 8 April - part A**

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### **Seventy-fifth session**

Agenda items 14 and 122

**Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields**

**Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit**

### **Draft resolution**

**Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/305 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council**

**Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 67/290 on format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and 70/299 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level**

**A**

### **Economic and Social Council**

*The General Assembly,*

*PP1 Recalling the Charter of the United Nations, which provides the mandates for the Economic and Social Council,*

*PP2 Reaffirming* its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development and its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

*PP3 Recalling* its resolution 74/298 of 12 August 2020 entitled “Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/290 on the format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, resolution 70/299 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level and resolution 72/305 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council”,

*PP4 Recalling also* its resolutions 72/305 of 23 July 2018 entitled “Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 68/1 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council” and all previous related resolutions on strengthening the Economic and Social Council,

*PP5 Recalling further* its resolutions 67/290 of 9 July 2013 entitled “Format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development” and 70/299 of 29 July 2016 entitled “Follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level”,

*PP6 Reaffirming* its resolution 74/4 of 15 October 2019 entitled “Political declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly” and the relevance of the Decade of Action and Delivery for sustainable development; especially in the context of recovering better from the COVID-19 pandemic,

*PP7 Reaffirming also* its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the challenge

of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

1. *Reaffirms* the role that the Charter of the United Nations and the General Assembly have vested in the Economic and Social Council, recognizes the need for a more effective Council as a principal organ for coordination, policy review, policy dialogue and recommendations on issues of economic and social development, and recognizes also the key role of the Council in achieving a balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development;
2. *Reaffirms also* the commitment to strengthen the Economic and Social Council, within its mandate under the Charter, and reinforce its deliberative function, with an emphasis on accountability, knowledge-sharing and mutual learning for better results, so that it best supports the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the integrated and coordinated follow-up to the major United Nations conferences and summits as well as the response to COVID-19;
3. *Reaffirms further* that, in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Member States committed to engaging in systematic follow-up and review of the implementation of the Agenda in accordance with agreed guiding principles, including those set out in paragraph 74 of resolution 70/1, and asserted that the high-level political forum on sustainable development would have a central role in overseeing a network of follow-up and review processes of the 2030 Agenda at the global level, working coherently with the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and other relevant organs and forums, in accordance with existing mandates;
4. *Decides* that the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development shall be closely coordinated, in accordance with their respective roles and mandates, to ensure that their interconnected and interlinked work is coherent and mutually reinforcing in supporting the accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development throughout the Decade of Action and Delivery for Sustainable Development from now to the year 2030;

5. *Notes* that the Economic and Social Council is a UN Charter body and the high-level political forum on sustainable development is held under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;
6. *Adopts* the measures contained in the annex to the present resolution on the review of the Economic and Social Council and calls upon the Council and relevant bodies and platforms of the United Nations system, to implement them in an expeditious manner;
7. *Calls upon* the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Economic and Social Council to ensure that these measures are also implemented in the high-level political forum on sustainable development;
8. *Decides* that the arrangements contained in the present resolution and its annex shall be reviewed at its seventy-eighth session, in conjunction with the review of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, in order to benefit from lessons learned from the previous cycles of the high-level political forum on sustainable development as well as from relevant processes under the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council related to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda;
9. *Decides also* that subsequent review cycles shall continue to review the Economic and Social Council in conjunction with the review of the high-level political forum on sustainable development;
10. *Recalls* its decision contained in resolution 74/298 and decides to agree at its seventy-seventh session on the annual theme of ECOSOC and the high-level political forum and the set of Goals to be reviewed by the forum at the seventy-eighth session;
11. *Decides* that all mandates contained in resolution 72/305 on strengthening the Economic and Social Council and resolutions 67/290 and 70/299 shall remain in effect unless updated or replaced in the present resolution or subsequent resolutions of the General Assembly. The mandates contained in the present resolution, including its annexes, should be implemented starting with the 2021-2022 cycle of ECOSOC and the 2022 high-level political forum and their preparations.

**Annex: Measures for the review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 72/305 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council**

1. In accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the Economic and Social Council should continue to strengthen its leadership and policy guidance role, and its role as the central mechanism for coordination of the activities of the United Nations development system and its specialized agencies and supervision of its subsidiary bodies while integrating their analysis throughout its segments. It should also address new and emerging issues in the economic, social, environmental and related fields and provide overall support for a balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development.
2. The Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies should further enhance their contribution to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development during the Decade of Action and Delivery for sustainable development, and to the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts. The Council should also promote a coordinated follow-up and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development<sup>1</sup> and the outcomes of other major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social, environmental and related fields. To that end, the Council should ensure that the agenda, work programme, and discussions in its segments and fora and its subsidiary bodies contribute appropriately to the follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to the response to major challenges to the achievement of sustainable development such as the COVID-19 pandemic, considering the need to ensure the full coverage of the 2030 Agenda while avoiding overlaps and duplication in their work.
3. The General Assembly shall continue to adopt one main theme for the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development under its auspices, bearing in mind the provisions of resolution 70/299. The themes of the segments of the Council shall focus on a particular aspect of the one main theme, bearing in mind their respective functions, and reflect the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the Sustainable Development Goals and the three dimensions of sustainable development, including cross-cutting issues as well as new and emerging issues). The humanitarian affairs segment shall continue to adopt themes based on humanitarian considerations and that are coherent with the main theme of the Council. The subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council shall similarly adopt their own respective themes, aligned with the main theme, while continuing to address issues or a theme necessary to discharge their other functions.

4. The Economic and Social Council should provide integrated policy guidance on the follow-up and operationalization of the findings and outcomes of the high-level political forum, notably its thematic reviews and Voluntary National Reviews, bearing in mind the unique role of the Economic and Social Council as a Charter body entrusted with the coordination of the United Nations system. To support this work, the Secretary-General should include in his report on the main theme to the Economic and Social Council lessons learned from the thematic reviews and Voluntary National Reviews, with recommendations for follow-up by countries, various segments and forums of the Council, the United Nations system and relevant stakeholders. The Council will also discuss issues on the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development and their implications for the theme of Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The Council should place a focus on the poorest and most vulnerable to ensure no one is left behind in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.
5. The Council's segments and their reports, work programmes and outcomes should give adequate attention to the special challenges facing the most vulnerable countries and, in particular, African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States and countries in conflict and post-conflict situations, as well as the specific challenges facing middle-income countries, in pursuing sustainable development. The Secretary-General should adequately address the diverse needs and specific challenges facing these developing countries within existing reporting obligations, as appropriate.

*[Arrangements of the Economic and Social Council]*

6. The Economic and Social Council cycle will continue to run from July to July. To promote linkages in their work and enhance the visibility and impact of the Council, and to encourage focus, coherence and efficiency, the Council's segments and forums shall be structured into four groups per council cycle.
7. The first group, to be held by early February each year, will comprise the Multi-stakeholder partnership forum and the new Coordination Segment.
8. The second group will comprise Economic and Social Council forums. It will include, annually, the forum on financing for development follow-up, the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, the youth forum and all other related mandated

meetings. The Development Cooperation Forum will be convened in 2023, and will then be convened quadrennially thereafter.

9. The third group will comprise segments that address actions by the United Nations system, including the United Nations development system and other actors, to implement the 2030 Agenda, along with distinct humanitarian assistance. It will include the operational activities for development segment, the humanitarian affairs segment, and the Relief, Development and Resilience Meeting, which will replace the special event on the transition from relief to development.
10. The fourth group will comprise segments and forums that provide overall policy guidance and foster progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, contribute to the overall review of the 2030 Agenda at the high-level political forum and look to the future of the advancement of sustainable development. It will include the high-level political forum and the high-level segment. The ministerial segment of the high-level political forum will now be extended from 3 to 4 days.
11. As mandated in the past, the Council may convene special sessions to address urgent developments in the economic, social, environmental and related fields that may require guidance and coordination by the Council. It should also convene ad hoc meetings on specific humanitarian emergencies at the request of the affected country or following a recommendation of the Bureau. Such ad hoc meetings should raise awareness and promote the engagement of all relevant stakeholders, including the United Nations system, in support of international relief efforts aimed at addressing those emergencies.
12. The working modalities of the Economic and Social Council should be guided by the principles of inclusiveness, transparency and flexibility, based on the deliberative functions of its meetings. It should be a platform for discussion and the exchange of national experiences. The Council should aim at creating synergy and coherence as well as avoiding duplication and overlap in its work to ensure efficiency and effectiveness. The Council should work towards the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, as the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development. The Council should also strengthen its efforts to mainstream a gender perspective across its agenda, work programme, meetings and documentation.

13. The meetings of Economic and Social Council segments and forums may be convened in a hybrid format, combining in-person participation in New York with a virtual component to enable wider participation from around the world.

*[Multi-stakeholder Partnership Forum]*

14. The partnership forum of the Economic and Social Council will be reframed as the multi-stakeholder partnership forum and will be convened for one day by early February back to back with the Coordination Segment. The multi-stakeholder partnership forum will engage countries, the United Nations system, including international financial institutions, parliamentarians, local governments, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, civil society, scientists, academia and other relevant stakeholders. The forum will be organized in consultation with stakeholders and allow interactive discussions among all stakeholders on the main theme of the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum. The forum will be focused on the exchange of new ideas, expectations and priorities for the work ahead for the Economic and Social Council cycle and the high-level political forum on sustainable development held under Council's auspices. The multi-stakeholder partnership forum will also focus on forward-looking actions for consideration by countries and all relevant stakeholders as well as on innovative partnerships that can mobilize commitments and actions to advance the Sustainable Development Goals.

*[Coordination Segment]*

15. The way the Economic and Social Council delivers on its coordination function should be strengthened so as to help ensure that the UN system and subsidiary bodies of the Council contribute fully to the Decade of Action and Delivery and the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic. To this end, the Coordination Segment shall replace the integration segment and the informal meeting of Economic and Social Council with the subsidiary bodies' chairs and will be held annually for up to two days by early February. Through this segment, the Council will take up coordination matters arising from subsidiary bodies, principal organs and specialized agencies in the economic, social, environmental and related fields. It will steer the Economic and Social Council system towards an efficient and integrated workflow throughout the Economic and Social Council cycle leading up to the high-level political forum. It will provide forward-looking policy guidance to ensure coherence and direction in the policies and normative work of subsidiary bodies and specialized agencies relating to the

Sustainable Development Goals as well as to other aspects of the work of the Economic and Social Council.

16. The Coordination Segment will formulate common action-oriented policy guidance on all matters requiring implementation or coordination efforts (i) by the Council's functional and regional commissions and other subsidiary bodies as well as (ii) by the United Nations system, notably the specialized agencies, in the policy and normative area, including detailed guidance on the implementation of the ministerial declaration from the previous year. In coordinating the policy and normative work of specialized agencies and other United Nations system entities, the Council will avoid overlap with the operational activities for development segment which provides guidance on operational activities of the United Nations development system.
  
17. The Coordination Segment will examine key policy issues, lessons learned, best practices and recommendations emanating from the work of the Economic and Social Council subsidiary bodies including regional commissions during the previous cycle. It will allow the Council to address issues identified by subsidiary bodies as requiring the Council's attention at the global level and to build on the policy conclusions of its subsidiary bodies. It will also provide guidance and coordination to subsidiary bodies, ensuring a clearer division of labour among them, aligning their work with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and promoting their implementation of the ministerial declaration of the previous year. The Coordination Segment will furthermore provide detailed guidance to the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council and the United Nations system on their upcoming work on the main theme and develop action oriented assessment and recommendations so that those bodies best contribute to the preparations for the thematic review of the high-level political forum. It will review how subsidiary bodies and the UN system work on the interlinkages among the sustainable development goals and the integrated implementation of the 2030 Agenda, guiding their work for the rest of the Economic and Social Council cycle.
  
18. During the new Coordination Segment, the Council will also hold a discussion on the following coordination-related mandated agenda items that have been thus far considered during the management segment:
  - i. Mainstreaming a gender perspective into all policies and programmes in the United Nations system (*Item 12(c) of the Economic and Social Council's Agenda.*<sup>1</sup>)

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<sup>1</sup> The Economic and Social Council adopted agreed conclusions 1997/2 on gender mainstreaming contained in A/52/3 "[Report of the Economic and Social Council for 1997](#)"

- ii. Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227, 52/12 B, 57/270 B, 60/265, 61/16, 67/290, 68/1 and 72/305 on strengthening of the Economic and Social Council.

19. A note by the Secretary-General will be prepared to inform the discussions at the Coordination Segment. This note should include (i) integrated policy analysis emanating from the work of the subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council during the previous cycle and proposed guidance for their contributions to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and the Decade of Action and Delivery for Sustainable Development; (ii) coordination issues emanating from the work of subsidiary bodies and the policy and normative activities of specialized agencies and other UN system entities and recommendations for addressing them; and (iii) proposals related to the implementation of the ministerial declaration of the Economic and Social Council of the previous cycle and lessons learned from the thematic reviews and Voluntary National Reviews at the high-level political forum with recommendations for follow-up by countries, various segments and forums of the Council, the United Nations system and relevant stakeholders.
20. Heads of United Nations system entities, Chairs of the subsidiary bodies of the Council and Executive Secretaries of the regional commissions will be invited to participate. Representatives of non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Council, the private sector and other stakeholders involved in the policy and normative work of the United Nations system and the subsidiary bodies should be engaged in the Coordination Segment.
21. A non-negotiated summary will be prepared by the President of the Economic and Social Council to reflect the discussion and strategic guidance during the multi-stakeholder partnership forum and the Coordination Segment.

*[High-Level Segment]*

22. The high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council will continue to discharge the functions provided for in General Assembly resolution 72/305 of 23 July 2018 and 70/299 of 29 July 2016. An additional day will be added to the high-level segment for VNRs, resulting in a total duration of five days, including the four ministerial days of the high-level political forum. The ECOSOC Bureau is invited to consider ways to optimize the scheduling of the high-level segment, as appropriate.

23. The two mandated reports of the Secretary-General on the main theme and on the theme of the thematic discussion issued for the current high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council in July will be merged into a single report to inform the discussions at the final day of the high-level segment.

*[Operational activities for development segment]*

24. The operational activities for development segment of the Economic and Social Council will continue to discharge the functions provided for in General Assembly resolutions 75/233 of 21 December 2020, 72/305 of 23 July 2018, 72/279 of 31 May 2018 and 71/243 of 21 December 2016.

*[Relief, Development and Resilience Meeting]*

25. The one-day Relief, Development and Resilience Meeting will be convened immediately preceding the humanitarian affairs segment and replace the special event on the Transition from Relief to Development and alternate between Geneva and New York. The Meeting will address the linkages and complementarities between humanitarian assistance, development assistance and assistance for sustaining peace, in accordance with the respective mandates of the Economic and Social Council and other intergovernmental bodies. It will aim to reduce need, risk and vulnerability and to build resilience. It will also aim to improve the efforts of the international community to respond better to transition situations as well as to deliver better results for improving the situation of countries on the ground through enhanced cooperation, collaboration and coordination, with the ultimate goal to resume long term development. The meeting will focus on conflict-affected countries, countries in post-conflict or fragile situations and countries facing humanitarian emergencies. The Meeting will also consider the existing Council's agenda items on issues related to the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, South Sudan, the Sahel region and any country-specific item under the sub-item of African countries emerging from conflict for in-depth discussion to guide coordinated support at country-level. The Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission will be invited to participate in the Meeting. All relevant stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, should also be invited to participate in the meeting. The meeting may be held in a hybrid format and organized to ensure the full participation of all relevant stakeholders, in particular the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission and the Chair of the Ad hoc Advisory Group on Haiti. This meeting will be organized without prejudice to the operational activities for development segment and the humanitarian affairs segment and their respective mandates.

*[Humanitarian Affairs Segment]*

26. The humanitarian affairs segment of the Economic and Social Council will continue to discharge the functions provided for in General Assembly resolutions 72/305 of 23 July 2018, 68/1 of 20 September 2013 and 52/12 B of 19 December 1997.

*[Cooperation with the Security Council and the Peacebuilding Commission]*

27. As the Charter recognizes social and economic development as essential for stability and prosperity, the Economic and Social Council could furnish information to the Security Council and assist the Security Council upon its request, as envisioned in the Article 65 of the United Nations Charter.

28. The Economic and Social Council should strengthen its cooperation and dialogue with the Peacebuilding Commission, in accordance with their respective mandates. The President of the Economic and Social Council and the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission are encouraged to explore ways to improve the annual joint meetings of the two bodies and reinforce their impact on the situation at country level. One Member of the Peacebuilding Commission should ensure the flow of information and complementarity of the work of Economic and Social Council and the Peacebuilding Commission on an on-going basis.

*[Management Segment]*

29. The management segment of the Economic and Social Council will continue to discharge the functions provided for in General Assembly resolution 72/305 of 23 July 2018.

30. The Secretary-General's annual overview report of the United Nations Chief Executives Board for coordination will be presented by the Secretariat at the Management Segment of the Council.

*[Subsidiary bodies]*

31. The Economic and Social Council should continue to strengthen its oversight, guidance and coordination role of its subsidiary bodies as outlined in OP. 28 and 29 of General Assembly resolution 72/305.

32. The President and Bureau of the Council are invited to work with the Bureaus of its subsidiary bodies and delegations during the first half of 2022, so as to identify possible actions to be taken to implement the provisions of OP. 28 and 29 of resolution 72/305 so as to provide guidance, through the new Coordination Segment, on how to implement these mandates.

*[Engagement of civil society]*

33. The Economic and Social Council has an important role as a platform for multi-stakeholder participation and for engaging all relevant stakeholders, particularly with respect to its function related to the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development.

34. While retaining its intergovernmental nature, the Economic and Social Council should seek to promote the active participation of Members of Parliaments and academia, scientists, as well as non-governmental organizations, local governments, the private sector, youth and major groups and other stakeholders, and international and regional organizations, in all the activities of the Council and its functional and regional commissions and other subsidiary bodies, in accordance with the provisions of their respective rules of procedure and the provisions of General Assembly resolution 67/290 of 9 July 2013 insofar as it pertains to the meetings of the high-level political forum under the auspices of the Council.

35. The Economic and Social Council should consider possible ways of applying to other meetings and segments certain aspects of the modalities of engagement of major groups and other stakeholders in the high-level political forum, while retaining its intergovernmental nature and allowing sufficient time to Member States.

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## **WORKING DRAFT 8 April – part B**

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### **Seventy-fifth session**

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**Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit**

### **Draft resolution**

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**Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 67/290 on format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and 70/299 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level**

### **B**

**High-level political forum on sustainable development**

*The General Assembly,*

*PPI* Recalling the Charter of the United Nations, which provides the mandates for the Economic and Social Council,

*PP2 Reaffirming* its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development and its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

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*PP4 Recalling also* its resolutions 72/305 of 23 July 2018 entitled “Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 68/1 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council” and all previous related resolutions on strengthening the Economic and Social Council,

*PP5 Recalling further* its resolutions 67/290 of 9 July 2013 entitled “Format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development” and 70/299 of 29 July 2016 entitled “Follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level”,

*PP6 Reaffirming* its resolution 74/4 of 15 October 2019 entitled “Political declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly” and the relevance of the Decade of Action and Delivery for sustainable development; especially in the context of recovering better from the COVID-19 pandemic,

*PP7 Reaffirming also* its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda, supports and complements it, helps to contextualize its means of implementation targets with concrete policies and actions and reaffirms the strong political commitment to address the

challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development in the spirit of global partnership and solidarity,

1. *Reaffirms* the role that the Charter of the United Nations and the General Assembly have vested in the Economic and Social Council, recognizes the need for a more effective Council as a principal organ for coordination, policy review, policy dialogue and recommendations on issues of economic and social development, and recognizes also the key role of the Council in achieving a balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development,
2. *Reaffirms also* the commitment to strengthen the Economic and Social Council, within its mandate under the Charter, and reinforce its deliberative function, with an emphasis on accountability, knowledge-sharing and mutual learning for better results, so that it best supports the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the integrated and coordinated follow-up to the major United Nations conferences and summits as well as the response to COVID-19;
3. *Reaffirms further* that, in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Member States committed to engaging in systematic follow-up and review of the implementation of the Agenda in accordance with agreed guiding principles, including those set out in paragraph 74 of resolution 70/1, and asserted that the high-level political forum on sustainable development would have a central role in overseeing a network of follow-up and review processes of the 2030 Agenda at the global level, working coherently with the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and other relevant organs and forums, in accordance with existing mandates;
4. *Decides* that the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development shall be closely coordinated, in accordance with their respective roles and mandates, to ensure that their interconnected and interlinked work is coherent and mutually reinforcing in supporting the accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development throughout the Decade of Action and Delivery for Sustainable Development from now to the year 2030;

5. *Notes* that the Economic and Social Council is a UN Charter body and the high-level political forum on sustainable development is held under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly;
6. *Adopts* the measures contained in the annex to the present resolution on the review of the high-level political forum on sustainable development and calls upon the Council and relevant bodies and platforms of the United Nations system, to implement them in an expeditious manner;
7. *Calls upon* the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Economic and Social Council to ensure that these measures are also implemented in the high-level political forum on sustainable development;
8. *Decides* that the arrangements contained in the present resolution and its annex shall be reviewed at its seventy-eighth session, in conjunction with the review of the Economic and Social Council, in order to benefit from lessons learned from the previous cycles of the high-level political forum on sustainable development as well as from relevant processes under the General Assembly and Economic and Social Council related to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda;
9. *Decides also* that subsequent review cycles shall continue to review the Economic and Social Council in conjunction with the review of the high-level political forum on sustainable development;
10. *Recalls* its decision contained in resolution 74/298 and decides to agree at its seventy-seventh session on the annual theme of ECOSOC and the high-level political forum and the set of Goals to be reviewed by the forum at the seventy-eighth session;
11. *Decides* that all mandates contained in resolution 72/305 on strengthening the Economic and Social Council and resolutions 67/290 and 70/299 shall remain in effect unless updated or replaced in the present resolution or subsequent resolutions of the General Assembly. The mandates contained in the present resolution, including its annexes, should be implemented starting with the 2021-2022 cycle of ECOSOC and the 2022 high-level political forum and their preparations.

**Annex: Measures for the review of the implementation of General Assembly  
resolutions 67/290 on format and organizational aspects of the high-level political  
forum on sustainable development and 70/299 on the follow-up and review of the 2030  
Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level**

*[Introduction]*

1. The high-level political forum on sustainable development, consistent with its universal intergovernmental character, shall provide political leadership, guidance and recommendations for sustainable development, follow-up and review progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in its entirety and other sustainable development commitments, enhance the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development in a holistic and cross-sectoral manner at all levels, and have a focused, dynamic and action oriented agenda, ensuring the appropriate consideration of new and emerging challenges and mobilizing further actions to accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the achievement of the SDGs.
2. The Assembly reaffirms its resolutions 67/290, 70/299 and 74/298 and the central role of the high-level political forum on sustainable development established in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in overseeing follow-up and review of the Agenda at the global level, while also contributing to knowledge sharing and creating synergies to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
3. In accordance with the Political Declaration of the “SDG Summit” (high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly) held on 24 and 25 September 2019, the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level should support the accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the achievement of its 17 sustainable development goals through the Decade of Action and Delivery for sustainable development.
4. The principles established in the 2030 Agenda for guiding follow-up and review processes at all levels, including those set out in paragraph 74 of the Agenda, should continue to be implemented through the reviews conducted at the HLPF.

5. The preparations of the HLPF and its programme and proceedings, including the thematic reviews and the voluntary national reviews, shall reflect the universal, integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the SDGs, and give adequate attention to the implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Paris Agreement and other major UN agreements.
6. The forum shall address the interlinkages between the global, regional, national and local levels of the implementation and review of the 2030 Agenda. The forum is the culmination of a year-long process that involves, depending on the country's approach, local and national analysis, reviews and dialogues, notably on the preparations of the VNRs; regional consultations and peer learning at the regional forums on sustainable development; expert and other preparatory meetings, leading to the high-level political forum, which should then lead to feedback to the national and regional level.

#### *I. The HLPF under the auspices of ECOSOC*

7. In preparing the Forum, the President and the Bureau of ECOSOC, participants in the Forum and the Secretariat will strengthen the focus of the Forum on peer learning and implementation, by providing sufficient time for exchange of experience, knowledge and advice including on successes, challenges, lessons learned and best practices, encouraging interaction among countries and with stakeholders before, during and after the HLPF.
8. Bearing in mind the mandate of the HLPF, and to enable adequate time for interactive discussions on the VNRs and reviewing progress in countries in special situations and specific challenges facing middle-income countries, an additional day will be added to the HLPF under the auspices of ECOSOC, resulting in a ministerial segment of four days, and a total duration of nine days. The ECOSOC Bureau is also invited to assist in making the organization and work of the HLPF as effective and efficient as possible.

#### *[Thematic reviews]*

9. The high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the ECOSOC, without prejudice to the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the SDGs, shall continue to

review a set of Goals and their interlinkages, including with other Goals, at each session, representing the three dimensions of sustainable development, with a view to facilitating an in-depth review of progress made on all 17 Goals over the course of a four-year cycle. Means of implementation, including with respect to Goal 17, shall be reviewed annually, including based on the outcome of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up. Peace, justice and strong institutions with respect to Goal 16 shall also be reviewed annually.

10. The high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of ECOSOC shall strengthen its analysis of the interlinkages across the goals and targets, including policy implications of their synergies and trade-offs, and of the three dimensions of sustainable development while also addressing cross-cutting issues and the principle of Leaving No One Behind. While respecting its universal intergovernmental character, the Forum will continue to involve Governments, as well as the United Nations system and other international and regional organizations, parliamentarians, local governments, indigenous peoples, civil society, NGOs, business and the private sector, the scientific and academic community and other major groups and stakeholders.
11. The Forum will strive to strike a balance between giving greater attention to interlinkages across the Goals and targets, and ensuring in-depth reviews of individual SDGs. It will give dedicated attention to issues related to the availability of data and the strengthening of statistical capacities.
12. To better address the synergies and trade-offs across the goals, the high-level political forum shall also bear in mind, each year, areas where measures to achieve the SDGs can have the greatest and most transformative impact across multiple goals and targets, building on policy and scientific analysis.
13. The forum shall strengthen the science-policy interface to support actions by policy makers and other stakeholders with solid evidence on progress and challenges in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the related policies.

14. For the remainder of the current cycle of the high-level political forum, the themes shall be:
  - a. For 2022: **Building back better from COVID-19 while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda** : Improving the response to the pandemic and strengthening SDG implementation during the Decade of Action and Delivery through gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, quality education, and the sustainable management, protection and restoration of natural resources;
  - b. For 2023: **Accelerating the recovery from COVID-19 and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda at all levels**: Ensuring universal access to quality basic services, empowering and supporting local governments, and building resilience.
  
15. For the remainder of the current cycle of the high-level political forum under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, the sets of Sustainable Development Goals to be reviewed in-depth shall be:
  - i. For 2022: Goals 4, 5, 14, 15, 16 and 17;
  - ii. For 2023: Goals 6, 7, 9, 11, 16 and 17.

The 2022 and 2023 HLPF shall take into account the different and particular impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic across all SDGs.

16. The 2022 and 2023 HLPF will also maintain the integrity of the 2030 Agenda and ensure continuous action on the targets of the Sustainable Development Goals with a 2020 timeline, while keeping track of and taking fully into account the related ongoing intergovernmental processes to allow updated targets to reflect a suitable level of ambition for 2030.
17. In 2022 and 2023, the HLPF shall also promote and review the implementation of the political declaration adopted at the 2019 “SDG summit” (high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly), including its ten cross-cutting actions, so as to contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
18. In the conduct of the thematic reviews, the HLPF should make use of the findings, research, data and recommendations from the UN system as well as those emanating from the expert preparatory process organized by the Secretariat; the inputs of intergovernmental bodies and multi-stakeholder and other relevant forums to the HLPF; and expert and scientific sources such as the Global Sustainable Development Report and the Technology Facilitation Mechanism that strengthen the science-policy interface.

19. The relevant entities of the UN system are invited to continue supporting the preparations of the thematic reviews. Preparations should encourage the identification of good practices, lessons learned, challenges, solutions and the overarching principle of leaving no one behind.

*[Countries in special situations]*

20. The HLPF shall dedicate adequate time to review progress in implementing the 2030 Agenda in countries in special situations, especially with regard to the SDGs under review and their interlinkages particularly in African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States, and countries in conflict and post-conflict situations. The dedicated thematic sessions for countries in special situation in previous HLPFs must be maintained and the circumstances and challenges of countries in special situations should also be addressed throughout the HLPF thematic reviews. Specific challenges facing middle-income countries should also be considered.

*[Voluntary national reviews]*

21. Countries presenting VNRs are encouraged to report on their progress in implementing the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, consistent with the provisions of the 2030 Agenda and resolution 67/290. While bearing in mind the voluntary and country-led nature of VNRs and previous experience with VNR presentations, countries may wish to share best practices and experiences including successes, challenges, gaps and lessons learned as well as areas where more action and new partnerships are needed in implementing the 2030 Agenda at the national level. When conducting their VNRs, countries could also consider indicating the next steps they intend to take to accelerate implementation in the context of the decade of action and delivery. Such forward-looking accelerated action could also inform VNR country contributions to the SDG Moment, convened by the Secretary-General each September. Countries having already conducted a VNR are also encouraged, during the next VNR, to highlight trends, areas of progress, remaining challenges along with, as much as possible, the impact of measures taken since the last VNR.

22. While recognizing the voluntary nature of the voluntary national reviews (VNRs), countries are encouraged to conduct a VNR once during the four-year cycle, including countries in special situations. Countries who have not conducted a VNR yet are encouraged to do so, bearing in mind their capacities and national circumstances.
23. The President of ECOSOC and the Bureau shall consider ways to allocate as much time as possible to the VNRs during the HLPF in order to strengthen interaction, substantive discussion and peer learning. Based on the VNRs, countries at the HLPF are encouraged to continue to share their own experience and lessons learned, constructive feedback and suggestions to accelerate progress. Countries conducting VNRs may also continue to provide written answers after the HLPF if they so wish in case time was too short for them to provide detailed answers during the HLPF. It is important to continue to enable the participation of major groups and other stakeholders in the discussion of the VNRs at the HLPF. Countries conducting VNRs should be given priority for organizing HLPF side events, on a voluntary basis, outside of the main sessions of the forum, including to allow for further interaction with all stakeholders.
24. Bearing in mind the voluntary and country-led nature of the VNRs, countries are encouraged to involve all relevant parts of governments at all levels and relevant institutions, as well as major groups and other stakeholders in the various steps and phases of the VNRs in accordance with paragraphs 74, 78 and 79 of the 2030 Agenda. The essential role of national parliaments is also acknowledged through their enactment of legislation and adoption of budgets and their role in ensuring implementation and accountability at national level for the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs, including through engagement in the VNRs.
25. Countries are encouraged to consider international human rights mechanisms' recommendations in the implementation of their commitments under the 2030 Agenda and to ensure regular coordination between national structures for 2030 Agenda follow-up and existing national structures for human rights reporting and follow up, considering that the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the promotion and protection of human rights are interrelated and mutually reinforcing.
26. The Forum shall ensure Paris Principles compliant national human rights institutions and their networks can take part in its work and discussions under the same modalities as civil society and other stakeholders in order to make the best use of the unique expertise these institutions can provide.

27. As a part of the follow-up to the mandate of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda for elaborating integrated national financing framework, countries are encouraged to review the mobilization of financial resources from all sources for implementing the 2030 Agenda as part of their VNRs.
28. Countries are also encouraged to strengthen evidence-, science-, evaluation- and data-based statistical reporting through the VNRs and enhance national statistical capacities to address the gaps in data on the 2030 Agenda. This will allow for high quality, timely, reliable, disaggregated data and statistics.
29. Bearing in mind the voluntary and country-led nature of the VNRs, countries are encouraged to continue the practice to follow the Secretary-General's voluntary common reporting guidelines as a suggested tool in preparations for voluntary national reviews. The Secretary-General is requested to update these guidelines, as appropriate, notably with a view to strengthening analysis and evidence-based reporting on all SDGs and on the 2030 Agenda as a whole, and taking into account feedback from countries participating in the high-level political forum, the lessons learned from the forum, the impacts of COVID-19 and other crises as well as the limited capacities of many countries, and to make them available to Member States.
30. Countries are also encouraged to participate in the various preparatory processes for the VNRs organized by the United Nations Secretariat and other relevant partners, as well as in the VNR labs and other side events during the HLPF which may allow them to continue the interaction on their VNRs or discuss specific themes from the VNRs with other countries.
31. During the preparations of the VNRs, countries, the UN system and other international and regional organizations and other stakeholders in a position to do so are invited to provide support to countries who request it for the conduct of their VNR.
32. To improve the follow-up to the VNRs, countries, the UN system and other international and regional organizations, and other stakeholders are invited and encouraged to launch partnerships and other mutually agreed arrangements and provide support, including capacity building, to VNR programme countries at their request in order to help them address the challenges related to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The United Nations development system is invited to support the follow-up to the VNRs in developing countries, at their request, including by addressing gaps and challenges in implementation identified by the VNRs in developing the Common Country Assessments and in elaborating and implementing United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks where possible.

33. Countries are also encouraged to use the voluntary national reviews as a voluntary, effective and integrated follow-up and review framework to inform their citizens on their implementation of the 2030 Agenda, maximize and track their progress and promote fulfilment of their commitments to their citizens.

*[Regional level follow-up and review]*

34. The regional forums on sustainable development convened by the regional commissions make an important contribution to the preparations of the HLPF and to peer learning and knowledge exchange in the regions. The regional forums shall feed into the thematic reviews and the interaction on the voluntary national reviews at the HLPF. They are encouraged to prepare the thematic reviews of the HLPF and discuss regional progress, challenges, gaps and approaches as well as best practices, emerging issues and innovative ideas to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the achievement of SDGs, as well as to strengthen regional capacity building and networking. The regional forums are also encouraged to enhance peer learning and exchange of experiences among countries during the preparations of the VNRs and to discuss and follow-up on issues arising from the VNRs, while avoiding overlap with the HLPF. They should also provide adequate space for stakeholder participation.
35. The high-level political forum should continue to strengthen the attention given to the outcomes of the regional forums in its proceedings and declaration, with inputs from the regional commissions and other regional and sub-regional entities as needed, while improving cross-regional dialogue and incorporating regional dimensions in its reviews. The regional forums are encouraged to submit their respective reports as early as possible to ensure a timely consideration by the high-level political forum.

*[Local level implementation and review]*

36. The regional forums are also encouraged to discuss trends and findings from voluntary local reviews. The high-level political forum should continue to strengthen the attention given to efforts to bolster local action to accelerate SDG implementation, in accordance with national circumstances, policies and priorities, as well as to encourage the use of open and inclusive space for review mechanisms at the local level.

*[Reports]*

37. The meetings of the high-level political forum under the auspices of ECOSOC shall continue to be informed by the Secretary-General's annual progress report on the Sustainable Development Goals and all other relevant inputs. The Secretary-General is invited to include in the SDG progress report information on data gaps and capacities and options to address the capacity gaps as well as information on the interlinkages among the SDGs under review that year. The *Global Sustainable Development Report* will also continue to be presented to the high-level political forum under the auspices of the General Assembly every four years. The President of ECOSOC and the Bureau of ECOSOC are encouraged to invite the scientists preparing the *2023 Global Sustainable Development Report* to participate in the 2022 and 2023 high-level political forum under the auspices of ECOSOC, including to bring new and emerging issues to the attention of the HLPF.
38. Thematic reviews of progress on the Sustainable Development Goals, including cross-cutting issues, at the high-level political forum, shall continue to be supported by inputs from the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and other intergovernmental bodies and forums which should reflect the integrated nature of the Goals as well as the interlinkages between them. The thematic reviews shall also continue to engage all relevant stakeholders.

*[Declaration]*

39. The declaration of the high-level political forum should be concise, focused, action oriented, forward looking and outlining priority areas for accelerated action. It should demonstrate the shared political will of all countries to implement the 2030 Agenda. Every effort shall be made to reach consensus. The HLPF will continue to have only one negotiated political declaration covering the different but complementary functions of the Forum when the Forum is convened twice in the same year.

***II. HLPF under the auspices of the General Assembly***

40. The meetings of the high-level political forum under the auspices of the General Assembly ("SDG Summit") shall begin on the first day of the General Debate or the Monday before the opening of the General Debate of the General Assembly to maximize their visibility and impact. In the year preceding the SDG Summit, the United Nations system should focus its communication efforts on the 2030 Agenda. The Secretary-General is encouraged to use the annual SDG moment to highlight inspiring action on the Goals, in the context of the general debate of the General Assembly and with

participation of heads of state and government. The SDG moment will not be held in years when the HLPF meets under the auspices of the General Assembly.

### ***III. Participation of major groups and other stakeholders***

41. Reaffirming the provisions stipulated in paragraphs 14, 15 and 16 of resolution 67/290 on the participation of the major groups and other stakeholders in the HLPF, which should be fully implemented, the high-level political forum should further enable the participation of major groups and other stakeholders in all aspects of its work, including through virtual and hybrid formats, while retaining the intergovernmental nature of the forum. It should ensure adequate time for meaningful participation of a diverse and inclusive range of major groups and other stakeholders, including marginalized groups.
  42. Countries are also invited to consider including major groups and other stakeholders in the preparations and follow up of their VNRs as well as to consider including them in their delegations at the HLPF. There is also the need to maintain geographical balance in the participation of major groups and other stakeholders in the Forum.
  43. In organizing the meetings of the high-level political forum, consideration should be given to the innovative use of web-based interfaces as an additional means to support effective, broad and balanced participation of major groups and other stakeholders from all regions, in accordance with the modalities on the participation of stakeholders in resolution 67/290.
  44. Major groups and other stakeholders are called upon to continue to report on their contributions to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, as provided for by paragraph 89 of the 2030 Agenda, in the form of official discussion papers, and the Secretariat shall continue to compile and make available their reports.
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