**Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)**

**Operational activities for development segment**

**18-20 May 2021**

**Draft Programme**

**Amplifying the United Nations development system’s impact in support of the Decade of Action**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TUE 18 May</th>
<th>WED 19 May</th>
<th>THU 20 May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **10:00 – 12:00**  
**Session 1**  
Opening of the ECOSOC operational activities for development segment and Interactive dialogue with the UN Secretary-General | **09:15-10:45**  
**Informal Session 3**  
Dialogue with programme country governments, resident coordinators and UN country team members (Part 1): Tailoring UN development system’s support to countries’ specific circumstances | **09:15-10:45**  
**Informal Session 7**  
Dialogue with resident coordinators: Addressing multidimensional poverty and leaving no one behind through a whole of system approach |
| **10:45-11:00 Break**  
(change of virtual platform) | **10:45-11:00 Break**  
(change of virtual platform) | |
| **11:00–13:00**  
**Session 4**  
Dialogue with Executive Heads of the UN development system: moving from architecture to results | **11:00–13:00**  
**Session 8**  
Unleashing the UN development system’s regional assets: the path forward | |
| **15:00 -17:00**  
**Session 2**  
Report of the Chair of UNSDG on the Development Coordination Office and the new resident coordinator system: what have we achieved, what are the next steps and how can we strengthen UN system-wide results in support of the 2030 Agenda? | **15:00 -16:00**  
**Session 5**  
Two years into the Funding Compact: Are we delivering on our respective commitments? | **15:00 -16:30**  
**Session 9**  
Joining forces with international financial institutions during and after the crisis |
| **16:00 -17:00**  
**Session 6**  
Responding to needs and priorities of countries serviced by multi-country offices | | **16:30 -17:00**  
**Session 10**  
Closing session |

In view of time constraints, the general debate will be conducted through written statements. To encourage interactive dialogue, regional groups and Member States are invited to provide their formal statements on progress in implementing GA resolutions 75/233 and 72/279 through written statements, by sharing these in advance with the Secretariat (qcpr@un.org). The statements will be posted on the QCPR website.

The views and main points presented in the statements will be reflected in the Vice-President’s summary of the segment.
Chair of ECOSOC operational activities for development segment:
His Excellency Sergiy Kyslytsya, Vice-President of ECOSOC responsible for the operational activities for development segment

Session 1: Tuesday 18 May 2021, 10:00am – 12:00pm
Opening of the ECOSOC operational activities for development segment and interactive dialogue with the Secretary-General
[Virtual meeting, RSI platform]

Opening
- His Excellency Munir Akram, President of ECOSOC

Keynote
- His Excellency António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations: presentation of the Secretary-General’s report and vision for the continuation of UN reform and the implementation of the 2020 QCPR in times of crisis

Interactive discussion with the Secretary-General

Chair and Moderator
- His Excellency Munir Akram, President of ECOSOC

NOTE: Delegations are encouraged to engage through short interventions (2-3 minutes each). Statements submitted in writing (estatements@un.org) will be posted on eStatements and the QCPR website.

Session 2: Tuesday 18 May 2021, 3:00pm – 5:00pm
Report of the Chair of UNSDG on the Development Coordination Office and the new resident coordinator system: what have we achieved, what are the next steps and how can we strengthen UN system-wide results in support of the 2030 Agenda?
[Virtual meeting, RSI platform]

Guiding questions:
- What have been the achievements and challenges of the UN Development Coordination Office (DCO) in supporting the Resident Coordinator system?
- Are Resident Coordinators exercising their new leadership and how is DCO helping them?
- How has the Resident Coordinator system fared against the early ‘stress test’ of helping countries to respond to COVID-19?
- Are we witnessing the type of behavioural change (e.g. increased joint analysis, planning, programming, implementation, shared resources) in UN country teams that will allow for transformative change in the UN’s collective support to the 2030 Agenda?
- What have been UN system results in supporting the 2030 Agenda and how can they be measured and strengthened?
- What are the expectations for the review of the resident coordinator system?

Chair and Moderator:
- His Excellency Sergiy Kyslytsya, Vice-President of ECOSOC responsible for the operational activities for development segment
Presentation: Annual Report of the Chair of the UN Sustainable Development Group on the Development Coordination Office

- Her Excellency Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, and Chair of the UN Sustainable Development Group
- Mr. Robert Piper, Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Development Coordination Office

Interactive Discussion

Informal Session 3: Wednesday 19 May 2021, 9:15am-10:45am (with no interpretation)

Dialogue with programme country governments, resident coordinators and UN country team members (Part 1): Tailoring UN development system’s support to countries’ specific circumstances

[Virtual meeting, Webex platform]

Objectives:
This session in two parts will focus on some of the key changes on the ground, achieved through leveraging the UN Development system and its full offer, including in the response to COVID-19. The session will discuss how the UN development system is working through a whole of system approach at national, and regional levels and across pillars, and is tailoring its support to countries based on their specific circumstances.

Guiding questions:

- How can areas of focus and modalities for the UN development system support shift to best respond to the varied situation of countries?
- How are the new generation of Common Country Analysis and UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks helping in adjusting support to the respective country situations?
- How has the UN development system come together for a whole system response at country level to address the impact of COVID-19 on sustainable development? How can these changes be sustained in different country situations? What are the lessons learned in terms of what must still change, including to build on synergies or address gaps?
- How has the UN’s overall response to COVID-19 worked across development, humanitarian and peacebuilding action and how should it be improved over the year ahead?
- Following the UN development system repositioning, what has changed in terms of behaviours and accountabilities, including reporting lines of resident coordinators and UN Country Teams and how can those changes help in responding to the specific mandates of the QCPR to leave no one behind and build a greener and fairer world?
- What specific support have countries received from regional entities and regional offices of UN development system entities from the UN Secretariat and other entities with little to no physical footprint?

Chair:

- His Excellency Sergiy Kyslytsya, Vice-President of ECOSOC responsible for the operational activities for development segment

Moderator:

- His Excellency Mr. Günther Sautter, Deputy Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations

Panel: Three countries with government, Resident Coordinator and UN country team member

- Country 1: Ukraine
  - Mr. Dmytro Shevchuk, Director of Strategic Planning, Secretariat of the Cabinet of Ministers, Ukraine
Interactive Discussion

Wednesday 19 May 2021, 10:45am – 11:00am

Change of virtual platform

Session 4: Wednesday 19 May 2021, 11:00am -1:00pm
Dialogue with Executive Heads of the UN development system: moving from architecture to results
[Virtual meeting, RSI platform]

Objectives:
The dialogue will look back at progress on key aspects of the repositioning of the UN development system in the past year, and discuss priorities for action in the years to come for the UN development system to implement the 2020 QCPR. Executive Heads will explain how the new Strategic Plans that are currently being developed are taking into account the 2020 QCPR, a whole-of-system approach by all actors of the UN development system to deliver the support that countries need in the decade of action, and specific policies that have not been the focus of the QCPR previously, such as climate action. The Executive Heads may also address the policies being put in place to align with the Management and Accountability Framework.

Guiding questions:
- What have been your progress and challenges in implementing the UN development system reform over the last year, including in the areas of results, accountability, effectiveness and efficiency?
- How is your entity’s strategic plan under development taking into account the 2020 QCPR in terms of policy, programming and management?
- What policy, rules and regulation changes have you implemented in the past year to ensure full alignment of lines of accountability and reporting with the Management and Accountability Framework? How are the governing bodies ensuring that country programmes’ outcomes and outputs are derived from the Cooperation Frameworks?
- What concrete actions would facilitate the alignment of policy and decision-making between the individual governing bodies, ECOSOC and the General Assembly?
Session 5: Wednesday 19 May 2021, 3:00pm -4:00pm
Two years into the Funding Compact: Are we delivering on our respective commitments?

[Virtual meeting (RSI platform)]

Objectives
The dialogue will take stock of where we stand with Member States’ and UNSDG’s commitments two years after the adoption of the Funding Compact and where the biggest push is needed to ensure commitments are fulfilled. It will also initiate a discussion on the next steps with regard to the Compact in general, and the targets to be achieved in 2021.

Guiding questions:
- Two years since the adoption of the compact, what has changed in the policies and procedures of UNDS entities to reflect the Funding Compact commitments? How has this been reflected a country level?
- What actions need to be strengthened on the part of the UN development system to further incentivize a shift in funding patterns and behaviours?
- How are countries faring on their own commitments in the funding compact? What are achievements and challenges? What actions need prioritization from development partners to support better quality funding to the UN development system? As 2021 is the year when many of the Compact’s targets were supposed to be reached, which commitments need the biggest push over the next 12 to 24 months?

Chair
His Excellency Sergiy Kyslytsya, Vice-President of ECOSOC responsible for the operational activities for development segment

Moderator
Ms. Melissa Fleming, Under Secretary-General for Global Communications, United Nations

Panellists
- Mr. Achim Steiner, Vice-Chair, UN Sustainable Development Group and Administrator, UNDP
- Ms. Henrietta Fore, Executive Director, UNICEF
- Dr. Zsuzsanna Jakab, Deputy Director-General, WHO
- Ms. Rola Dashti, Coordinator of the Regional Economic Commissions, and Executive Secretary, ESCWA
- Ms. Isabelle Durant, Acting Secretary-General, UNCTAD
- Mr. Antonio Vitorino, Director General, IOM

Interactive Discussion
Session 6: Wednesday, 19 May 2021, 4:00pm – 5:00pm

Responding to needs and priorities of countries serviced by multi-country offices

[Virtual meeting (RSI platform)]

Objectives
The session will examine the operationalization of the Secretary-General’s proposals to strengthen the UN development system’s support to countries covered by multi-country offices (MCOs), in particular, small island developing States (SIDS). Panellists will address how the UN development system is boosting collective support to the specific needs of these countries and territories, from building stronger MCOs to delivering more and better programmatic support, including integrated policy support, strengthening of data capacities and financing for development.

Guiding questions:
- How has the UN’s collective offer shaped up and evolved to respond to the needs of countries and territories serviced by MCOs? What are the results so far? What is different today from a year ago, when ECOSOC and the General Assembly approved the recommendations to improve and strengthen MCOs?
- In what ways is the UN development system taking account of the special needs of small island developing States that make up the majority of MCO countries? How has the value proposition of UN development system entities changed to ensure more and better focus for SIDS?
- How are MCOs benefiting from a new regional architecture? How are resident coordinators, regional commissions, and UN development system entities with little or no physical footprint coming together to support governments efforts to advance the 2030 Agenda and the SAMOA Pathway?
- How has the COVID-19 response impacted measures taken to strengthen MCOs? How have countries and territories benefited from the MCO review in facing the pandemic?

Chair
- His Excellency Sergiy Kyslytsya, Vice-President of ECOSOC responsible for the operational activities for development segment

Presenter
- Mr. Achim Steiner, UNSDG Vice Chair and UNDP Administrator

Moderator
- Mr. Selwin Charles Hart, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Climate Action and Assistant Secretary-General for the Climate Action Team

Panellists
- His Excellency Mr. Walton Webson, Chair of AOSIS, Permanent Representative of Antigua & Barbuda to the United Nations
- His Excellency Mr. Satyendra Prasad, Chair of PSIDS, Permanent Representative of Fiji
- Mr. Didier Trebucq, RC, Barbados Multi-Country Office
Interactive Discussion

Informal Session 7: Thursday, 20 May 2021, 9:15am-10:45am (with no interpretation)

Dialogue with resident coordinators: Addressing multidimensional poverty and leaving no one behind through a whole of system approach

[Virtual meeting, Webex platform]

Objectives
This session in two parts will focus on some of the key changes on the ground, achieved through leveraging the full offer of the UN Development system, including for the response to COVID-19. The discussion will focus on how the UN development system can work together at national, regional and global levels and across pillars to successfully address multi-dimensional poverty and how it intends to adjust its ways of working to leave no one behind. The session will also address the costs of keeping gross national income per capita as the key measure of development success and as a criteria to access concessional finance.

Guiding questions:
  ▪ How far has the UN development system come together at country level to address the impact of COVID-19 and support the eradication of poverty in all its dimensions? How can these changes be sustained and what must still change?
  ▪ How can the UN development system adjust its support to leave no one behind and support related policies?
  ▪ Following the UN development system repositioning, what has changed in terms of behaviours and accountabilities, including reporting lines of resident coordinators and UNCTs and how can those help in responding to the specific mandates of the QCPR to leave no one behind and build a greener and fairer world? What would spur further progress if included in the new strategic plans?
  ▪ What specific support have resident coordinators received from regional entities and regional offices of the UN development system entities? from the UN Secretariat and other entities with little to no physical footprint?

Chair:
 ▪ His Excellency Sergiy Kyslytsya, Vice-President of ECOSOC, responsible for the operational activities for development segment

Presenter
 ▪ Mr. John McArthur, Director of the Center for Sustainable Development, Brookings Institute

Moderators
 ▪ H.E. Ms. Adriana Mira, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Integration and Economic Promotion, El Salvador
 ▪ Ms. Christine Schneeberger, Deputy Head Global Cooperation, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

Panellists
 ▪ Mr. Ramiz Alakbarov, Resident Coordinator, Afghanistan
 ▪ Ms Najat Rochdi, Resident Coordinator, Lebanon
Interactive Discussion

Session 8
Thursday, 20 May 2021, 11:00am – 1:00pm
Unleashing the UN development system’s regional assets: the path forward
[Virtual meeting, RSI platform]

Objectives
This session will provide an update on the implementation of the recommendations of the regional review on A Sustainable Regional UN following the adoption of ECOSOC resolution 2020/23 and General Assembly resolution 74/297, highlighting commonalities and region-by-region specificities. It will focus on the progress achieved under the umbrella of the Regional Collaborative Platforms over the first months of their existence, including the benefits of the internal collaboration platform in effectively leveraging the UN’s regional assets in support of the country level, the challenges that are being encountered and how these will be addressed. It will also discuss cooperation with other regional organizations.

Guiding questions
▪ What has changed in terms of the support provided to Resident Coordinators and UN country teams by the regional UN development system? What remains a challenge, and how do you propose to address it?
▪ How are the Regional Collaborative Platforms improving collaboration at regional level?
▪ How are Regional Collaborative Platforms results shared with Member States and how can Member States continue to guide the priority setting and focus of the regional UN development system’s response?
▪ How is the UN development system at regional level cooperating with other intra-regional organizations?

Chair
▪ His Excellency Sergiy Kyslytsya, Vice-President of ECOSOC responsible for the operational activities for development segment

Keynote address
▪ Her Excellency Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, and Chair of the UN Sustainable Development Group [presentation]

Moderator
▪ Mr. Jens Wandel, Under Secretary-General, Special Advisor to the Secretary-General on Reforms

Panelists
▪ Ms. Alicia Barcena, RCP Vice Chair, Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary, ECLAC
▪ Ms. Ahunna Eziakonwa, UNDP Regional Director for Africa and RCP Vice Chair
▪ Ms. Gwi Yeop Son, DCO Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia
▪ Mr. Ted Chaiban, Regional Director for Arab States, UNICEF
▪ Her Excellency Fatima Kyari Mohammed, Permanent Observer, Mission of the African Union to the United Nations

Discussant
▪ Mr. Philipp Schoenrock, Director, Centro de Pensamiento Estratégico Internacional (CEPEI)
**Interactive Discussion**

**Session 9 : Thursday 20 May 2021, 3:00pm – 4:30pm**

*Joining forces with international financial institutions during and after the crisis*

*[Virtual meeting, RSI platform]*

**Objectives**

This session will address the strengthening of cooperation and partnerships with international financial institutions (IFIs) to respond to COVID-19 and achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This will include discussing cooperation towards the elaboration of a new global deal and a new social contract, as proposed by the UN Secretary-General. The session will also address financing for development and the elaboration of Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs) in particular.

**Guiding questions**

- How has cooperation between the UN development system and IFIs been functioning in the context of the COVID-19 response?
- What issues currently stand in the way of real and effective partnerships with international financial institutions and regional development banks in supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda? How could we address these issues especially in light of the new mandate of the QCPR to strengthen the mobilization of the means of implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals from all sources (Res 75/233 OP23), to further explore and implement innovative funding approaches to catalyze additional resources for sustainable development, and to “develop a joint framework of collaboration with multilateral development banks to improve synergies at the regional and country levels, including specific attention to middle-income countries”?
- What is the role of the UN development system regarding solutions such as issuing and redistributing Special Drawing Rights, increasing fiscal space through debt relief, redirecting private finance and establishing new multilateral financing facilities and how can it cooperate with other actors?
- What has the experience been to date with the elaboration of the Integrated National Financing Framework, and which changes is the instrument expected to catalyse?

**Chair**

- His Excellency Sergiy Kyslytsya, Vice-President of ECOSOC responsible for the operational activities for development segment

**Moderator**

- Mr. Elliot Harris, United Nations Chief Economist and Assistant Secretary-General for Economic development, Department of Social and Economic Affairs

**Panelists**

- Mr. Bodo Ellmers, Programme Director, Global Policy Forum
- Mr. Robert Powell, IMF Special Representative to the UN
- Ms. Laura Jaitman, World Bank Group Special Representative to the UN
- Mr. Matthias Naab, Resident Coordinator, Cameroon
- Mr. Marcos Neto, Director, SDG Finance Hub, UNDP
- Ms. Andrea Suley, UNICEF Deputy Representative, South Sudan

**Discussants [from the floor]**

- Ms. Helena Fraser, Resident Coordinator in Uzbekistan
- Mr. Gerard Steeghs, Director of the Department for Multilateral Organizations and Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands
Interactive Discussion

Session 10: Thursday 20 May 2021, 4:30pm - 5:00pm
Closing session
[Virtual meeting, RSI platform]

Closing
- Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under Secretary-General, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)
- Her Excellency Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations
- His Excellency Sergiy Kyslytsya, Vice-President of ECOSOC responsible for the Operational Activities for Development Segment