

Suggested opening remarks
H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King
President of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
21 May 2019, New York

Excellencies,
Mr. Secretary-General,
Madam Deputy Secretary-General,
Ladies and gentlemen,

You are most welcome to the 2019 ECOSOC Operational Activities for Development Segment.

Your presence today of Ministers and other high-level representatives of government, the UN system and other stakeholders demonstrate your deep commitment to improving the support of the UN system for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

This Operational Activities Segment this year is very significant.

This is the first ECOSOC Operational Activities Segment since resolution 72/305 on the strengthening of the Council in which Member States mandated the Segment to serve as a platform to ensure accountability for system-wide performance and results in relation to the 2030 Agenda and provide guidance to and overall coordination of the United Nations development system.

We will for the first time, formally review and deliberate on the implementation of the mandates from the resolution on the repositioning of the UN development system.

It is also the penultimate opportunity for the Council to consider the implementation of the current QCPR cycle and mandates of resolution 71/243.

We will do this bearing in mind the critical role of ECOSOC as the platform for Member States to review and ensure oversight and accountability of the UN development system.

Delivering this critical function carefully and thoughtfully, in relation to the quadrennial comprehensive policy review, including the repositioning of the UN development system, will have far reaching impact.

This year's work is also significant for another reason – the work we start today will feed into our preparations for the next QCPR cycle in 2020.

With these few words, allow me to give the floor to the Vice-President of the Council, H.E. Ms Kira Danganan-Azucena.