

**Closing Remarks by  
His Excellency Mr. Oh Joon  
President of the Economic and Social Council**

**ECOSOC Partnership Forum  
31 March Thursday  
ECOSOC Chamber**

Distinguished Delegates and Participants,

We are now at the conclusion of this illuminating meeting.

Our discussions today have demonstrated the value of cross-sectoral partnerships for implementing the SDGs, not least SDG 17.

Lessons learned from multi-stakeholder partnerships have been shared, both from their successes and failures. Proposals were made on incentives to galvanize cross-sectoral approaches as well as to pay more attention to the needs of developing countries, especially LDCs, SIDS, and LLDCs.

We have also looked at ways to promote accountability and transparency in multi-stakeholder partnerships.

Many speakers pointed out that there must be a fine balance between nurturing and monitoring partnerships, and that we must ensure that the UN values and principles are upheld.

The General Assembly, ECOSOC and the High-level Political Forum should complement each other in the review and monitoring of multi-stakeholder partnerships.

During lunch, oversights, foresights and insights were mentioned. This is also in line with the comments made that the UN can play a

greater role through its convening power, without having to prescribe what should be done at the national level.

It was also pointed out that we must strengthen our existing structures in the UN, such as the Global Compact, rather than duplicate efforts.

Distinguished Delegates,

Our strength is in partnerships.

The ECOSOC Partnership Forum has become a truly inclusive platform to bring all stakeholders together.

It is most certainly an effective platform for sharing information, as well as best practices and lessons learned from prior and existing partnerships

Our unified efforts can scale up the support to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Today, our panellists, moderators, and speakers have introduced many fresh ideas and brought innovative strategies to the table.

The Council greatly appreciates these proposals and the President's statement will be prepared accordingly in the next few days.

I will share the statement as widely as possible and inform the discussions at the upcoming High-level Political Forum, which will also be transmitted to the General Assembly.

Before we adjourn, I would like to thank all of our speakers today. Their contribution to the discussion was indeed invaluable. I also want to express my gratitude to all participants for your passion and continued commitment toward a better future for all of us.



Please continue to follow the work of the Council as we continue to explore new and innovative solutions to the larger questions of the sustainable development for all.

Thank you.

The meeting is now adjourned. //END//