



ECOSOC

United Nations Economic and Social Council

TAKING ACTION TO IMPROVE LIVES

**His Excellency Oh Joon
President of the Economic and Social Council**

**High-Level Segment
Opening of the thematic discussion on
“Infrastructure for sustainable development for all”**

New York, 21 July 2016

Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I wish to welcome you all to this year’s thematic discussion of the Economic and Social Council on “Infrastructure for sustainable development for all.”

I also have the honour and privilege of welcoming Her Excellency Ms. Laura Chinchilla Miranda, former President of Costa Rica, as our keynote speaker for this timely discussion.

Ladies and Gentlemen,



**SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT GOALS**
17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

facebook.com/UNECOSOC

twitter.com/UNECOSOC

youtube.com/UNECOSOC



ECOSOC

United Nations Economic and Social Council

TAKING ACTION TO IMPROVE LIVES

Infrastructure is central to fostering economic growth, social development, and environmental protection.

This year's ECOSOC thematic discussion highlights the important role of infrastructure as a cross-cutting requirement for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 Agenda.

Designing and building resilient, sustainable, and inclusive infrastructure is a challenge shared by all countries, large and small, developed and developing alike.

Countries will need to pursue integrated national approaches to ensure that infrastructure building meets the requirements of the three dimensions of sustainable development. Beyond the national level, such strategies must also be coordinated regionally and globally.

The global infrastructure gap, however, presents a significant challenge for us. Targeted efforts, particularly



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

facebook.com/UNECOSOC

twitter.com/UNECOSOC

youtube.com/UNECOSOC



ECOSOC

United Nations Economic and Social Council

TAKING ACTION TO IMPROVE LIVES

directed towards countries in special situations, will be needed to close this gap.

Collectively, we have the responsibility to ensure that efforts to bridge prevailing gaps also address the balanced integration of the economic, social, and environmental objectives of the 2030 vision.

Today, we have an opportunity to share policy proposals and recommendations to bring about resilient, sustainable, and inclusive infrastructure for all.

I look forward to a productive and stimulating discussion.

Thank you



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
17 GOALS TO TRANSFORM OUR WORLD

facebook.com/UNECOSOC

twitter.com/UNECOSOC

youtube.com/UNECOSOC