Inga Rhonda King, President
New York, 26 November-7 December 2018

Participation in International Meetings

On Tuesday, 4 December, ECOSOC President, Inga Rhonda King delivered an opening statement at the ministerial segment of the Global Education Meeting (GEM) 2018 on the theme “Education in an Interconnected World: Ensuring Inclusive and Equitable Development”. This was the first GEM since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and an occasion to take stock of progress made toward the implementation of SDG 4 on inclusive and equitable quality education.

The ECOSOC President underscored that, besides being a basic human right that everyone should enjoy, education was also central to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. She stressed the importance for the GEM 2018 to positively contribute to the 2019 High Level Political Dialogue (HLPF) where SDG 4 will be reviewed in depth. The President also urged strong support for the preparation of the SDG Summit in September 2019.

Bilateral Meetings of the President of ECOSOC

On 27 November, ECOSOC President Ambassador, Inga Rhonda King, met with H.E. Ms. María Fernanda Espinosa Garces, President of the General Assembly for their monthly meeting. The two Presidents discussed areas of collaboration between the two Charter Bodies of the UN and upcoming meetings scheduled over the next quarter.
On 4 December, ECOSOC President Ambassador Inga Rhonda King met with Ms. Stefania Giannini, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Education. They discussed UNESCO’s support for the substantive work of ECOSOC during the coming year as well as the high-level political forum (HLPF). This is particularly relevant given that the review of SDG 4 on inclusive and equitable quality education will take place at the 2019 High Level Political Forum.

On 7 December, ECOSOC President Ambassador Inga Rhonda King met with Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas, the newly appointed interim Director of the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI). Ms. Tucci Bartsiotas, the former Controller of the United Nations, takes on this position as UNICRI, which reports to ECOSOC through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, positions itself to address emerging challenges in the field of crime prevention and justice.