



# ECOSOC NEWS

## Inga Rhonda King, President

New York, 28 January – 1 February 2019



*The ECOSOC President speaks at the Joint Briefing with the President of the General Assembly - 31 January*

On Thursday, 31 January, ECOSOC President Inga Rhonda King participated in a **Joint Briefing** with the President of General Assembly María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés on the alignment of the work of the General Assembly and ECOSOC. Both Presidents explained how they have been working together to ensure coherence in the work of their two Charter bodies. In her [intervention](#), the ECOSOC President stressed the importance of looking at the combined work of the General Assembly and ECOSOC, its broader context, and ways to make it most impactful and coherent. She said that by ensuring that the GA and ECOSOC work in a harmonious and effective way, they can

generate better policies, which will create change and improve the lives of the people. The President focused on the alignment of the work of ECOSOC and the General Assembly from the ECOSOC perspective, the preparations for the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development under the auspices of ECOSOC; the ECOSOC Youth Forum; and the ECOSOC forum on Financing for Development. A similar joint briefing is expected to be held in the future



*The ECOSOC President at the closing session of the Multistakeholder Forum in preparation of CSW - 1 February*

On Friday, 1 February, ECOSOC President Inga Rhonda King delivered [remarks](#) during the **closing session of the Multistakeholder Forum in preparation for the sixty-third session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)**— a subsidiary body of ECOSOC. The President welcomed the early focus of Member States on the priority theme of CSW, demonstrating their commitment for a substantive session with forward-looking results. She shared ECOSOC's emphasis on the need for an integrated and action-oriented approach to the SDGs and stressed the importance of the work of its functional commissions. Ambassador King referred to target 5.4 of SDG5, which acknowledges the importance of public services, infrastructure and social protection policies for

recognizing and valuing unpaid care and domestic work. She also underscored that investment in public services, infrastructure and social protection were critical to free up women's and girls' time and support their mobility, access to economic opportunities and ability to live dignified and fulfilling lives.



*The ECOSOC President at the launch of the report of the ILO Global Commission on the Future of Work – 31 January*

On Thursday, 31 January, ECOSOC President Inga Rhonda King delivered opening [remarks](#) at the **launch of the report of the ILO Global Commission on the Future of Work**. She welcomed the groundbreaking recommendations of the Commission on the Future of Work, which would inspire discussions at the United Nations. “To ensure inclusive, fair and sustainable decent work in the future, we need to respond to opportunities and the negative consequences

associated with changing labour markets” the President said. The President underscored the interlinkages with the other SDGs under review and noted the importance of labour issues for the ECOSOC system, including its functional and regional commissions.

On Tuesday, 29 January, ECOSOC President Inga Rhonda King participated in the **High-level breakfast meeting for Permanent Representatives on SDG16+ and its preparation for the High-Level Political Forum in July and September 2019**, organized by the Pathfinders for Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies. In her [remarks](#), the ECOSOC President highlighted the first review of SDG 16 “peaceful and inclusive societies, justice and effective, accountable and inclusive institutions” in the upcoming July HLPF. She highlighted the set of eleven principles of effective governance for sustainable development, proposed by the ECOSOC Committee of Expert on Public Administration, and endorsed by the Council in July 2018. The principles highlighted the need for pragmatic and ongoing improvements in national and local governance capabilities to reach the Sustainable Development Goals.

On Friday, 1 February, ECOSOC President Inga Rhonda King delivered welcoming [remarks](#) at the **Sustainable Fashion Summit**, organized by The Library and the UN Office for Partnerships, at the UN Headquarters. The event focused on circular fashion, sustainability and innovation and provided a platform for mobilizing partnerships related to sustainable fashion. In her welcoming remarks, the ECOSOC President underscored the important role of the fashion industry, all along the value chain, in contributing to SDG progress, improving people's lives and protecting the environment. She underscored that the SDGs presented greater opportunities for businesses to transform their practices, for government to adapt their policies, and for consumers to change their mindsets. Highlighting the importance of 2019 for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable development, the ECOSOC President stressed that effective partnerships could galvanize action to accelerate the achievement of SDGs.



On Wednesday, 30 January, ECOSOC President Inga Rhonda King participated in a briefing to the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) Group of Friends, which took place at the Permanent Mission of Austria to the United Nations and hosted by the Permanent Representatives of Austria and Zambia to the United Nations. The Director of UNOOSA, Ms. Simonetta Di Pippo, briefed the UNOOSA Group of Friends. Research shows that around 40% of the 169 targets behind the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) benefit from the use of geo-location and earth observation satellites.

*The ECOSOC President at the briefing to the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) Group of Friends*

## Upcoming events

- **14 February 2019:** Plenary meeting of ECOSOC to adopt the theme of ECOSOC, to be aligned with the theme of the HLPF, election of ECOSOC Member(s) to the Peacebuilding Commission and Briefing on the [World Economic and Situation Prospects \(WESP\)](#), among others.