



ECOSOC

United Nations Economic and Social Council

TAKING ACTION TO IMPROVE LIVES

NOTE TO CORRESPONDENTS

In Geneva, the ECOSOC President calls for the mainstreaming of the 2030 Agenda in the Human Rights agenda for achieving the SDGs



ECOSOC President Inga Rhonda King speaking at the Human Rights Council on 14 September 2018 – © Pic. UNOG

United Nations, New York, 19 September 2018 – Following the historic adoption of the Human Rights Council resolution 37/25 in March this year, the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) President Inga Rhonda King briefed the Human Rights Council on 14 September on the discussions at the 2018 High-level Political Forum. She underscored that “building the linkages and synergies between the Human Rights Council and the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) is more crucial than ever, if we are to ensure a more integrated and transformative approach to achieving the SDGs and realizing human rights”.

Speaking as the first President of ECOSOC to address the Human Rights Council since its creation in 2006, she expressed appreciation for the work of the Human Rights Council in support of the implementation of 2030 Agenda and underscored

that “Together we must strive to ensure that economic, social and cultural rights are respected and the 2030 Agenda is being implemented”.

The President of ECOSOC shared her vision and expectations for the 2019 HLPF, to be held under the auspices of the Council in July, followed by a Summit-level HLPF during the General Assembly in September.

The ECOSOC President underscored that the HLPF 2019 will benefit greatly from the contribution of the Human Rights Council, also because its core theme will focus on “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality”. The theme will better integrate the pillars of peace, human rights, and development within the 2030 Agenda.

The HLPF will review SDG 4 (education), SDG 8 (Growth and employment), SDG 10 (inequality), SDG 13 (climate change), SDG 16 (peaceful societies and robust institutions) and SDG 17 (Means of Implementation). The Council also looks forward to more than 42 countries presenting their Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs). “It will be an important year, as governments will begin a process of reviewing the HLPF modalities, format and organizational aspects of the HLPF, building on lessons from its first four-year cycle”.



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ECOSOC President Inga Rhonda King and UN Human Rights Chief Michelle Bachelet on 13 September 2018 – © Pic. UNOG

During her trip, Ambassador King also had an opportunity to share her vision and explore possibilities for further collaboration in her meetings with UN officials, including the High Commissioner for Human Rights; Director-General of World Health Organization (WHO); Secretary-General of the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD); Director-General of the International Labour Organization (ILO); and the Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG); as well as the Vice-Chair, Commission on Science and Technology for Development.



ECOSOC President Inga Rhonda King and WHO Director-General Tedros Ghebreyesus on 13 September 2018 – © Pic. WHO



ECOSOC President Inga Rhonda King and ILO Director-General Guy Ryder on 14 September 2018 – © Pic. ILO

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