



**The President  
of the  
Economic and Social Council**

13 January 2014

Excellency,

I am pleased to send you the summary of the 2013 Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Presidential Retreat "*The ECOSOC We Want: renewing commitment, confronting new challenges*" held 15 - 16 November 2013 at the Greentree Foundation in Manhasset, New York.

The purpose of the retreat was to consider how to raise the level of ECOSOC deliberations, engagement, visibility and effectiveness in responding to existing, new and emerging global challenges in the aftermath of General Assembly resolution 68/1. The meeting consisted of members of the ECOSOC Bureau, former ECOSOC Presidents, representatives of Member States, senior UN officials and other independent experts.

The Summary presents the main messages that emerged from the dynamic discussions and dialogues, including from the different working groups on four specific themes. The discussions centered on ways to further enhance the impact and visibility of ECOSOC's work in advancing development. Specific attention was paid to promoting accountability and renewing global partnership for development.

The strengthened ECOSOC is a centerpiece, along with the High-level Political Forum, of the new architecture for promoting sustainable development. Within this new structure, ECOSOC has been repositioned to enhance global monitoring, review and accountability in the post-2015 era.

In order to take full advantage of this historical opportunity, the Council must act with urgency and ensure implementation. The Council should also continue to guide the UN system, as necessary, to ensure that it remains fit for purpose and effective.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Néstor Osorio  
President

All Permanent Representatives and  
Permanent Observers to the United Nations  
New York