

12 March 2015

## Excellency,

I am writing to advise you of the substantive focus and organizational format of the Special high-level meeting of the Economic and Social Council with the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, to be held on 20-21 April 2015 in the ECOSOC Chamber at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

The overall theme of the meeting will be "Coherence, coordination and cooperation in the context of financing for sustainable development and the post-2015 development agenda". The meeting is taking place at a critical moment in the preparatory process for the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 13-16 July 2015) and the Post-2015 Summit (New York, 25-27 September 2015). It will provide Member States and major institutional stakeholders with the opportunity to discuss the key deliverables of the Addis Ababa Conference, and its follow-up.

Building on previous experience, the format of the meeting will serve to encourage a dynamic and interactive debate and promote an open exchange of views among participants. Following the opening plenary, a Ministerial segment will focus on the theme "World economic situation and prospects", to be followed by an interactive discussion, as well as brief statements by the heads of relevant intergovernmental bodies and other senior officials of the institutional stakeholders of the meeting.

I would greatly appreciate the participation of your Minister of Finance / Development Cooperation / Foreign Affairs or Central Bank Governor in the forthcoming meeting. All Ministers and Central Bank Governors attending the meeting will be invited to intervene during the morning session on Monday, 20 April 2015.

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations New York The meeting will also include thematic debates on the following themes:

- (a) "Current challenges and emerging opportunities for the mobilization of financial resources and their effective use for sustainable development on the road to Addis Ababa";
- (b) "Renewed global partnership for development in the context of the post-2015 development agenda"; and
- (c) "Follow-up and the way forward: enhancing the role of ECOSOC".

The thematic debates on the above topics will be held consecutively in an informal plenary setting of the whole, in order to facilitate greater engagement of all participants, including representatives of civil society and the business sector.

A renewed effort will be made to promote strict adherence to the meeting schedule and time limits for interventions, in order to stimulate more interactive dialogue among all participants. No list of speakers will be established in advance of the meeting. All participants will be requested to avoid reading from written statements, although this will not preclude the distribution of full texts.

A full summary of the meeting will be issued as an official document of ECOSOC and the General Assembly.

The programme of the event will be circulated at a later date. For further information and periodic updates, please consult the website of the meeting at <a href="www.un.org/esa/ffd/events/ecosoc-spring-2015.html">www.un.org/esa/ffd/events/ecosoc-spring-2015.html</a>

For any questions, please contact Mr. Gregory Dubois in the Financing for Development Office, Department of Economic and Social Affairs (e-mail: duboisg@un.org; tel.: 1-212-963-5435).

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

Martin Sajdik

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