

## UN @ 70 – A New Commitment to Action

### High-level Thematic Debate on Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

21 April 2016

*Technology and data for SDGs*

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development identified technology and data as key means of implementation. This session will consider “how” to find ways to improve access to technology, as well as capacity for technology development, and ensure that the best available information technology tools and information sources are used across sectors such as clean energy, health and information. It will also identify “who” could be key partners on technology and data for SDGs.

#### Meeting objective

- Illuminate the potential of technology and data for sustainable development and identify key partners.

#### Format

This three-hour session will include a series of interactive moderated discussions with high-level participants.

#### Focus

The creation, development and diffusion of new innovations and technologies are powerful drivers of sustainable development. High quality, accessible, timely, reliable and disaggregated data is also essential for evidence-based decision making as well as effective monitoring and follow-up of the implementation of the SDGs. This segment aims to stimulate discussions and galvanize actions among all stakeholders to harness the full potential of technology and high quality and timely data for the implementation of SDGs by showcasing good practice and addressing key challenges.

#### Questions for discussion

1. How can policy and regulatory frameworks at all levels be optimized to enable and incentivize technology innovations that support sustainable development?
2. What measures can be taken to improve national and human capacity in technology development, innovation and absorption?
3. What is the role of regional and international cooperation such as the Technology Facilitation Mechanism?
4. How can the emerging data revolution be harnessed to improve meaningful implementation of the SDGs as well as SDGs monitoring?
5. How can we ensure that everyone is connected and counted, especially those living in poverty and the most vulnerable?
6. What key partnerships or technology coalitions could be scaled up or newly form to support the SDGs?