



THE PRESIDENT  
OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

30 January 2020

Excellency,

Further to my letter dated 24 December 2019, I am pleased to enclose herewith the provisional programme and information note for the Interactive Dialogue on “*Targeting Hunger: South-South and Triangular Cooperation for Transforming Agriculture*”, scheduled to be held on 12 February 2020, from 3-6 p.m., in the Trusteeship Council Chamber, United Nations Headquarters, New York.

As hitherto conveyed, the event will provide an opportunity to assess the role of sustainable agriculture towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal 2 (Zero Hunger). Discussions at the event will focus on the means of supporting international efforts through South-South and Triangular Cooperation to ensure food security around the world.

Kindly note that there is no pre-determined list of speakers for the interactive segments of the event. Delegations are encouraged to observe the time limit of 2 minutes.

While looking forward to your participation, please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive script that begins with a large, sweeping flourish.

Tijjani Muhammad-Bande

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



## **Information Note**

### **Objectives of the interactive dialogue**

- Share experiences, identify challenges and explore opportunities for South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) in the agriculture sector, in order to address the issue of increasing hunger around the world.
- Discuss the viability of using sustainable agriculture as a lever to fight poverty, hunger and illiteracy.
- Give added impetus to international efforts aimed at achieving Sustainable Development Goal 2 of Zero Hunger, which is one of the key priorities of the 74th session of the General Assembly (PGA).
- Discuss the role of smallholder farmers in improving agriculture and achieving SDG's 1 and 2.
- Highlight the importance of mutual learning and coordination for SSTC and emphasize the value of leveraging these forms of international cooperation to promote sustainable agriculture and food systems.

### **Format of the interactive dialogue**

- The interactive dialogue will consist of an opening segment, followed by two moderated panels of 75 minutes each, and a closing segment. The panel segments will address the themes identified in the concept note. A set of guiding questions are provided below to focus each panel discussion. These questions are only indicative and not exhaustive, aimed at triggering a thought process and discussions. In the panel discussions, panelists will deliver remarks of 5 to 7 minutes each which will be followed by an interactive dialogue with Member States, UN System and non-state participants. ***To keep the discussions interactive, there is no pre-determined list of speakers. Interventions from the floor, including questions posed to the panelists, are requested to be kept short and within a time limit of two minutes.***

## **Panel 1: Evidence-based policy making to promote sustainable agricultural development to combat hunger**

- How to make farming economically more attractive and socially more rewarding career in developing countries?
- Which policy measures can best support small holders and family farmers?
- What strategies can be used to implement the ‘Food System’ approach?
- Which policy interventions can be effective to mobilize different forms of capital toward sustainable agriculture?
- How can we leverage digitalization to support these development efforts?

## **Panel 2: The role of South-South and Triangular Cooperation in facilitating knowledge-sharing, knowledge-building and in leveraging investments in agriculture and food systems to combat hunger**

- What were the key elements of successful development experiences of countries in the Global South to reduce hunger and malnutrition, and how can these experiences be replicated?
- How to better leverage the existing FDI between the global North and South for agriculture development?
- How the food system approach can facilitate sustainable agriculture in Small Island Developing States?
- How to strengthen sub regional, regional and inter-regional knowledge networks, partnerships and cooperation for research and innovation.
- How can we leverage digitalization to support these development efforts?

### **Summary**

A summary by the President of the General Assembly capturing the main elements of the discussions at the event will be circulated.

*For further information please contact Mr. Bilal Mahmood Chaudhary ([bilal.chaudhary@un.org](mailto:bilal.chaudhary@un.org)), Special Advisor, and Ms. Nehali Anupriya, Advisor ([nehali.anupriya@un.org](mailto:nehali.anupriya@un.org)) Office of the President of the 74<sup>th</sup> Session of the General Assembly.*

## Provisional Programme

<b>3 p.m.</b>	<b>Opening segment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• H.E. Mr. Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, <i>President of the 74<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly</i></li><li>• Mr. Qu Dongyu, <i>Director-General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)</i></li><li>• Mr. Jorge Chediek, <i>Director, UN Office for South-South Cooperation and Envoy of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation</i></li></ul>
<b>3:20 p.m.</b>	<b>Panel 1: Evidence-based policy making for sustainable agriculture and food systems to combat hunger</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mr. Khalid Bomba, CEO, <i>Ethiopian Agricultural Transformation Agency</i></li><li>• Ms. Endah Murniningtyas, <i>co-chair, Independent Group of Scientists appointed by the United Nations Secretary-General for the 2019 Global Sustainable Development Report, and former Deputy Minister, National Development Planning Agency (Bappenas), Republic of Indonesia</i></li><li>• Ms. Keira Havens, <i>Sustainability and Public Affairs Manager, Pivot Bio</i></li><li>• Ms. Lydia Sasu, <i>Executive Director, Development Action Association, Ghana</i></li></ul> <p><i>Moderator: Ms. Christine Negra, Special Adviser to UN Foundation</i></p>
<b>4:35 p.m.</b>	<b>Panel 2: The role of South-South and Triangular Cooperation in facilitating knowledge-sharing and knowledge-building and leveraging investments in agriculture and food systems to combat hunger</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ms. Sanya Nishtar, <i>Special Assistant to the Prime Minister of Pakistan on Social Protection and Poverty Alleviation</i></li><li>• Mr. Giorgio Marrapodi, <i>Director General for Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy</i></li><li>• Mr. Alexandre Varella, <i>Coordinator, LABEX USA, Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (EMBRAPA)</i></li><li>• Ms. Eneida Rodrigues Silva, <i>Special Advisor to the Minister of Agriculture and Environment of Cabo Verde</i></li></ul> <p><i>Moderator: Ms. Coco Ushiyama, Director of the UN System, African Union &amp; Multilateral Engagement Division, World Food Programme (WFP)</i></p>

5:50 p.m.	<p data-bbox="412 239 651 275"><b>Closing Remarks</b></p> <ul data-bbox="412 306 1398 470" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="412 306 1398 380">• Mr. Liu Zhenmin, <i>Under-Secretary-General, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs</i></li><li data-bbox="412 401 1398 470">• H.E. Mr. Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, <i>President of the 74<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN General Assembly</i></li></ul>