

**The Africa We Want: Reconfirming the Development of Africa as a Priority of the
United Nations System**

**Special High-Level Dialogue of the Presidents of the
General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council**

**20 July 2022, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Trusteeship Council, United Nations**

CALL TO ACTION

by

**H.E. Mr. Abdulla Shahid, President of the United Nations General Assembly during its
76th session and H.E. Mr. Collen Vixen Kelapile, President of the United Nations Economic
and Social Council 2021-2022**

As Presidents of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council, we have convened this Special High-Level Dialogue on the theme “The Africa We Want: Reconfirming the Development of Africa as a Priority of the United Nations System” in recognition of the urgent priority that must be given to the development needs of Africa. While recognizing that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union’s Agenda 2063 are essential frameworks for the continued sustainable development of Africa, we are committing to facilitate the accelerated implementation of these two Agendas, within the framework of the Decade of Action to accelerate the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the goals and targets also articulated in Agenda 2063.

We express our deep concern on the impact of the current energy and food crises, climate change, the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic and widening and persisting inequalities on Africa’s path toward sustainable development. We acknowledge that these crises underscore the need to establish a fair and more inclusive multilateral system, we reiterate that Africa’s development is a priority for the United Nations. In this regard we call on all to renew and strengthen commitments to address Africa’s development needs, as emphasized inter alia, in General Assembly resolutions 63/1 Political Declaration on Africa’s development needs; 69/313 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development; 70/1 on “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”; 76/258 on Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries, 69/15 on SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway, 69/137 on Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, Agenda 2063 including NEPAD as well as the Kigali Declaration of 5 March 2022 by African Member States.

We further acknowledge that the most effective roadmap to address Africa’s development challenges is for African countries, with the support of the UN system, international and regional financial institutions and others, to lead joint efforts from the prioritization to the implementation of national development strategies and plans. In order to

sustain the implementation plan of the “Africa we want”, we need to support Africa’s commitment in addressing the emerging crises along with existing challenges in order to build an inclusive, equitable, sustainable and development framework.

Against this background, we urgently call on all Member States and stakeholders to work towards accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Agenda 2063 for Africa with an African perspective. To that effect, we underline the need to give the highest priority to the full implementation of both agendas. We further underscore the role that energy access and climate action; food systems; financing for development, in particular domestic resource mobilization; gender equality and youth focused initiatives; good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, and the rule of law; social protection systems including school meals programmes; and peace, justice and strong institutions can play in addressing current challenges as well as in promoting peaceful and inclusive societies, achieving sustainable development; and silencing the guns on the continent. We also call for strengthening development cooperation and global solidarity to ensure vaccine equity.

We call on the United Nations system, international and regional financial institutions and other multilateral development partners to step up efforts in a collective manner and to bridge the silos between humanitarian action, development cooperation and peace interventions, with a view to ensuring that Africa achieves durable peace and inclusive sustainable development, moving towards ‘The Africa We Want’.
