

## **Meeting Summary**

### **Monthly Meeting (#2)**

#### **President of the UN General Assembly and the President of ECOSOC**

**Friday, 2 December 2022, 3.30p.m.**

The President of ECOSOC stressed the critical importance of the SDG Summit in September 2023 and emphasized that all ECOSOC segments and forums should contribute to the preparations for the SDG Summit. The High-Level Political Forum on sustainable development (HLPF) organised under the aegis of ECOSOC in July 2023 could be considered as a pre-Summit. In their ongoing efforts to streamline the work of the two Charter bodies, the President of the General Assembly welcomed this approach and is taking concrete steps by convening the second briefing of the General Committee to discuss the work of the Co-Facilitators of all General Assembly related processes and will share a roadmap with ECOSOC for their respective negotiations at the next meeting in January 2023. The General Committee would then integrate and coordinate these processes.

The President of the General Assembly and the President of ECOSOC discussed the importance of planning the organization of the General Assembly high-level week in 2023 given competing priorities and strain on smaller Missions. With nine summits currently planned, it could be considered whether one of the high-level meetings could be held back-to-back with the HLPF in July 2023. This also depends on the duration of the construction work to be conducted in the General Assembly Hall, which should ideally start after the HLPF and be accelerated.

The President of ECOSOC invited the President of the General Assembly to address ECOSOC Youth Forum on 20 April 2023, when it prepares youth contribution to the SDG Summit. One whole day of the Forum will be dedicated to the SDG Summit. ECOSOC Youth Forum is the main UN platform for consulting youth. Having said that, the President of ECOSOC gives priority to engaging youth in all other ECOSOC meetings and segments due to the critical role they play in the design of their future. The President of the General Assembly looked forward to intervening at the Youth Forum.

The President of ECOSOC briefed the President of the General Assembly on the recent meeting of the multi-stakeholder Advisory Group in preparations for the Partnership Forum next month. The Partnership Forum will conclude with a summary which would be the first substantive input provided by ECOSOC to the SDG Summit. Financing remains a key driver for achieving the SDGs. The Financing for Development Forum (FfD) and its negotiated outcome will be a litmus test for how the issue of financing the SDGs could pan out at the Summit. The General Assembly high-level dialogue on FfD in September 2023 could build on the ECOSOC FfD Forum.

The President of the General Assembly stressed the importance of using an elaborate science-based methodology to measure how well we are doing on sustainable development. It should help identify trends and the potential impact of policy choices. A methodology applicable by all countries would revolutionize the elaboration of policies to improve people's well-being and the economy and protect the planet and work on measures of progress beyond GDP becomes critical before the SDG Summit. The President of ECOSOC pointed out that the Multi-stakeholder Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Forum in May 2023 is the main science-policy interface of ECOSOC and invited the President of the General Assembly to address the Forum.

The President of the General Assembly concluded that the SDG Summit will need to answer the key question of whether we are achieving the transformations we need to realize the 2030 Agenda, which hinges on taking integrated approaches across the board.

The President of the General Assembly and the President of ECOSOC decided to organize a joint event early next year to raise awareness about the situation of LDCs ahead of the second part of LDC 5 in Doha. They also agreed to convene their joint briefing on the work of ECOSOC and the General Assembly on 19 January 2023.