



Secretary-General's High-Level Meeting on Financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development 24 September 2018, 3 p.m. – 6 p.m., ECOSOC Chamber, New York

Annotated programme

3:00 – 3:02 pm [Opening](#)

3:02 – 3:05 pm [Opening Video](#)

3:06 – 3:12 pm **Opening address by Mr. António Guterres**, Secretary-General,
United Nations

3:13 – 3:20 pm **Keynote address by Ms. Christine Lagarde**, Managing Director,
International Monetary Fund

3:21 – 4:10 pm [Panel 1: Fostering an enabling environment for financing the
2030 Agenda](#)

The United Nations is uniquely placed to develop and promote implementation of global norms in financing for sustainable development and encourage alignment of financial and economic policies with the 2030 Agenda. The success of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda will hinge on progress made in turning the transformational normative vision of the Agenda into tangible results. Three years into implementation of the 2030 Agenda, many countries have taken concrete steps to foster an enabling environment for the mobilization of resources for the SDGs. In this panel, countries will present opportunities, actions and obstacles relating to mobilizing finance for sustainable development.

Moderator: **Ms. June Sarpong**, Broadcaster and TV Presenter

Panelists:

- **H.E. Mr. Justin Trudeau**, Prime Minister of Canada [*How can developed countries facilitate long-term investment to support the SDGs?*]
- **H.E. Mr. Paul Kagame**, President of the Republic of Rwanda and Chairperson of the African Union [*What key measures could be undertaken to generate momentum for investing in sustainable development in Africa?*]
- **H.E. Ms. Mia Amor Mottley**, Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, Economic Affairs and Investment, Minister of National Security and the Civil Service of Barbados [*What steps need to be taken at national and international levels to enhance the resilience of smaller countries to and environmental and economic risks and shocks, including those related to debt sustainability?*]
- **H.E. Mr. Jusuf Kalla**, Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia [*As an emerging economy in an evolving global financial and economic system, what actions are being taken by your country to mobilize longer-term investment for infrastructure and other areas necessary to advance sustainable development?*]

Interactive Discussion (time permitting)

4:10 – 5:00 pm Panel 2: Mobilizing private investment for sustainable development

A strengthened United Nations development system will contribute to building capacities in countries to develop project pipelines and investable projects. Tapping the full potential of private sector investment represents a key requirement for the successful implementation of the 2030 Agenda. This includes efforts to mobilize long-term investment for sustainable development and better align business activities with the SDGs. In this panel, a diverse array of investors will provide feedback on some of the issues and challenges highlighted by countries pertaining to mobilizing investment for sustainable development.

Moderator: Ms. June Sarpong, Broadcaster and TV Presenter

Address by Mr. Laurence D. Fink, Chairman & Chief Executive Officer, BlackRock [*How are companies and investors adapting to the challenge of generating long-term value and social impact, and where do you see the greatest opportunities and biggest challenges in the coming year?*]

Panelists:

- **Ms. Robin Shanahan**, Managing Director and Co-Chief Operating Officer, PIMCO [*How can institutional investors be better incentivized to undertake longer-term investment in areas aligned to sustainable development?*]
- **Mr. Mark Wilson**, Chief Executive Officer, Aviva Group [*What would be the impact of mainstreaming corporate sustainability benchmarks that rank companies on their performance across a range of SDG-related indicators?*]
- **Mr. Philippe Le Houérou**, Chief Executive Officer, International Finance Corporation, [*What concrete initiatives and tools have proven effective in promoting sustainable investment to the LDCs and other countries in special situations, such as conflict-affected States?*]

Interactive Discussion (time permitting)

5:00 – 5:50 pm Panel 3: Innovative solutions to finance the SDGs

Innovative solutions are increasingly transforming the global landscape for financing sustainable development and show potential to fast-track progress on implementing the SDGs, including by fostering financial inclusion. Despite the opportunities, recent advances in financial technologies may also carry risks that need to be addressed through effective regulation. This panel will assess the potential of financial innovations, new technologies and digitalization to provide equitable access to finance.

Moderator: Ms. June Sarpong, Broadcaster and TV Presenter

Address by Mr. Bill Gates, Co-founder, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation [*In what ways is global philanthropy uniquely equipped to boost financial inclusion and sustainable investment, and how is it bringing innovative solutions to scale?*]

Panelists:

- **Ms. Kristalina Georgieva**, Chief Executive Officer, World Bank [*What innovative solutions can accelerate the financing of sustainable development, and what policy actions can foster their application?*]
- **Ms. Mary Ellen Iskenderian**, President and Chief Executive Officer, Women's World Banking [*How can innovative financing for the SDGs drive women's economic empowerment, and how does your organization support the financial inclusion of women?*]
- **Ms. Shivani Siroya**, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Tala [*Based on your company's experience, what lessons have you learned about the potential of digital technology and fintech to empower youth and unlock innovation, especially in developing countries?*]
- **Mr. Ashish Thakkar**, Founder, Mara Group [*How can technology and innovation catalyze entrepreneurship and act as a driver of sustainable development in Africa?*]

Interactive Discussion (time permitting)

5:50 – 6:00 pm [Closing](#)

Wrap-up by the moderator

Closing remarks:

- **Mr. Liu Zhenmin**, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations
- **Ms. Amina J. Mohammed**, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations