



# Economic and Social Council

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## High-level political forum on sustainable development

Convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council

5–15 July 2022

**Building back better from the coronavirus disease  
(COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the  
2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**

## Reports of the regional forums on sustainable development

### Note by the Secretariat

1. The importance of the regional dimension of sustainable development has long been recognized. At the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012,<sup>1</sup> Member States recognized that regional frameworks could complement and facilitate the effective translation of sustainable development policies into concrete action at the national level.
2. Subsequently, when the General Assembly decided on the format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, it acknowledged the importance of the regional dimension of sustainable development and invited the regional commissions to contribute to the work of the forum, including through annual regional meetings, with the involvement of other relevant regional entities, major groups and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate.<sup>2</sup>
3. The value of follow-up and review at the regional and subregional levels was also reflected in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,<sup>3</sup> in which Member States recognized that such follow-up and review could provide useful opportunities for peer learning, including through voluntary reviews, sharing of best practices and discussion on shared targets.
4. Since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, the regional commissions have convened regional forums on sustainable development. The forums have served as vibrant and engaging platforms at which to discuss the follow-up and review of the implementation of the Agenda at the regional level and to prepare for the reviews of the high-level political forum.

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<sup>1</sup> See General Assembly resolution [66/288](#).

<sup>2</sup> See General Assembly resolution [67/290](#).

<sup>3</sup> See General Assembly resolution [70/1](#).



5. In the political declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly,<sup>4</sup> held on 24 and 25 September 2019, Member States recognized the importance of the efforts of the regional commissions through the regional forums and pledged to initiate a decade of accelerated action and delivery for sustainable development.

6. In its resolution [75/290](#) B, pertaining to the review of the high-level political forum, which was adopted on 25 June 2021, the General Assembly also underlined the importance of the regional forums on sustainable development convened by the regional commissions for the preparations of the high-level political forum and to peer learning and knowledge exchange in the regions. The Assembly encouraged regional forums to prepare the thematic reviews of the high-level political forum and discuss regional progress, challenges, gaps and approaches as well as best practices, emerging issues and innovative ideas to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as to continue to strengthen regional capacity-building and networking.

7. With more flexibility and the lifting of pandemic restrictions on travelling and meetings, the regional forums in 2022 were held mainly as hybrid meetings, featuring both virtual and in-person participation. The dates and locations of those forums, as well as the symbols of the reports thereof, are as follows:

- (a) Africa region, Kigali, 3–5 March ([E/HLPF/2022/3/Add.1](#));
  - (b) Latin America and the Caribbean region, San José, 7–9 March ([E/HLPF/2022/3/Add.2](#));
  - (c) Europe region, Geneva, 6 and 7 April ([E/HLPF/2022/3/Add.3](#));
  - (d) Asia-Pacific region, Bangkok, 28–31 March ([E/HLPF/2022/3/Add.4](#));
  - (e) Arab region, Beirut, 15–17 March ([E/HLPF/2022/3/Add.5](#)).
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<sup>4</sup> See General Assembly resolution [74/4](#).