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High-level political forum on sustainable development

Convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council
10-19 July 2017

Report of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council at its 2017 session

Summary

Progress is visible at the two-year mark of implementation. National Governments are committed to the transformative nature of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to leaving no one behind. They have begun internalizing the Sustainable Development Goals into their strategies and planning processes and are coordinating internally and among ministries. Policymaking is increasingly science- and evidence-based and aligned with national budgets. Decentralization is occurring as local governments and communities adapt the Goals to their particular circumstances. Environmentally friendly, well-planned infrastructure was recognized as underpinning all economic growth and industrialization. Meanwhile, multi-stakeholder engagement is increasing and changing as actors engage in structured implementation processes. Partnerships are gaining momentum, with increased involvement from the financial and business sectors. The unequivocal understanding of the need to address interlinkages among the Goals in line with the integrated nature of the 2030 Agenda, in particular through the means of implementation, was noteworthy throughout the session of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, as was awareness of the importance of ensuring coherence between the 2030 Agenda and other internationally agreed instruments, such as those related to climate change, disaster risk reduction, trade and human rights. In this context, regional cooperation and integration is playing an increasing role.

While progress was noted in addressing poverty, hunger and malnutrition, they remain the overarching challenges of the 2030 Agenda, with trends in some regions moving in the wrong direction. More than 767 million people continue to live on less than \$1.90 a day, with many of the extreme poor concentrated in fragile settings, where conflict and other systemic issues hamper effective interventions. Access to universal health-care coverage, free primary and secondary education, enhanced water supply systems, stable and reliable energy, and resilient and safe infrastructure that supports national development were noted as key enablers for poverty eradication, entailing significant demands for investment.



The close interdependence between poverty and hunger was also underlined. Malnutrition remains a global problem with long-term impacts, particularly for children. It is necessary to adopt a systems approach to food and to look at consumption and production together. At the current rate of progress, the world is not expected to reach the zero-hunger target by 2030. Environmental stressors were seen as affecting progress and are projected to grow in strength and severity. Climate change exacerbates natural disasters, intensifies disease and creates conditions that are difficult to live in, especially for least developed countries and small island developing States. The strong link between the health of oceans and human well-being was evident, in particular for small island developing States. The adoption of a call for action that sets out a comprehensive plan of action to be followed by all actors at the recent United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development, was significant in addressing the ocean-related challenges in the context of the 2030 Agenda.

Lack of social inclusion and widening inequality remains a significant challenge, both within and among countries. In particular, the young, indigenous people, older people, rural workers, people with disabilities and people affected by conflict are seen as vulnerable, as they lack access to basic health-care services and education. The perils facing people on the move, including migrants, are increasing. Women and girls remain deprived of basic rights and opportunities in many parts of the world and are disproportionately affected by climate change, disasters and conflict, especially when living in poverty, and often suffer from violence and lack of access to health and reproductive services and rights. At the same time, they must be recognized as significant agents of change and their empowerment is a prerequisite for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Many countries still fall short in their commitments with regard to official development assistance, with detrimental effects for countries in special situations. New resources must be generated domestically, as well as through addressing illicit financial flows and loopholes. Countries noted measures taken to ensure progress in all seven action areas of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which is the principal framework for financing the 2030 Agenda. Challenges remain with regard to increasing the engagement of the financial sector. Scaling up public and private investment in sustainable infrastructure and improving the current approach to engagement with the private sector and mobilization of private resources was seen as inadequate. Innovative engagement structures and new ways to incentivize participation should be explored.

The Technology Facilitation Mechanism and the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals were highlighted as well-placed to engage with science as an open collaborative enterprise for action on the Goals and to serve as a catalyst for multi-stakeholder partnerships.

Data and information is recognized as vital for achieving the Goals and for building trust and ensuring accountability. While work is under way in this regard, localization of targets and indicators, as well as capacity development and investment in data collection, disaggregation, analysis and dissemination need to be strengthened.

The 43 voluntary national reviews at the high-level political forum in 2017 were considered to have been extensive and impactful, and to be a welcome tool to keep the momentum going on implementation efforts, in part because of strong commitment from the highest levels of Government. One of the common threads across the reviews was the importance of bringing all stakeholders together in a joint,

multi-stakeholder, whole-of-government and whole-of-society approach to implementing the Goals. While there are different approaches on how to do this, it was considered vital to create ownership at all levels, including with individual citizens, so as to create and sustain momentum for implementation and monitoring of the agenda.

It was felt that policymaking for the Sustainable Development Goals needed to become more effective, for instance through active political commitment and the engagement of community and traditional leaders, opinion leaders, the media and political leaders to address the social, economic and environmental challenges faced by countries. The necessity to nationalize and localize the 2030 Agenda, to create true ownership of the Agenda by all stakeholder groups, was stressed, requiring closer and more effective information flows and partnerships with development partners, including the United Nations, on the one hand, and more responsibility taken at the local and community levels, as well as by individual citizens, on the other.

Identifying interlinkages among the Sustainable Development Goals and within them at the target level was critical and should be translated into policymaking, budgeting and institutional structures and processes at the national and subnational levels. This was seen as an important principle that should also guide multilateral cooperation in order to ensure effective cooperation and policy coherence.

In their pursuit towards more inclusive and sustainable societies, countries reflected on the need to focus more on youth and on including disadvantaged and marginalized groups and establishing strong partnerships with platforms of non-governmental organizations. Ownership of the 2030 Agenda at all levels was seen as key so as to ensure continued momentum and implementation. While countries stressed their willingness and active engagement in international development cooperation (North-South, South-South and triangular) to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals globally, the role of international (State and non-state) partners would be critical to complement national budgets with financial support, especially in countries facing national budget constraints. In many developing countries, continued and strengthened support from the United Nations system could contribute to the preparation of the voluntary national reviews, as well as implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Discussions at the high-level political forum in 2017 cemented the critical role of the forum as the global platform for follow-up and review, highlighting its importance as a space for considering challenges, emerging issues and structural barriers that require coordinated action at the global level, but also serving as a platform for collaboration, partnerships, peer learning and exchange of experiences and lessons learned.

I. Introduction

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution [67/290](#), decided that the meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council should be convened annually by the President of the Council for a period of eight days, including a three-day ministerial segment. Pursuant to paragraph 11 (c) of the annex to Assembly resolution [68/1](#), the three-day ministerial meeting is to be held during the high-level segment of the Council.
2. The Council, in its resolution 2017/1, decided that the forum should be held from 10 to 14 July 2017. The Council also decided that the high-level segment of its 2017 session would be held from 17 to 20 July, and that the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum would be held from 17 to 19 July.
3. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution [70/299](#), the theme of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council during its 2017 session was “Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world”.
4. In its resolution [70/299](#), the General Assembly further decided that the high-level political forum under the auspices of the Council, without prejudice to the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the Sustainable Development Goals and with a view to facilitating an in-depth review of progress made on all Goals over the course of a four-year cycle, should discuss a set of Goals and their interlinkages at each session, with means of implementation, including with respect to Goal 17, to be reviewed annually. For the forum convened under the auspices of the Council during its 2017 session, the Assembly decided that Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 14 should be reviewed in depth, in addition to Goal 17.
5. The present report reflects the proceedings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council at its 2017 session.

II. Proceedings of and action taken at the forum

6. From 10 to 19 July 2017, the forum held 19 meetings, comprised of opening, wrap-up and closing segments, seven thematic panel discussions, 10 discussions on the review of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 14 and 17, as well as 43 voluntary national reviews. The forum also held a general debate on its theme within the framework of its three-day ministerial meeting during the high-level segment of the Council (see para. 201 below).
7. A total of 167 side events, nine sustainable development learning courses and a one-day private sector training workshop on the Sustainable Development Goals, as well as other related activities, were held on the margins of the formal meetings of the forum and were sponsored by a diverse group of stakeholders, including Governments; agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system; international organizations; and major groups.¹ Information on the events is available from the website of the forum (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf>).

¹ The major groups, as defined in Agenda 21: Programme of Action for Sustainable Development, are: women; children and youth; indigenous peoples; non-governmental organizations; local authorities; workers and trade unions; business and industry; the scientific and technological community; and farmers.

Opening of the forum

8. At the 1st meeting, on 10 July, the President of the Economic and Social Council, Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava (Zimbabwe), declared open the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council at its 2017 session and made a statement.

9. At the same meeting, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Wu Hongbo, made a statement and introduced the report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals ([E/2017/66](#)).

10. Also at the same meeting, the representative of Diverse Voices and Action for Equality, Vivania Ditukana Tatawaqa, made a statement representing major groups and other stakeholders groups.

11. Also at the 1st meeting, keynote addresses were made by the President of the Institute for New Economic Thinking, Robert Johnson, and the Vice-Chair of the Committee for Development Policy and Professor of International Affairs at the New School for Social Research, Sakiko Fukuda-Parr.

Wrap-up session and conclusion of the forum

12. At the 10th meeting, on 14 July, the President of the Council made a statement and highlighted the key messages emanating from the meetings of the forum held from 10 to 14 July that would be provided to the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum to be held from 17 to 19 July.

13. At the same meeting, a statement was made by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs.

14. At the 19th meeting, on 19 July, at the conclusion of the forum, a statement was made by the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs.

15. At the same meeting, the Council President made a statement and declared closed the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council at its 2017 session.

Action

16. At its 19th meeting, on 19 July, the forum considered agenda item 3 (Adoption of the ministerial declaration) and had before it the draft ministerial declaration of the 2017 high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, on the theme “Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world” ([E/2017/L.29-E/HLPF/2017/L.2](#)).

17. At the same meeting, the President of the Council made a statement in connection with the draft ministerial declaration and informed the forum that it contained no programme budget implications.

18. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Council made a technical correction to operative paragraph 23 of the draft ministerial declaration to reflect that 43 countries had made presentations on their voluntary national reviews during the forum. The corresponding footnote 1 of the draft ministerial declaration listing the countries was adjusted accordingly.²

² The footnote to paragraph 23 accordingly reads: “Afghanistan, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Monaco, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Panama, Peru, Portugal, Qatar, Slovenia, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Uruguay, Zimbabwe”.

19. Also at the same meeting, the forum was informed that a recorded vote had been requested on operative paragraph 4 of the draft ministerial declaration.
20. Also at the 19th meeting, a statement was made by the representative of Israel.
21. At the same meeting, the forum decided to retain operative paragraph 4 by a recorded vote of 104 to 8, with 48 abstentions. The result of the vote was as follows:³

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Australia, Canada, Israel, Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

22. At its 19th meeting, the forum was also informed that a recorded vote had been requested on operative paragraph 21 of the draft ministerial declaration.
23. At the same meeting, the President of the Council responded to a statement on a point of order by the representative of Algeria.
24. Also at the same meeting, the forum decided to retain operative paragraph 21 by a recorded vote of 112 to 1, with 46 abstentions. The result of the vote was as follows:⁴

³ The delegation of the State of Palestine subsequently indicated that it had intended to vote in favour.

⁴ The delegation of the State of Palestine subsequently indicated that it had intended to vote in favour.

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Ghana, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Liberia, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, Thailand, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

United States.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

25. After the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Mexico, Canada (also on behalf of Australia and New Zealand) and Japan.

26. Also at the 19th meeting, the forum adopted the draft ministerial declaration, as orally corrected and as a whole, as contained in document [E/2017/L.2-E/HLPF/2017/L.2](#) (see [E/HLS/2017/1](#)).

27. At the same meeting, after the adoption of the draft ministerial declaration, as orally corrected, statements were made by the representatives of Ecuador (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Estonia (on behalf of the European Union), Barbados (on behalf of the Caribbean Community), Australia (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco and New Zealand), Canada, the United States, Switzerland, Morocco, the Russian Federation, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, France, the United Kingdom, Maldives (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), Armenia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Holy See, Viet Nam, Norway, Israel and Nigeria.

28. Also at the 19th meeting, the forum adopted its draft report ([E/HLPF/2017/L.1](#)) under agenda item 4 (Adoption of the report) and agreed to entrust the President of the Council with finalizing the report to reflect the proceedings of the forum.

III. Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world

A. Thematic panel discussions

29. At its 1st, 2nd, 4th, 6th and 10th meeting, from 10 to 14 July 2017, the forum held seven thematic panel discussions under agenda item 2 (Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world).

Interactive discussion on implementation at the regional and subregional levels

30. At its 1st meeting, on 10 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the regional and subregional levels, chaired by the President of the Council, who made a statement.

31. Presentations were made by the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Shamshad Akhtar; the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Alicia Barcena; the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, Mohamed Ali Alhakim; the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe, Olga Algayerova; and the Special Adviser to the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa, Aida Opoku-Mensah.

32. A statement was made by the Vice Prime Minister of Kyrgyzstan, Oleg Pankratov, on behalf of the Eurasian Economic Union.

33. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the representatives of the regional commissions responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the Philippines (on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations), El Salvador (on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Guyana (on behalf of the Caribbean Community), South Africa (on behalf of the Southern African Development Community), the European Union, Bhutan, Belarus and Mexico; the observer for the League of Arab States; and the representative of the major group for women.

Interactive discussion on addressing multi-dimensions of poverty and inequalities

34. At the 2nd meeting, on 10 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on addressing the multi-dimensions of poverty and inequalities, chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Nabeel Munir (Pakistan) and moderated by the High Commissioner of India to Canada, Vikas Swarup.

35. Following a statement by the moderator, statements were made by the following panellists: Professor and Director of the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative at the University of Oxford in the United Kingdom, Sabina Alkire; Director of Economic, Social and Environmental Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Colombia, Claudia Vasquez Marazzani; and Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund, Anthony Lake.

36. Statements were also made by the following lead discussants: Executive Director and Co-Founder of WeCareSolar, Laura Stachel; and Executive Director of the Dave Omokaro Foundation and Secretary-General of the African Society for Ageing Research and Development, Emem Omokaro.

37. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Kenya, China, Finland, Chile, the European Union, Argentina, the Comoros, India, the Sudan,

Mali, Romania, Azerbaijan, Indonesia, Norway and Sierra Leone; the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO); the major groups for women, children and youth, non-governmental organizations, and workers and trade unions; and the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

38. The Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) participated in the discussion.

Interactive discussions on eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world: multi-stakeholder perspectives

39. At its 4th meeting, on 11 July, the forum held two interactive panel discussions on the theme “Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world: multi-stakeholder perspectives”, chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Juergen Schulz (Germany), who made a statement.

40. The Co-Chair of the major groups and other stakeholders high-level political forum coordination mechanism, Luisa Emilia Reyes Zuñiga, made opening remarks.

41. The Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs made a statement.

Interactive panel discussion I: Major groups and other stakeholders — challenges and pathways to eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world

42. Panel I was moderated by the representative of the Cities Alliance, Maruxa Cardama, who made a statement.

43. The first set of presentations was made by the Deputy General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation (representing the major group for workers and trade unions), Wellington Chibebé; and the President of Women for Women’s Human Rights: New Ways (representing the major group for women), Sehnaz Kiyamaz.

44. A statement was made by the representative of Kenya as a respondent.

45. The second set of presentations was made by the Permanent Observer of the International Chamber of Commerce to the United Nations (representing the major group for business and industry), Louise Kantrow; the President of Sociedad Rural Argentina (representing the major group for farmers), Luis Miguel Etchevehere; and a representative of HelpAge International (representing the other stakeholders group for older persons), Verity McGivern.

46. A statement was made by the representative of Indonesia as a respondent.

47. The third set of presentations was made by the representative of International Disability Alliance (representing the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities), Jose Maria Viera; the representative of Social Watch (representing the financing for development civil society group), Roberto Bissio; and the Secretary-General of the International Council for Adult Education (representing the other stakeholders group for education and academia), Katarina Popovic.

48. A statement was made by the representative of the Netherlands as a respondent.

49. Statements were also made by the representatives of the major groups for non-governmental organizations and indigenous peoples.

Interactive panel discussion II: Leaving no one behind — ensuring an enabling environment for effective implementation and monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals by major groups and other stakeholders groups

50. Panel II was moderated by the representative of Together 2030, Naiara Costa, who made a statement.

51. The first set of presentations was made by the President of Fundación Manatí para el Fomento de la Ciudadanía (representing the major group for children and youth), Saul Zenteno Bueno; the Founder and President of the Institute for Law and Economics and Professor at the University of Technology in Jamaica (representing the major group for non-governmental organizations), Rosalea Hamilton; and the representative of the other stakeholder group for volunteers, James O'Brien.

52. A statement was made by the representative of Slovenia as a respondent.

53. The second set of presentations was made by the Mayor of Utrecht and President of VNG International, the international cooperation agency of the Association of Netherlands Municipalities (representing the major group for local authorities), Jan Van Zanen; the representative of World Vision (on behalf of Together 2030), John Patrick Ngoyi; and the representative of the major group for indigenous peoples, Keikabile Mogodio.

54. A statement was made by the representative of Sweden as a respondent.

55. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Mexico, Botswana and the Netherlands; the major groups for non-governmental organizations, women, and business and industry; and the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

Interactive discussion on eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world: taking forward the Samoa Pathway

56. At its 6th meeting, on 12 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the theme “Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world: taking forward the Samoa Pathway”, chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Cristian Barros (Chile) and moderated by the Permanent Representative of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations, Penelope Beckles, who both made statements.

57. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Minister of Labour and Social Security of Jamaica, Shahine Robinson; Minister of Health of Samoa, Tuitama Leao Talalelei Tuitama; and Deputy Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Maria Helena Semedo,

58. A statement was made by the lead discussant, the Director of the Public Health Division in the Pacific Community, Paula Vivili.

59. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Nauru (on behalf of the Pacific small island developing States), Tonga, Cabo Verde, Maldives (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), Guyana (on behalf of the Caribbean Community) and the Comoros; the major groups for women, and children and youth; and the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

Interactive discussion on eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world: how it affects countries in special situations — least developed countries and landlocked developing countries

60. Also at its 6th meeting, on 12 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the theme “Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world: how it affects countries in special situations — least developed countries and landlocked developing countries”, focusing also on the special challenges of middle-income countries, chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Chile) and moderated by a Member of the National Planning Commission of Nepal, Swarnim Wagle, who both made statements.

61. Presentations were made by the following panellists: Chair of the Committee on World Food Security, Amira Gornass; Country Director of ActionAid International in Bangladesh, Farah Kabir; and Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, Nikhil Seth.

62. Statements were also made by the following lead discussants: Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations, Masud Bin Momen; Head of the General Directorate for Multilateral Diplomacy at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belarus, Larysa Belskaya; and Permanent Representative of Zambia to the United Nations, Lazarous Kapambwe.

63. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Colombia, Sri Lanka, Honduras, Belgium, the Niger and the Sudan.

Interactive discussion on science-policy interface and emerging issues

64. At its 10th meeting, on 14 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the science-policy interface and emerging issues, chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Chile), and moderated by the Editor-in-Chief of *Science and Diplomacy* and Senior Scholar at the Center for Science Diplomacy of the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences, William Colglazier, who both made statements.

65. Presentations were made by the following panellists: former Deputy Minister for National Resources and Environment of Indonesia, Endah Murniningtyas; Director-General of the National Center for Science and Technology Evaluation at the Ministry of Science and Technology of China and Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development, Wang Ruijun; and Director of the Centre for Development and Environment at the University of Bern, Peter Messerli.

66. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Associate Professor at the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Cape Town, Tolu Oni; and Director of International and Interdisciplinary Research at the Research Councils of the United Kingdom, Stuart Taberner.

67. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Romania, Japan and Uganda; the observer for the International Union for Conservation of Nature; the representatives of UNEP and United Nations University; the major groups for women, the scientific and technological community, indigenous peoples, non-governmental organizations, and children and youth; and the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

B. Review of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 14 and 17

68. At its 3rd, 5th, 7th, 8th and 9th meeting, from 11 to 14 July 2017, the forum considered sub-item (a), Review of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 14 and 17, of agenda item 2.

Review of implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 1

69. At the 3rd meeting, on 11 July, the forum held a review of implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 1 (End poverty in all its forms everywhere), chaired by the President of the Council and moderated by the Senior Director of the Poverty and Equity Global Practice at the World Bank, Carolina Sanchez-Paramo, who both made statements.

70. The Director of the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat made a presentation on the statistical data related to Sustainable Development Goal 1.

71. Statements were made by the following panellists: Edmond D. Villani Professor of Economics at Georgetown University, Martin Ravallion; Mayor of Jingzhou, China, Yang Zhi; Chief Economist at the African Center for Economic Transformation in Ghana, Yaw Ansu; and Professor of Political Science and Director of the Stone Center on Socio-Economic Inequality at the City University of New York, Janet Gornick.

72. Statements were also made by the following lead discussants: Deputy Director-General for Policy at the International Labour Organization, Deborah Greenfield; and Deputy General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation, Wellington Chibebe.

73. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Indonesia, Azerbaijan, Maldives, Switzerland, Kenya and China; FAO; and the major group for children and youth.

Review of implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 2

74. At the same meeting, the forum held a review of implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 2 (End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture), chaired by the President of the Council and moderated by the Coordinator of the Scaling Up Nutrition movement, Gerda Verburg, who both made statements.

75. The representative of the Statistics Division made a presentation of the statistical data related to Sustainable Development Goal 2.

76. Statements were made by the following panellists: Secretary-General of the Asian Farmers Association for Sustainable Rural Development, Esther Penunia; and General Coordinator of La Via Campesina in Zimbabwe, Elizabeth Mpofu.

77. Statements were also made by the following lead discussants: Head of the Latin American and Caribbean Program at the International Food Policy Research Institute, Eugenio Diaz-Bonilla; Chair of the High-level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition, Patrick Caron; and Core Associate at Women Organizing for Change in Agriculture and Natural Resource Management, Meena Bilgi.

78. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of South Africa, Argentina, Finland, Benin, Indonesia, France, China, the Sudan, the United States,

Chile and the European Union; FAO and the World Bank; the major groups for women, and non-governmental organizations; and the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

Review of implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 3

79. At the 5th meeting, on 12 July, the forum held a review of implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 3 (Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages), chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) and moderated by the Executive Director of the New York Office of the World Health Organization, Nata Menabde, who both made statements.

80. The representative of the Statistics Division made a presentation on the statistical data related to Sustainable Development Goal 3.

81. Statements were made by the following panellists: Permanent Representative of Panama to the United Nations, Laura E. Flores; and Managing Director of the Rockefeller Foundation, Michael Myers.

82. Statements were also made by the following lead discussants: Regional Executive Director of the Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative, Rachel Cohen; and Vice-President for External Affairs of the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (representing the major group for children and youth), Marie Hauerslev.

83. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the Netherlands (also on behalf of Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Finland, Germany, Iceland, Mexico, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and Uruguay), Azerbaijan, Sierra Leone, Cuba, Vanuatu, Maldives (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), Kenya, Malaysia, China, Indonesia, Rwanda, Switzerland, Algeria, the Sudan, Nigeria, the Russian Federation and the European Union; UNEP; the major groups for children and youth, local authorities, indigenous peoples, business and industry, workers and trade unions, and women; and the other stakeholders groups for persons with disabilities and for older persons.

Review of implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 5

84. At the same meeting, the forum held a review of implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls), chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Marie Chatardova (Czechia), and moderated by the Director of the New York Office of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Craig Mokhiber, who both made statements.

85. The representative of the Statistics Division made a presentation on the statistical data related to Sustainable Development Goal 5.

86. Statements were made by the following panellists: Secretary-General of the Jordanian National Commission for Women, Salma Nims; and Director of Gender and Community Development, Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development of Uganda, Jane Sanyu Mpagi.

87. Statements were also made by the following lead discussants: Executive Director of the Instituto del Tercer Mundo and Coordinator of Social Watch in Uruguay, Roberto Bissio; and Executive Director of the Fiji Women's Rights Movement (representing the major group for women), Nalini Singh.

88. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Viet Nam, Sweden,

Nigeria, Romania, Croatia, the United States, the Philippines, China, Indonesia, Belgium, Chile, Denmark, Switzerland, Ireland, Argentina, Finland, Maldives, Andorra, Algeria, the European Union and Australia; UNIDO and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women; the major groups for workers and trade unions, children and youth, the scientific and technological community, indigenous peoples, women, and non-governmental organizations; and the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

Review of implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 9

89. At the 7th meeting, on 13 July, the forum held a review of implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 9 (Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation), chaired by the President of the Council and moderated by the Vice-Minister for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of Mexico, Miguel Ruiz Cabañas, who both made statements.

90. The Secretary-General of the International Chamber of Commerce, John Danilovich, made a keynote statement.

91. The representative of the Statistics Division made a presentation on the statistical data related to Sustainable Development Goal 9.

92. Statements were made by the following panellists: Special Adviser to the President of Uganda, Maria Kiwanuka; and Global Head, Internet of Things Product Management at Ericsson, Magnus Arildsson.

93. Statements were also made by the following lead discussants: Deputy Chairman of the China Energy Fund Committee, Patrick Ho; and former President of the World Blind Union, Arnt Holte.

94. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Switzerland, Chile, China, Argentina, Benin, Lebanon, Kenya, Azerbaijan, the European Union, Estonia, Chad, Malaysia, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria and Ethiopia; UNIDO and FAO; and the major groups for business and industry, and children and youth.

Review of implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14

95. Also at the 7th meeting, the forum held a review of implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14 (Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development), chaired by the President of the Council.

96. The following keynote speakers addressed the forum: President of the seventy-first session of the General Assembly, Peter Thomson; Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations, Olof Skoog (representing the Co-President (Sweden) of the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14); Deputy Permanent Representative of Fiji to the United Nations, Luke Daunivalu (representing the Co-President (Fiji) of the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14); Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs and Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14, Wu Hongbo; and Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and United Nations Legal Counsel, Miguel de Serpa Soares.

97. The representative of the Statistics Division made a presentation on the statistical data related to Sustainable Development Goal 14.

98. The Executive Director of the Global Island Partnership, Kate Brown, made a statement and moderated the discussion, during which statements were made by the

following panellists: Chief Scientist-Emeritus at the Department of Fisheries and Oceans of Canada, Jake Rice; and Director of Coastal Policy and Humanities Research and Senior Associate at the Global Ocean Forum, Marjo Vierros.

99. Statements were also made by the following lead discussants: Permanent Representative of Seychelles to the United Nations, Ronald Jumeau; and Director of the Pacific Indigenous and Local Knowledge Centre of Distinction at Te Kāpehu Whetū in New Zealand, Tui Shortland.

100. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Papua New Guinea (also on behalf of Fiji, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Nauru, Palau, Samoa, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu), the Philippines, Maldives (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), Madagascar, Honduras, Viet Nam, Croatia, Mexico, Togo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guatemala, Italy, Indonesia, Finland, Tonga and Kenya; UNEP and FAO; the major group for women; and the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

Review of implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 17

101. At its 8th and 9th meetings, on 14 July, the forum held a review of implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 17 (Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development).

Investing in and financing for the Sustainable Development Goals

102. At its 8th meeting, the forum held a thematic discussion on investing in and financing for the Sustainable Development Goals, chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) and moderated by the Senior Adviser on Finance and Development of the South Centre, Manuel Montes, who both made statements.

103. The following keynote speakers addressed the forum: Permanent Representative of Belgium to the United Nations, Marc Pecsteen de Buytswerve; and Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations, Jerry Matthews Matjila.

104. Statements were made by the following panellists: Deputy Permanent Representative of Ethiopia to the United Nations, Gebeyehu Ganga Gayito; Chief Executive Officer of Equarius Risk Analytics, Peter Adriaens; and Ambassador for the Post-2015 Development Agenda at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sweden, Kajsa Olofsgård.

105. A statement was also made by the lead discussant, Director of Programmes of the Third World Network in Malaysia, Chee Yoke Ling.

106. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Sri Lanka, Ghana, Algeria, the Philippines, Argentina, China, South Africa, Denmark, the European Union and the United Republic of Tanzania; and the major groups for business and industry, workers and trade unions, children and youth, non-governmental organizations, and women.

Advancing science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals

107. Also at its 8th meeting, the forum held a thematic discussion on advancing science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Chile) and moderated by the Minister of

Science, Technology and Research of Sri Lanka, Susil Premajayantha, who both made statements.

108. Statements were made by the following panellists: Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations and Co-Chair of the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, Macharia Kamau; Adviser on Science and Technology to the Secretary of State of the United States and Co-Chair of the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, Vaughan Turekian; and Executive Director of the International Council for Science and Co-Chair of the 10-member group of high-level representatives in support of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, Heide Hackmann.

109. Statements were also made by the following lead discussants: Deputy Director General of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Nebojsa Nakicenovic; and focal point for the science-policy interface mechanism (representing the major group for children and youth), Donovan Guttieres.

110. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Viet Nam, China, Mexico, Finland, Armenia, the European Union, the Netherlands, South Africa, Japan and the Islamic Republic of Iran; the International Atomic Energy Agency and UNEP; the major groups for women, indigenous peoples, and workers and trade unions; and the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

Interactive discussions on leveraging interlinkages for effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

111. At its 9th meeting, the forum held an interactive discussion on leveraging interlinkages for effective implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Czechia), who made a statement.

Panel I

112. Panel I was moderated by the Executive Director for Global Policy of the United Nations Foundation, Minh-Thu Pham, who made a statement.

113. Statements were made by the following panellists: Chair of Southern Voice and Distinguished Fellow at the Centre for Policy Dialogue, Debapriya Bhattacharya; Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, Michel Sidibé; and Head of the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns secretariat at the Economy Division of UNEP, Charles Arden-Clarke.

114. Statements were also made by the following lead discussants: Special Envoy for Sustainable Development of Switzerland, Michael Gerber; and Director-General of the International Development Law Organization, Irene Khan.

115. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Sri Lanka, Romania, Belarus, the European Union, Finland, Chile, Belgium, the Philippines, Kenya, the Netherlands, the Sudan, Nigeria, Malaysia, Ghana and Thailand; the observers for the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Partners in Population and Development; UNEP; the major groups for non-governmental organizations, women, business and industry, children and youth, and indigenous peoples; and the other stakeholder group for persons with disabilities and Together 2030.

Panel II

116. Panel II was moderated by the Chair of Southern Voice and Distinguished Fellow at the Centre for Policy Dialogue, Debapriya Bhattacharya, who made a statement.

117. Statements were made by the following panellists: Co-founder and Executive Director of Development Initiatives, Judith Randel; the Chief Statistician at Statistics Canada, Anil Arora; and President of the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics, Roberto Olinto.

118. An interactive dialogue ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Belarus, Chile, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ghana, the Russian Federation, Madagascar, Switzerland and Senegal; and the other stakeholders group for older persons.

C. Voluntary national reviews

119. At its 11th to 18th meetings, from 17 to 19 July 2017, the forum held 43 voluntary national reviews under sub-item (b), Voluntary national reviews, of agenda item 2.

Voluntary national reviews (first group): Luxembourg, Nepal and Brazil

120. At the 11th meeting, on 17 July, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Luxembourg, Nepal and Brazil were chaired by the President of the Council, who made a statement.

121. Presentations were made by the Minister for the Environment of Luxembourg, Carole Dieschbourg; the Minister for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs of Luxembourg, Romain Schneider; the Vice-Chairman of the National Planning Commission of Nepal, Min Bahadur Shrestha; and the Vice-Minister of the Environment, Energy, Science and Technology of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brazil, José Antonio Marcondes de Carvalho.

122. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety of Germany, Rita Schwarzelühr-Sutter; and Dean at the Pardee School of Global Studies at Boston University, Adil Najam.

123. During the ensuing interactive discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Colombia, Bangladesh, Norway and the Islamic Republic of Iran; the major groups for women, and non-governmental organizations; and the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

Voluntary national reviews (second group): Monaco, Japan and Indonesia

124. At the same meeting, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Monaco, Japan and Indonesia were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan), who made a statement.

125. A presentation was made by the Head of Government of Monaco, Serge Telle.

126. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representative of the major group for the scientific and technological community.

127. A presentation was made by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan, Fumio Kishida; and the Founder and Chair of the Board of the International School of Asia, Karuizawa, Lin Kobayashi.

128. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Thailand and Canada; and the major group for children and youth.

129. A presentation was made by the Minister of National Development Planning and Head of the National Development Planning Agency of Indonesia, Bambang Brodjonegoro.

130. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to the comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the Philippines and Australia; and the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

Voluntary national reviews (third group): Costa Rica, the Netherlands, Bangladesh and Kenya

131. At the 12th meeting, on 17 July, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Costa Rica, the Netherlands, Bangladesh and Kenya were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Chile).

132. Presentations were made by the Minister of National Planning and Economic Policy of Costa Rica, Olga Marta Sánchez Oviedo; the Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the Netherlands, Lilianne Ploumen; a youth representative of the Netherlands, Martijn Visser; the Prime Minister of Curaçao, Eugene Philip Rhuggenaath; the Minister of Planning of Bangladesh, A.H.M. Mustafa Kamal; the Principal Sustainable Development Goals Coordinator in the Office of the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Abul Kalam Azad; and the Principal Secretary at the State Department of Planning and Statistics in the Ministry of Devolution and Planning of Kenya, Irungu Nyakera.

133. During the ensuing discussion, which was moderated by the Director of the PJ Consulting Group, Michele Brooks, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Colombia, Australia, Nepal, Maldives, the United Kingdom, Belgium and the Islamic Republic of Iran; and the major group for non-governmental organizations.

Voluntary national reviews (fourth group): Chile and Malaysia

134. Also at the 12th meeting, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Chile and Malaysia were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Chile).

135. A presentation was made by the Minister of Social Development of Chile, Marcos Barraza.

136. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Costa Rica; and the major group for children and youth.

137. A presentation was made by the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department of Malaysia, Abdul Rahman Dahlan.

138. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to the comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Thailand; and the major groups for indigenous peoples, children and youth, and non-governmental organizations.

Voluntary national reviews (fifth group): Belgium, Benin and Peru

139. At the 13th meeting, on 18 July, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Belgium, Benin and Peru were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Czechia), who made a statement.

140. Presentations were made by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Development Cooperation, Digital Agenda, Telecommunications and Postal Services of Belgium, Alexander De Croo; a representative of the Youth Council of Belgium, Anne-Sophie Dubrux; the Minister of State of Benin, Abdoulaye Bio Tchane; and the President of the Board of Directors of the National Centre for Strategic Planning of Peru, Javier Abugattás Fatule.

141. A statement was made by the lead discussant, the President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, Gilbert HOUNGBO.

142. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Luxembourg; and the major groups for indigenous peoples, and children and youth.

Voluntary national reviews (sixth group): Guatemala, Italy and Zimbabwe

143. Also at the 13th meeting, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Guatemala, Italy and Zimbabwe were chaired by the President of the Council.

144. Presentations were made by the Secretary for Planning and Programming of the Office of the President of Guatemala, Miguel Ángel Moir Sandoval; the Sustainable Development Goals Coordinator in the Planning and Programming Secretariat of the Office of the President of Guatemala, Keila Gramajo; the Minister of Macroeconomic Planning and Investment Promotion of Zimbabwe, Obert M. Mpofu; the Director of Economic Planning and Coordination at the Ministry of Macroeconomic Planning and Investment Promotion of Zimbabwe, Grasiano Nyaguse; the Minister of Environment, Land and Sea Protection of Italy, Gianluca Galletti; the Minister Plenipotentiary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy, Luca Maestriperi; and the Founder and Spokesperson for the Italian Alliance for Sustainable Development, Enrico Giovannini.

145. Statements were made by the lead discussants, the National Secretary of Planning and Development of Ecuador, Andres Mideros; and the Senior Adviser at the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, Jessica Espey.

146. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representative of Thailand.

Voluntary national reviews (seventh group): Czechia, Jordan, Thailand and Argentina

147. At the 14th meeting, on 18 July, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Czechia, Jordan, Thailand and Argentina were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Czechia), who made a statement.

148. A presentation was made by the First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Environment of Czechia, Richard Brabec; the Founder of the Beauty of Help Foundation, Tatana Gregor Brzobohatá; and the Sales Director of JRK Biowaste Management, Robin Dufek.

149. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Luxembourg; and the major groups for non-governmental organizations, and children and youth.

150. A presentation was made by the Minister of Planning and International Cooperation of Jordan, Imad Fakhoury.

151. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter, together with the Secretary-General of the Jordanian National Commission for Women, Salma Nims, responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the major group for children and youth and the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

152. A presentation was made by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand, Don Pramudwinai, and the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Thai Beverage Public Company Limited, Thapana Sirivadhanabhakdi; and statements were made by a representative of the private sector in Thailand, Pravit Sukhum, and a youth delegate from Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, Potcharapol Prommatat.

153. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Kenya and Bangladesh; and the major group for non-governmental organizations.

154. A presentation was made by the Executive Secretary of the National Council for the Coordination of Social Policies of Argentina, Gabriela Agosto; the Chief Executive Officer of Randstad Argentina and President of Global Compact Argentina, Andrea Avila; and the Director of the Foundation for Studies and Research on Women, Mabel Bianco.

155. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities; and the major group for children and youth.

Voluntary national reviews (eighth group): Belarus, Portugal and Uruguay

156. At the 15th meeting, on 18 July, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Belarus, Portugal and Uruguay were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Germany).

157. A presentation was made by the Deputy Chair of the Council of the Republic of the National Assembly of Belarus, Marianna Shchetkina.

158. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the Russian Federation, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan and China; and the major group for children and youth.

159. A presentation was made by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Portugal, Teresa Ribeiro.

160. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representative of the other stakeholders group for older persons.

161. A presentation was made by the Minister of Budget and Planning of Uruguay, Álvaro García.

162. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to the comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Argentina; the major group for women; and the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

Voluntary national reviews (ninth group): Sweden, Nigeria and Panama

163. At the same meeting, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Sweden, Nigeria and Panama were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Germany).

164. Presentations were made by the Minister for Public Administration of Sweden, Ardalan Shekarabi; the Mayor of Malmö, Katrin Stjernfeldt Jammeh; the Director General of the Confederation of Swedish Enterprise, Carola Lemne; the Swedish youth delegate to the high-level political forum, Björn Fondén; the Senior Special Adviser to the President on the Sustainable Development Goals of Nigeria, Adejoke Orellope-Adefulire; the representative of the Civil Society Strategy Group in Nigeria, Priscilla Achakpa; the representative of the Private Sector Advisory Group in Nigeria, Mories Atoki; and the Vice-Minister of Multilateral Affairs and Cooperation of Panama, Maria Luisa Navarro.

165. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: State Counsellor to the Prime Minister's Office of Romania, László Borbély; and Executive Director at the Partnership for Sustainable Development Data, Claire Melamed.

166. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Mexico and the Niger; and the major groups for women, children and youth, and workers and trade unions.

Voluntary national reviews (tenth group): Ethiopia, Honduras, India and Maldives

167. At the 16th meeting, on 19 July, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Ethiopia, Honduras, India and Maldives were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Chile).

168. A presentation was made by the Minister for the National Planning Commission of Ethiopia, Yinager Dessie Belay.

169. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Norway, India, Denmark, the Sudan and Colombia; and the other stakeholders groups for older persons and persons with disabilities.

170. A presentation was made by the Minister and Coordinator of the Presidency of Honduras, Jorge Ramón Hernández Alcerro.

171. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Colombia; and the other stakeholders group for educational and academic entities.

172. A presentation was made by the Vice-Chair of the National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog of India, Arvind Panagariya.

173. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Guatemala, Ethiopia and Belarus.

174. A presentation was made by the Minister of State for Environment and Energy of Maldives, Abdullahi Majeed.

175. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Singapore, Belize, the Comoros and Norway; and the major group for the scientific and technological community.

Voluntary national reviews (eleventh group): Azerbaijan, Afghanistan, Belize and Denmark

176. At the 17th meeting, on 19 July, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Azerbaijan, Afghanistan, Belize and Denmark were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan).

177. A presentation was made by the Deputy Prime Minister of Azerbaijan, Ali Ahmadov.

178. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Belarus, Armenia and Tajikistan; and the major group for children and youth.

179. A presentation was made by the Minister of Economy of Afghanistan, Abdul Sattar Murad; and the Special Adviser to the President of Afghanistan on United Nations Affairs, Farkhunda Zahra Naderi.

180. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to the comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Australia; and the other stakeholders group for volunteers.

181. A presentation was made by the Minister of State in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, the Environment, Sustainable Development and Immigration of Belize, Omar Figueroa; and the Chief Executive Officer in the Ministry of Human Development, Social Transformation and Poverty Alleviation of Belize, Judith Alpuche.

182. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Singapore and Jamaica; and the other stakeholders group for volunteers.

183. A presentation was made by the Minister for Finance of Denmark, Kristian Jensen, and a representative of the Danish Family Planning Association, Ida Klockmann.

184. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Indonesia, Jamaica, Estonia and Ethiopia; and the major group for non-governmental organizations.

Voluntary national reviews (twelfth group): Togo and Cyprus

185. Also at the 17th meeting, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Togo and Cyprus were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan).

186. Presentations were made by the Prime Minister of Togo, Komi Selom Klassou; the Minister of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment of Cyprus, Nicos Kouyialis; and the Special Counsellor at the Center for the Advancement of Research and Development in Educational Technology of Cyprus, Sotiris Themistokleous.

187. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: State Secretary at the Ministry of Finance of Finland, Risto Artjoki; and Executive Director of the Pacific Islands Association of Non-Governmental Organisations, Emele Duituturaga.

188. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to the comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Denmark, Morocco, Indonesia and Slovenia; and the other stakeholders group for volunteers.

Voluntary national reviews (thirteenth group): Botswana, Qatar, Slovenia, Tajikistan and El Salvador

189. At the 18th meeting, on 19 July, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Botswana, Qatar, Slovenia, Tajikistan and El Salvador were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan).

190. A presentation was made by the Minister of Local Government and Rural Development of Botswana, Slumber Tsogwane.

191. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representative of the major group of workers and trade unions.

192. A presentation was made by the Minister of Development Planning and Statistics of Qatar, Saleh bin Mohammed Al-Nabit.

193. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the major group for children and youth; and the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

194. A presentation was made by the Minister for Development, Strategic Projects and Cohesion of Slovenia, Alenka Smerkolj; a Member of Parliament of Slovenia, Kamal Izidor Shaker; and the Director of Sloga Platform, Albin Keuc.

195. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Czechia and the United Arab Emirates; and the other stakeholders group for older persons.

196. A representative of the National Youth Council of Slovenia, Sabina Carli, made a statement.

197. A presentation was made by the Minister of Economic Development and Trade of Tajikistan, Nematullo Hikmatullozoda.

198. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Belarus, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan and Afghanistan.

199. A presentation was made by the Vice-Minister for Development Cooperation of El Salvador, Jaime Miranda.

200. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Belgium; and the major group for non-governmental organizations.

D. General debate

201. The forum held its general debate from 17 to 20 July, within the framework of the ministerial meeting of the forum during the high-level segment of the 2017 session of the Council.⁵

202. The general debate heard 159 statements, comprised of 130 statements by representatives of States and the European Union (including 11 statements on behalf of groups of States), four statements by observers, nine statements by representatives of specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations system, and 16 statements by representatives of major groups and non-governmental organizations.

IV. Organizational and other matters

Agenda

203. At its 1st meeting, on 10 July, the forum adopted its provisional agenda ([E/HLPF/2017/5](#)):

⁵ An account of the proceedings of the general debate is contained in the report of the Economic and Social Council for 2017 (A/72/3) and the summary record of the general debate is contained in documents E/2017/SR.44-E/2017/SR.48.

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world:
 - (a) Review of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 9, 14 and 17;
 - (b) Voluntary national reviews.
3. Adoption of the ministerial declaration.
4. Adoption of the report.

Attendance

204. The forum was attended by representatives of 153 States Members of the United Nations and States members of specialized agencies. Accredited observers for intergovernmental organizations, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and accredited observers for non-governmental and other organizations also attended. The list of participants is contained in document [E/HLPF/2017/INF/1](#).

Documentation

205. The documents before the forum are listed in the annex to the present report. The informal papers considered by the forum are available from the website of the forum (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2017>).

Annex

Documentation

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
A/71/976-E/2017/79	Identical letters dated 7 July 2017 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Economic and Social Council
A/72/75-E/2017/56	Report of the Secretary-General on mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system
E/2017/31	Relevant sections of the report of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on its twentieth session
E/2017/63	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the progress report on the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns
E/2017/66	Report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals
E/HLPF/2017/1	Note by the Secretariat on the reports of the regional forums on sustainable development
E/HLPF/2017/1/Add.1	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the input from the Fourth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development to the high-level political forum on sustainable development
E/HLPF/2017/1/Add.2	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the input from the Economic Commission for Europe to the high-level political forum on sustainable development
E/HLPF/2017/1/Add.3	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the input from the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean to the high-level political forum on sustainable development
E/HLPF/2017/1/Add.4	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the input from the Economic Commission for Africa to the high-level political forum on sustainable development
E/HLPF/2017/1/Add.5	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the input from the Arab High-level Forum on Sustainable Development to the high-level political forum on sustainable development
E/HLPF/2017/2	Note by the Secretariat on discussion papers on the theme of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, submitted by major groups and other stakeholders
E/HLPF/2017/3	Note by the Secretariat on the synthesis of voluntary submissions by functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and other intergovernmental bodies and forums

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
E/HLPF/2017/4	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the Co-Chairs' summary of the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals
E/HLPF/2017/5	Provisional agenda
E/FFDF/2017/3	Report of the second session of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up
A/CONF.230/14	Report of the United Nations Conference to Support the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
E/HLPF/2017/L.1	Draft report
E/2017/L.29-E/HLPF/2017/L.2	Ministerial declaration of the 2017 high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, on the theme "Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world"
E/HLPF/2017/INF/1	List of participants