



**ECOSOC** | Economic  
and Social  
Council

11.2022



# ECOSOC

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# ECOSOC

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# AT A GLANCE

The Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) was created by the United Nations Charter in 1945 as one of the six principal organs of the United Nations.



## ECOSOC

ECOSOC has the powerful mandate to promote international cooperation on economic, social, cultural, educational, health and related issues. Specifically, it is tasked with the promotion of:

Higher standards of living, full employment, and conditions of **economic** and **social** progress and **development**;

Solutions of **international economic, social, health, and related problems**, and international cultural and education cooperation;

Universal respect for, and observance of, **human rights** and **fundamental freedoms for all** without distinction as to race, sex, language or religion.

### THE FIRST MEETING

of the Council was convened in London from 23 January to 18 February 1946 under its first president Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar (India). The Council's membership has grown from 18 in 1945 to 27 in 1965 to 54 since 1974.



## ECOSOC'S FUNCTIONS

- ▶ Assist the **General Assembly**
- ▶ Assist the **Security Council** when requested

- ▶ Create **commissions**
- ▶ Convene **international conferences**
- ▶ Conduct follow-up and review the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other UN Summits and Conferences**

- ▶ **Coordinate** the work of **specialized agencies** along with **funds & programmes**
- ▶ Provide a platform for engagement with **non-governmental organizations**

- ▶ Issue **studies** and **reports**
- ▶ Make **recommendations**





# RECENT ECOSOC MANDATES

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ECOSOC is a central platform for policy analysis, policy review and policy guidance to Member States. The Council is also mandated with the integrated and coordinated follow up of all UN conferences in economic, social and environmental fields and promotes the balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development.



ECOSOC guides and coordinates the work of the United Nations System at the country level. At its **operational activities for development segment**, it oversees the implementation by the UN development system of the policies developed by the General Assembly.

The Council addresses the normative work of the UN system policy and its subsidiary bodies chiefly at the newly launched **coordination segment**, which aims to ensure they contribute fully to the **decade of action** and delivery for sustainable development and the global response to the COVID-19 pandemic.



ECOSOC also works to strengthen the coordination of humanitarian assistance to make it more effective. Its **humanitarian affairs segment** aims to improve

and coordinate the UN system's humanitarian response in the broader context of international efforts to address disasters and other humanitarian emergencies.





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## THE HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM IN BRIEF

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The **High-level Political Forum on sustainable development (HLPF)** is the United Nations platform for the global follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable

Development. The Forum meets for a period of eight days, including a three-day ministerial segment to be held in the framework of the High-level segment of the Council. HLPF conducts reviews of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Those include thematic reviews of SDGs informed by the SDG Progress report and other reports from related intergovernmental processes, inputs from the functional commissions

of ECOSOC and other intergovernmental bodies and forums, and Voluntary National Reviews. HLPF also examines a theme each year linked to the 2030 Agenda. The HLPF meets under the General Assembly as a summit every four years.



**ECOSOC IS ALSO HOME** to forums that address financing for development and science, technology and innovation. The ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development follow-up is at the center of the dedicated follow-up process on Financing for Development established by the Addis Ababa Action Agenda in 2015. The Forum is the only intergovernmental forum on Financing for Development with universal participation that leads to an annual negotiated outcome. Over the years, the Forum has acted as a platform for consensus-building and meaningful exchanges among all key stakeholders to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development. The Development Cooperation Forum meets every two years. The Multi-stakeholder Forum on STI for the SDGs brings a variety of actors together to discuss cooperation on Science, Technology and Innovation for implementing the SDGs. Both of these forums meet prior to the HLPF to inform the discussions at the HLPF.



**THE HIGH-LEVEL  
POLITICAL FORUM  
ON SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT**



## OVERVIEW OF THE HLPF

- ▶ The 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is a global plan of action to drive improvements for people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnerships. Countries established the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) — to boost efforts to achieve the goals.
- ▶ The HLPF helps translate the vision of the Goals into reality by providing political leadership and recommendations and enabling countries to share experiences and lessons learned on implementing the SDGs. Every year, in early July, the HLPF brings together States, organizations of the United Nations and other international and regional organizations, civil society, NGOs, the private sector and other stakeholders to discuss progress, exchange lessons learned, experience, and challenges, and recommend new action to achieve the goals. Countries also agreed (resolutions [67/290](#), [70/299](#) and [75/290](#)) that every fourth year, the HLPF will meet under the auspices of the General Assembly at the level of Heads of State and Government.





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## RELATIONS WITH THE MAJOR GROUPS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

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Member States have stressed the need for the HLPF to promote transparency and implementation by further enhancing the consultative role and participation of the **major groups and other relevant stakeholders** at international level in order to make better use of their expertise, while retaining the intergovernmental nature of discussions. The major groups and other stakeholders include non-governmental and non-profit organisations, business and industry, and local authorities, among others. In accordance with General Assembly resolution 67/290, the Forum is open to the major groups, other relevant stakeholders and entities having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the General Assembly, building on arrangements and practices observed by the Commission on Sustainable Development. While retaining the intergovernmental character of the forum, the representatives of the major groups and other relevant stakeholders shall be allowed:

- a. To attend all official meetings of the forum;
- b. To have access to all official information and documents;
- c. To intervene in official meetings;
- d. To submit documents and present written and oral contributions;
- e. To make recommendations;
- f. To organize side events and round tables, in cooperation with Member States and the Secretariat.



## MORE ABOUT THE HLPF

### What is the history of the HLPF?

- ▶ The HLPF on Sustainable Development was created in 2012 as part of the mandates stemming from the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), titled 'The future we want'. (GA Resolution 66/288).
- ▶ GA Resolution 67/290 was adopted in 2013 and outlined the 'Format and organizational aspects of the HLPF on sustainable development'. The Resolution also indicated that the HLPF, under the auspices of the ECOSOC and General Assembly, will:
  - ▶ provide political leadership, guidance and recommendations for sustainable development;
  - ▶ follow up and review progress in the implementation of sustainable development commitments;
  - ▶ enhance the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development in a holistic and cross-sectoral manner at all levels; and
  - ▶ have a focused, dynamic and action-oriented agenda, ensuring the appropriate consideration of new and emerging sustainable development challenges.
- ▶ The HLPF, which replaced the Commission on Sustainable Development, held its first meeting under the auspices of the General Assembly in September 2013 and under the auspices of the ECOSOC in June-July 2014.

## Review of progress towards the SDGs

- ▶ As part of its follow-up and review mechanisms, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development encourages Member States to conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national and sub-national levels, which are country-led and country-driven (paragraph 79). These national reviews serve as a basis for the regular reviews by the HLPF, meeting under the auspices of ECOSOC every year in July.
- ▶ The Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) aim to facilitate the sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned, with a view to accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The VNRs also seek to strengthen policies and institutions of governments and to mobilize multi-stakeholder support and partnerships for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The VNR countries submit comprehensive written reports that are made available in the VNR database.
- ▶ From 2017 to 2019 and in 2021 and 2022, HLPF discussed in depth every year a set of SDGs and their interlinkages to review progress made, with means of implementation (SDG17), reviewed annually.
- ▶ The Forum also provides an opportunity for the international community to review progress in addressing certain risks and vulnerabilities of countries in special situations, such as the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries, African countries, the Small Island Developing States, as well as the challenges facing middle-income countries.
- ▶ The HLPF also discusses the regional dimension in the



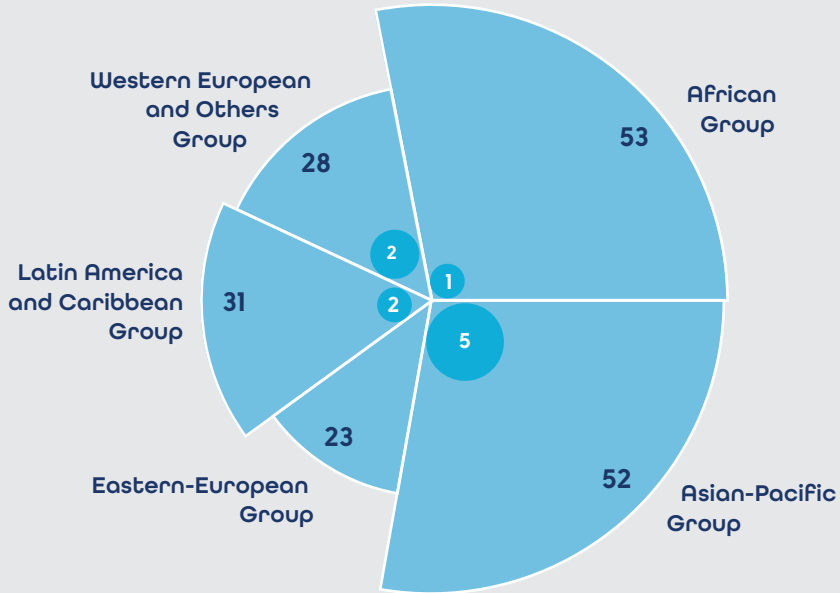
implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



- ▶ The HLPF met in 2022 under the theme “Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”. The Forum in 2022 also discussed Sustainable

Development Goals 4, 5, 14, 15 and 17 in depth. As the world is struggling to recover from COVID-19 amidst continuing crises, the HLPF reflected on how recovery policies can reverse the negative impacts of the pandemic on the SDGs and move countries on to a path to realize the vision of the 2030 Agenda.

**Did you know**, from 2016 to 2022, 187 countries presented voluntary national reviews (VNR) to the HLPF, including 100 countries presented one time, 72 countries presented two times, and 2 countries presented four times. In 2022, 44 countries presented their voluntary national reviews to the HLPF.

## STATUS OF VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW PRESENTED BY REGION [ As of 2022 High-Level Political Forum ]



-  The countries that presented their VNRs
-  The countries that have not presented their VNRs



## SDG Summit

- ▶ 2019 marked the first time that HLPF met under the auspices of the General Assembly. In September 2019, world leaders gathered at UN Headquarters in New York for the SDG Summit to review progress and identify measures to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 SDGs.
  - ▶ The SDG Summit resulted in the adoption of the Political Declaration, “Gearing up for a decade of action and delivery for sustainable development”. World leaders called for a decade of action to deliver the SDGs by 2030 and many announced actions they are taking to advance the agenda. The General Assembly endorsed the Political Declaration on 15 October 2019.
- ▶ The second SDG Summit will be held during the United Nations General Assembly high-level week in September 2023. It marks the mid-point of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The Summit will bring together Heads of State and Government alongside Heads of international organizations, private sector, civil society, women and youth and other stakeholders in a series of high-level meetings. They will carry out a comprehensive review of the state of the SDGs, respond to the impact of multiple and interlocking crises facing the world, and provide high-level political guidance on transformative and accelerated actions leading up to the 2030 deadline for achieving the SDGs.

## WHAT ARE THE OFFICIAL OUTCOMES OF THE HLPF?

### Ministerial Declaration

- ▶ The HLPF under the auspices of ECOSOC usually adopts a Ministerial Declaration, a negotiated outcome document which is also the outcome of the High-level Segment of ECOSOC and reflects the collective views of States Members on the current state of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals as well as their vision for future action.
- ▶ Prior to the HLPF, the President of ECOSOC appoints, the permanent representatives of two countries to consult with Member States to co-facilitate the consultations with a view to producing the Ministerial Declaration. Representatives of Major Groups and other Stakeholders are able to make recommendations that can inform the Ministerial Declaration.

- ▶ The General Assembly in its resolution 70/299 decided that the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) shall have only one negotiated Political Declaration, covering the different and complementary functions of both sessions of the forum under the auspices of the General Assembly - the Summit, and the forum under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) when the forum is convened twice in the same year.

### Report of the HLPF convened under the auspices of ECOSOC

- ▶ The HLPF report covers factual information on the opening and closing sessions, the thematic review, the voluntary national reviews, the general debate as well as information



on the number of side events, the number of participants and documentation associated with the HLPF session. The report also contains an executive summary on the substance of the discussions at the HLPF.

## President's summary

- ▶ The President of the Economic and Social Council also summarises the key issues of concern and possible solutions in the President's summary.





# THE ECOSOC --- SYSTEM



## THE ECOSOC SYSTEM

ECOSOC oversees a complex ecosystem of bodies in the economic, social, cultural, educational, health and related fields. This includes the Council's subsidiary bodies — **regional commissions, functional commissions** and **expert bodies** and related bodies — and United Nations specialized agencies. The Council is entrusted to guide and coordinate the work of these bodies. It also coordinates the work of other UN agencies within its mandate of providing integrated policy guidance to Member States on the coordinated follow-up of UN conferences in economic, social and related fields and in promoting the balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development. It thus has an influence on a wide remit of the work of the UN on sustainable development.

The **United Nations Regional Commissions** are the regional outposts of the United Nations on economic, social and related fields in their respective regions. Stationed in the five regions of the world, they have, among their key objectives, to promote the regional implementation of internationally agreed development goals, including the SDGs.

The **Functional Commissions** (composed of Government representatives) and the **Expert Bodies** (some composed of governmental experts and some composed of experts serving in their personal capacity) carry out the technical work of the Council. They provide policy guidance and normative frameworks in

areas such as gender equality and women's empowerment, statistics, population, social development, indigenous peoples issues, crime and narcotic drugs, science and technology, forests and sustainable development, development policy issues, including the situation of

Least Developed Countries (LDCs), public administration matters, geospatial information management, international cooperation in tax matters, international standards of corporate accounting and governance, economic, social and cultural rights, among others.



Over **6000 non-governmental organizations** (NGOs) have consultative status with ECOSOC. The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations, a subsidiary body of ECOSOC, reviews NGO applications and makes recommendations on the granting of consultative status for final decision by ECOSOC.



## UNITED NATIONS COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON GLOBAL GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION MANAGEMENT (UN-GGIM)

ECOSOC established the [United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management](#) in July 2011, following an extensive three-year consultative process with geospatial information experts from Member States and relevant stakeholders. The Committee is responsible for ensuring the coordination and coherence of geospatial management, in capacity building, norm-setting, data collection, dissemination and sharing. In 2016 and 2022, ECOSOC broadened and strengthened the Committee's mandate as the relevant body on geospatial information. ECOSOC resolution 2022/24 further recognized the significance of the Committee's work and agreed to enhance its institutional arrangements with a dedicated secretariat.

The Committee's multiple workstreams have had impact on both the global geospatial landscape and national

development programmes. One of its key outcomes has been the adoption of the [Integrated Geospatial Information Framework \(UN-IGIF\)](#). The UN-IGIF provides a basis and guide for developing, integrating, strengthening and maximizing geospatial information management and related resources in all countries. Focused on location information that is integrated with any other meaningful data, the UN-IGIF aims to assist countries in bridging the geospatial digital divide, secure socio-economic prosperity and leave no one behind. The [Second United Nations World Geospatial Information Congress](#), organized by the Committee and hosted by the government of India was held in Hyderabad in October 2022. The Congress emphasized the importance of the United Nations Integrated Geospatial Information

Framework (UN-IGIF) to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, address climate-related challenges

and leave no one behind. The Congress, held every 4 years, was attended by 1369 participants from 77 countries.

## THE VIENNA-BASED COMMISSIONS

The [Commission on Narcotic Drugs \(CND\)](#) and the [Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice \(CCPCJ\)](#) are functional commissions of ECOSOC based in Vienna. Both Commissions also function as the governing bodies of UNODC. CND was established by ECOSOC in 1946 to assist in supervising the application of the [international drug control treaties](#) and functions as the policymaking body of the United Nations with prime responsibility for drug control matters. CND carries out treaty-based functions and activities based on the international drug policy commitments, reiterated most recently in the [2019 CND Ministerial Declaration](#). CCPCJ was established by the Council in 1992, upon request of the General Assembly, as the principal policymaking body of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice. Among its mandates are improving international action to combat national and transnational crime, promoting efficiency and fairness of criminal justice administration systems, and serving as the preparatory body to the [United Nations Crime Congresses](#). Declarations adopted by the latter are transmitted through CCPCJ and ECOSOC to the General Assembly for endorsement. In fulfilling their respective mandates, the Commissions also support Member States in their implementation of the 2030 Agenda. As demonstrated in their latest sessions [CND65](#) and [CCPCJ31](#), they often highlight important interlinkages, including with the environment, which would need to be considered at the time of formulating inclusive, sustainable and resilient strategies and policies to advance the SDGs.

# ECOSOC SYSTEM

## RESEARCH AND TRAINING

**UNICRI** United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute

**UNIDIR** United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research

**UNITAR** United Nations Institute for Training and Research

**UNSSC** United Nations System Staff College

**UNU** United Nations University

## AD HOC BODIES

Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti

## RELATED BODIES

Committee for the UN Population Award

International Narcotics Control Board

Programme Coordinating Board of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

UN Nutrition

## HLPF

High-level political forum on sustainable development

## GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## FUNCTIONAL COMMISSIONS

Statistical Commission

Commission on Population and Development

Commission for Social Development

Commission on the Status of Women

Commission on Narcotic Drugs

Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Commission on Science and Technology for Development

United Nations Forum on Forests

## REGIONAL COMMISSIONS

**ECA** Economic Commission for Africa

**ESCAP** Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

**ECE** Economic Commission for Europe

**ECLAC** Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean

**ESCWA** Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

## EXPERT BODIES COMPOSED OF GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS

Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

Intergovernmental Working Group of Experts on International Standards of Accounting and Reporting

United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names

United Nations Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management

## FUNDS AND PROGRAMMES

**UNDP** United Nations Development Programme

**UNEP** United Nations Environment Programme

**UNFPA** United Nations Population Fund

**UN-Habitat** United Nations Human Settlements Programme

**UNICEF** United Nations Children's Fund

**WFP** World Food Programme (UN/FAO)

## OTHER ENTITIES

**ITC** International Trade Centre (UN/WTO)

**UNAIDS** Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS

**UNCTAD** United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

**UNHCR** Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

**UNISDR** United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

**UNODC** United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

**UNOPS** United Nations Office for Project Services

**UNRWA** United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

**UN-Women** United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

**WTO** World Trade Organization

## SPECIALIZED AGENCIES

**FAO** Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

**ICAO** International Civil Aviation Organization

**IFAD** International Fund for Agricultural Development

**ILO** International Labour Organization

**IMF** International Monetary Fund

**IMO** International Maritime Organization

**ITU** International Telecommunication Union

**UNESCO** United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

**UNIDO** United Nations Industrial Development Organization

**UNWTO** World Tourism Organization

**UPU** Universal Postal Union

**WHO** World Health Organization

**WIPO** World Intellectual Property Organization

**WMO** World Meteorological Organization

### WORLD BANK GROUP

- **IBRD** International Bank for Reconstruction and Development
- **IDA** International Development Association
- **IFC** International Finance Corporation

### EXPERT BODIES COMPOSED OF MEMBERS SERVING IN THEIR PERSONAL CAPACITY

Committee for Development Policy

Committee of Experts on Public Administration

Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

### STANDING COMMITTEES

Committee for Programme and Coordination

Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations



## GLOBAL COOPERATION AND THE SMOOTH FUNCTIONING OF THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Through its technical advice and standard setting, the ECOSOC system provides a platform for global cooperation and the smooth functioning of the international system.

**UN Specialized Agencies** help set global norms and standards for higher standards of living, **full employment** and **economic, social, health** and **food and nutrition** and related issues.

### For example:

The **ILO** sets international labour standards, **FAO** sets standards for food safety and for plant and animal health, **UNESCO** for education, science and culture, and **WHO** for the production and control of biological products and technologies and for managing pandemics.

**ICAO, IMO, ITU, UPU, WIPO** oversee **technical standards** for air travel, maritime transport, telecommunications, postal services, and intellectual property. Those standards are vital for international cooperation and the flow of goods, services and ideas among countries.



**ECOSOC's** range of technical work through its expert bodies extend into other areas that require international cooperation for the functioning of the global economy. For example, expert bodies provide technical services that:

- ▶ Define the list of Least Developed Countries and criteria for graduation.
  - ▶ Promote international cooperation in global geospatial information management.
  - ▶ Promote international cooperation on tax matters.
  - ▶ Bring partners together to address global issues in science, technology and innovation and promote STI solutions to advance sustainable development.
  - ▶ Set the rules for the cultivation, production, manufacture and use of drugs for medical and scientific purposes and prevent their illicit cultivation, production, use and trafficking.
- ▶ Define and promote principles of effective governance to accelerate action on building strong institutions for sustainable development.
  - ▶ Promote increased awareness and the inclusion of indigenous issues in policy and decision making.
  - ▶ Determine international standards of accounting and reports coming from transnational corporations to improve availability and comparability.
  - ▶ Set norms and provide guidance for cooperation in international tax matters, particularly for developing countries.
  - ▶ Promote the standardization of geographical names at national and international levels and resolve problems where they occur.



**ECOSOC**

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**RESPONSE TO**

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**COVID-19**

## ECOSOC RESPONSE TO COVID-19



On 11 March 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared **COVID-19 a pandemic** with alarming levels of spread and severity. The

pandemic has caused severe disruptions to economy and society around the world with deep impacts on health, education, economic, financial and social systems.

ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies immediately shifted focus to address

Additional online resources on the work of the ECOSOC subsidiary bodies and the UN system on COVID-19:

- ▶ **UN platform on COVID-19**  
[www.un.org/en/coronavirus](http://www.un.org/en/coronavirus)
- ▶ **The UN response to COVID-19**  
[www.un.org/en/coronavirus/response](http://www.un.org/en/coronavirus/response)
- ▶ **ECOSOC and COVID-19:**  
<https://bit.ly/3CzuGR2>

the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and to find policy solutions to respond, rebuild and recover more effectively from its devastating effects.

Promoting a robust multilateral response guided by global solidarity

has been at the core of the Council's approach to help reduce vulnerabilities to future shocks and disasters, build community resilience and recover better. The 2030 Agenda and the SDGs have remained as the most viable roadmap for recovery and building resilience.

## ECOSOC AND COUNTRIES IN SPECIAL SITUATIONS

▶ The Council continues to be a champion to countries in special situations, such as Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), Small Island Developing States (SIDS), as well as African countries, providing them a platform to share

their experiences and concerns. The priorities and specific concerns of these countries are integrated into all segments and meetings of the Council as cross-cutting priorities. The Council also addresses the particular development challenges of middle-income countries (MICs).



# ECOSOC

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## IN 2023



**JANUARY**

**FEBRUARY**

**31 JANUARY 2023**

## The Partnership Forum

- ▶ Held annually since 2008.
- ▶ A platform for dialogue among member states, the United Nations system, parliamentarians, local governments, non-governmental organizations, the private sector, civil society, scientists, academia, women, youth and other stakeholders.
- ▶ Sharing new ideas, expectations and priorities for ECOSOC and the HLPF and forward looking actions by countries and stakeholders and partnerships to support the implementation of the **SDGs**.



**1-2 FEBRUARY 2023**

## ECOSOC Coordination Segment

- ▶ Replaces the integration segment and the informal meeting of the Council with the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies in line with General Assembly resolution 75/290 A.
- ▶ Formulates common action-oriented policy guidance on all matters requiring implementation or coordination efforts.
- ▶ Provides forward-looking policy guidance to ensure coherence and direction in the policies and normative work of subsidiary bodies and specialized agencies.





## MARCH

14-15 MARCH 2023

### The Development Cooperation Forum

- ▶ Held biennially
- ▶ Reviews the latest trends and emerging issues in development cooperation policy and action
- ▶ Enhances coherence, effectiveness and coordination of diverse ctors and activities
- ▶ Emphasizes the needs and priorities of the most vulnerable countries and groups

31 MARCH 2023

### ECOSOC Special Meeting on International Cooperation in Tax Matters

- ▶ Applies a sustainable development perspective to cutting-edge issues in tax policy and administration: this year, digitalization, formal economy.
- ▶ Strengthens impact of UN policy guidance on tax matters at global, regional, national and subnational levels.
- ▶ Advances inclusive dialogue among key stakeholders, including national tax authorities and civil society.

## APRIL

18-20 APRIL 2023

### The Youth Forum

- ▶ Held annually since 2012.
- ▶ Brings the voice of youth into the discussions on the 2030 Agenda.
- ▶ Promotes youth participation and engagement.



24-27 APRIL 2023

### The ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development Follow-Up

- ▶ Held annually since 2016.
- ▶ Reviews the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and other financing for development outcomes.
- ▶ Means of implementation of the SDGs.





MAY

3-4 MAY 2023

### The Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals



- ▶ Launched by the 2030 Agenda.
- ▶ Meetings of the Forum convened by the ECOSOC President since 2016.
- ▶ Science, technology and innovation cooperation around thematic areas for the implementation of the SDGs.

23-25 MAY 2023

### The Operational Activities for Development Segment

- ▶ Held annually to review progress implementing the General Assembly quadrennial comprehensive policy review (QCPR) of the UN System operational activities for development.
- ▶ The accountability platform where Member States assess and guide the effectiveness and efficiency of the United Nations development system.



## JUNE

20 JUNE 2023

### The Meeting on the Transition from Relief to Development

- ▶ Replaces the special event to discuss the transition from relief to development and alternate between Geneva and New York in line with GA resolution 75/290 A.
- ▶ Addresses the linkages between humanitarian assistance and development assistance and discusses, among other relevant issues, promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development and providing access to justice for all.
- ▶ Considers the agenda items of the Council on the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Haiti, South Sudan, and the Sahel region.

21-23 JUNE 2023

### The Humanitarian Affairs Segment

- ▶ Takes place in alternate years in New York and Geneva.
- ▶ Brings together UN Member States, UN organizations, humanitarian and development partners, the private sector and affected communities.
- ▶ Discusses how to strengthen and improve humanitarian work to save lives, and reduce humanitarian need, risk and vulnerability.





JULY

10-14 and 17-19 JULY 2023

# The high-level political forum (HLPF)

Meeting under the auspices of ECOSOC

► **Theme:** Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels.

► The HLPF in 2023, without prejudice to the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the Sustainable Development Goals, shall discuss Goals 6, 7, 9, 11 and 17 in depth.

► The HLPF in July 2023 under the auspices of ECOSOC will also prepare for the SDG Summit – the HLPF under the auspices of the General Assembly to be held in September 2023.

► It is the central United Nations platform to review the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, help identify successes, gaps and lessons learned and provide political leadership and recommendations for follow-up.

► Official sessions (thematic review on the theme and the set of Sustainable Development Goals, and voluntary national reviews) are organized during the HLPF.

► Side Events, Special Events, VNR Labs and Exhibitions also take place during the HLPF.

 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



JULY

17-20 JULY 2023

## The high-level segment of ECOSOC

### Ministerial segment of the high-level political forum (HLPF)

17-19 July 2023

- ▶ In 2023, 42 presenters are expected to present their voluntary national reviews to the HLPF.
- ▶ The VNR presentations are planned to proceed for the three days of the ministerial segment of HLPF on 17-19 July 2023.

### High-level segment of ECOSOC

20 July 2023

- ▶ The last day of the high-level segment of ECOSOC will focus on the theme “Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels”. It will also examine the long-term impact of current trends in the economic, social and environmental areas on the realization of the SDGs.

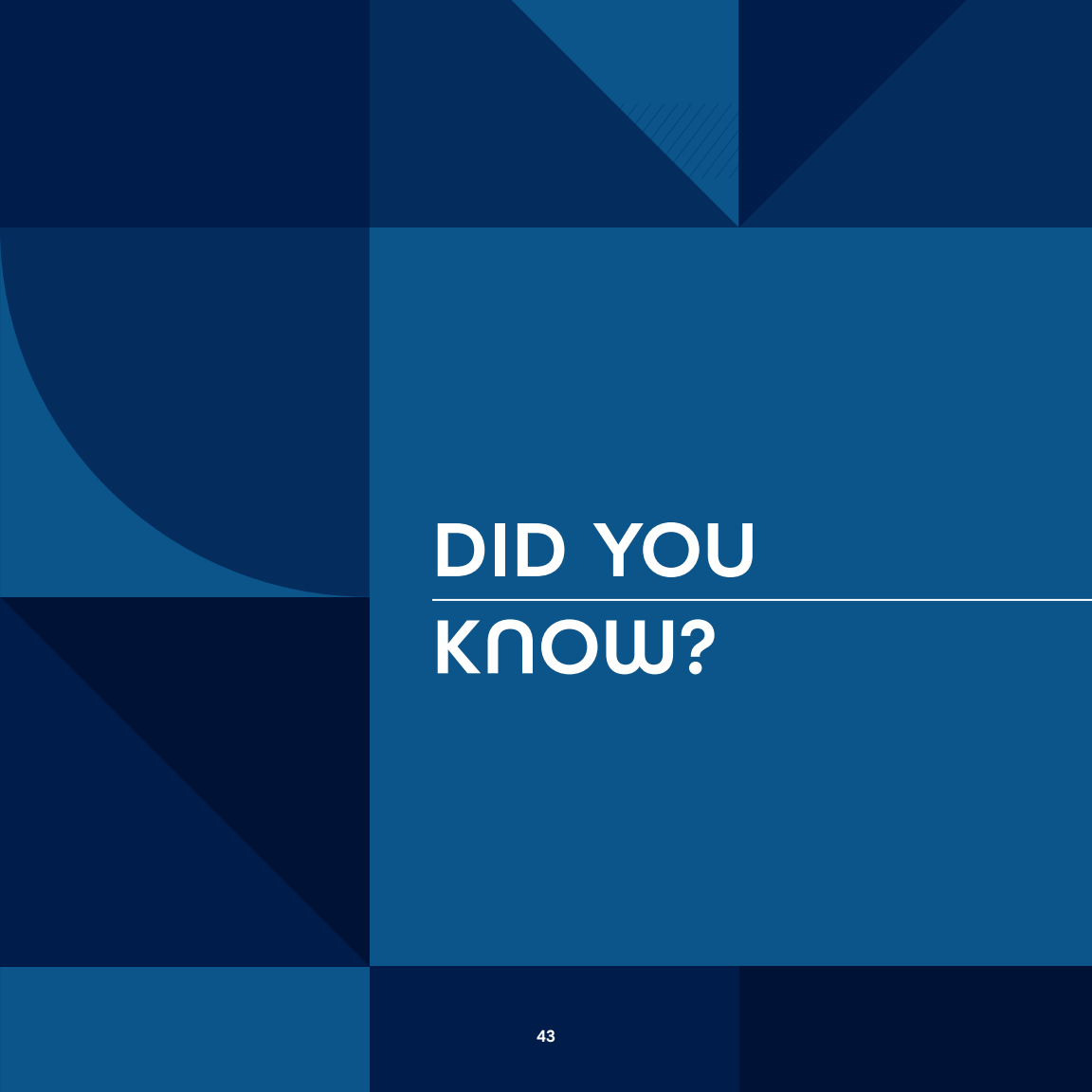




## The Management Segment of ECOSOC

5 April 2023 | and | 7-8 June 2023 | and | 25-26 July 2023

- ▶ Legislative part of the Council's work.
- ▶ Review the reports of ECOSOC subsidiary and related bodies, consider and take action on their recommendations as well as on related draft proposals. This vast array of resolutions and decisions of these technical bodies represent an important contribution by ECOSOC to Member States for their implementation at national and regional levels.
- ▶ Undertake system-wide coordination through the review of specific development issues with a view to promote more integrated responses. This includes gender mainstreaming, non-communicable diseases, and also the consideration of special country situations and/or regional issues which are on the Council's agenda.
- ▶ ECOSOC also conducts elections to subsidiary and related bodies at its dedicated **management meetings**.



**DID YOU  
KNOW?**

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## ECOSOC AND GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH

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UNAIDS – the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS – that leads the global response to fighting HIV/AIDS, was established in 1994 by an ECOSOC resolution.

The UN Interagency Task Force (UNIATF) on the Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), which reports to ECOSOC, coordinates the activities of relevant UN organizations and other inter-governmental organizations to support governments to meet high-level commitments to respond to NCD epidemics.



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## PUTTING WOMEN AT THE HEART OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS

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The Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) was one of the first functional commissions created within ECOSOC. CSW has played a significant role within the United Nations intergovernmental system by drawing attention to women's rights and gender mainstreaming, including in the work of the Security Council which led to the landmark resolution of the Security Council 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. It is entrusted with the follow-up to the Beijing Platform of Action. The work of CSW has resulted in a number of important declarations and conventions that protect and promote the human rights of women, including the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women CEDAW (1979).



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## RESPONDING TO EMERGENCIES

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Through special meetings, **ECOSOC promotes awareness of global emergencies, including public health, natural disasters, and other crises.** The Council promoted a coordinated response by the UN system with the engagement of all stakeholders following the Tsunami in Indonesia in 1994, the global food crises in 2008/9, the earthquake in Haiti in 2010, Ebola in 2014, the Zika Virus in 2016, the aftermath of hurricanes in 2017 and pathways to resilience in climate-affected SIDS in 2018, Cyclone Idai in 2019, the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and vaccine equity in 2021. The Council also convened a special meeting on “Reimagining Equality” to put a spotlight on structural racism and racial inequalities in 2021. Most recently, the Council convened special meetings on natural resources, peaceful societies and sustainable development in March 2022; and the implementation of the New Urban Agenda in April 2022.

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## PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT

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**The Economic and Social Council** has developed mechanisms to respond to the problems faced by countries emerging from conflict and enhance the peace and development nexus.

- ▶ **The Council provides** advice to Haiti on a long- term development strategy to promote socio-economic recovery and stability through the **ad hoc advisory group on Haiti**. The first Advisory Group on Haiti was created in response to a request by the Security Council.
- ▶ In addition to Haiti, the Council also considers the **integrated, coherent and coordinated support** to South Sudan and the Sahel region to promote economic and social progress in the context of long-term sustainable development.
- ▶ **ECOSOC regularly hosts** joint meetings with the **Peacebuilding Commission**.

## ECOSOC TIMELINE

### 1991

ECOSOC High-level policy dialogue with the heads of the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the United Nations Conference on Trade.

The creation of a substantive session of 4-5 weeks, alternating between Geneva and New York.

The creation of a High-level Segment, a Coordination Segment, an Operational Activities Segment and a Committee Segment.

### 2001

General Assembly request to ECOSOC to create the Ad Hoc Advisory Groups on Africa.

### 1945

Establishment of ECOSOC by United Nations Charter.

### 1946

ECOSOC convenes its first meeting from 23 January to 18 February 1946.

### 1998

First meeting of the BWIs with ECOSOC. The first humanitarian affairs segment is held.

### 1999

Security Council request to ECOSOC on Haiti.

### 2003

The convening of the first Special High-level Meeting of ECOSOC with the Bretton Woods Institutions, WTO and UNCTAD (ECOSOC Spring Meeting).



## 2008

The first partnership forum is held.

## 2012

The first ECOSOC youth forum is held.

## 2014

The first high-level political forum under the auspices of ECOSOC is held.

## 2015

Creation of the ECOSOC forum on financing for development follow-up through the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development.

Creation of the Multi-stakeholder forum on science,

technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals [as a component of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism], with its meetings to be convened by the President of the Economic and Social Council.

## 2005

The 2005 World Summit Outcome mandated ECOSOC to convene an Annual Ministerial Review (AMR), with National Voluntary Presentations, and a biennial Development Cooperation Forum (DCF); ECOSOC becomes the main vehicle for the review of the MDGs.

## 2013

The high-level political forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) was established to meet annually under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council and every four years under the auspices of the General Assembly. The HLPF

replaced the Commission on Sustainable Development.

ECOSOC institutes the adoption of a system-wide annual main theme and a July-to-July work programme cycle, including creation of an integration segment.



**MAJOR**  

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**ECOSOC**  

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**MANDATES**



1945

**United Nations Charter:**

Chapter IX: "International economic and social cooperation" and Chapter X: "The Economic and Social Council"

1977

**A/RES/32/197:** "Restructuring of the economic and social sectors of the United Nations System"

1991

**A/RES/45/264:** "Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields"

1993

**A/RES/48/162:** "Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields"

1996

**A/RES/50/227:** "Further measures for the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields"

1997

**A/RES/52/12B:** "Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform"

2005

**A/RES/60/1:** "World Summit Outcome Document"

2006

**A/RES/61/16:** "Strengthening of the Economic and Social Council"

2012

**A/RES/66/288:** "The Future We Want"

2013

**A/RES/67/290:** "Format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development"

**A/RES/68/1:** "Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/16 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council"

2015

**A/RES/69/313:**

Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development

**A/RES/70/1:** “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”

2016

**A/RES/70/299:**

“Follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level”

2018

**A/RES/72/279:** “Repositioning of the United Nations development system in the context of the quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system”

**A/RES/72/305:** “Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 68/1 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council”

2019

**A/RES/74/4:**

Political declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly (SDG Summit)

2020

**A/RES/75/233:**

Quadrennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for development of the United Nations system

2021

**A/RES/75/290:**

Review of the implementation of GA resolution 72/305 on the strengthening of ECOSOC and Review of the implementation of GA resolutions 67/290 on the format and organizational aspects of the HLPF and 70/299 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level:

- a. Economic and Social Council
- b. High-level political forum on sustainable development




















# ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

Three-year term — as of January 2022

(Term expires on December 31)



## ECOSOC members (Jan.2023)

	AFGHANISTAN	2024
	ARGENTINA	2023
	BELGIUM	2024
	BELIZE	2024
	BOLIVIA (Plurinational State of)	2023
	BOTSWANA	2025
	BRAZIL	2025
	BULGARIA	2023
	CABO VERDE	2025
	CAMEROON	2025
	CANADA	2024
	CHILE	2024
	CHINA	2025
	COLOMBIA	2025
	COSTA RICA	2025

	CÔTE D'IVOIRE	2024
	CROATIA	2024
	CZECHIA	2024
	DENMARK	2025
	EQUATORIAL GUINEA	2025
	ESWATINI	2024
	FRANCE	2023
	GREECE	2025
	GUATEMALA	2023
	INDONESIA	2023
	INDIA	2024
	ISRAEL	2023
	ITALY	2024
	JAPAN	2023
	KAZAKHSTAN	2024

	LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC	2025		SLOVAKIA	2025
	LIBERIA	2023		SLOVENIA	2025
	LIBYA	2023		SOLOMON ISLANDS	2023
	LIECHTENSTEIN	2023		SWEDEN	2025
	MADAGASCAR	2023		TUNISIA	2025
	MAURITIUS	2024		UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND	2023
	MEXICO	2023		UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA	2024
	NEW ZEALAND	2025		UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	2024
	NIGERIA	2023		ZIMBABWE	2023
	OMAN	2024			
	PERU	2024			
	QATAR	2025			
	PORTUGAL	2023			
	REPUBLIC OF KOREA	2025			

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