



Economic and Social Council

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High-level political forum on sustainable development

Convened under the auspices of the
Economic and Social Council

9–18 July 2019

Item 2 of the provisional agenda*

Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality

Reports of the regional forums on sustainable development

Note by the Secretariat

1. The participants at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 20 to 22 June 2012,¹ recognized how regional frameworks could complement and facilitate the effective translation of sustainable development policies into concrete action at the national level. They emphasized that regional and subregional organizations, including the regional commissions and their subregional offices, played a significant role in promoting the balanced integration and operationalization of the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development in their respective regions.
2. In its resolution [67/290](#), the General Assembly decided on the format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, acknowledged the importance of the regional dimension of sustainable development and invited the regional commissions to contribute to the work of the forum, including through annual regional meetings, with the involvement of other relevant regional entities, major groups and other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate.
3. The value of follow-up and review at the regional and subregional levels was also recognized by the General Assembly in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,² in which Member States were encouraged to identify the most suitable regional forum in which to engage, so that such forums could contribute to the global follow-up and review process, including at the high-level political forum.
4. In response to the above-mentioned mandates, the regional commissions have initiated consultative processes leading to the establishment of regional forums on sustainable development. These forums have generally been organized in collaboration with partners of the regional commissions, including the Office of

* [E/HLPF/2019/1](#).

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

² General Assembly resolution [70/1](#).



Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

5. The dates and locations of the 2019 forums, as well as the symbols of the reports, are as follows:

- (a) Europe region, Geneva, 21–22 March ([E/HLPF/2019/3/Add.1](#));
 - (b) Asia-Pacific region, Bangkok, 27–29 March ([E/HLPF/2019/3/Add.2](#));
 - (c) Arab region, Beirut, 9–11 April ([E/HLPF/2019/3/Add.3](#));
 - (d) Africa region, Marrakech, Morocco, 16–18 April ([E/HLPF/2019/3/Add.4](#));
 - (e) Latin America and the Caribbean region, Santiago, 22–26 April ([E/HLPF/2019/3/Add.5](#)).
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