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High-level political forum on sustainable development

Convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council 6–15 July 2021

Report of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council at its 2021 session

Summary

According to the President of the Economic and Social Council, the review by the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council at its 2021 session, shows that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has had devastating effects on all aspects of the lives and livelihoods of people across the globe and has negatively affected progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The pandemic alone, however, is not to blame for the stalled implementation of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development. Progress was significantly off course even before the pandemic. The interlinked crises of poverty, hunger, inequality, climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution were already been undermining development and slowing progress. The COVID-19 crisis must serve as a much-needed wake-up call to spur on a decade of truly transformative action to deliver for people and planet.

The 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement provide the blueprint and road map for a sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. First and foremost, the global recovery will depend on equitable and universal access to affordable, safe and effective vaccines and treatments for all people and all countries. Inequalities among and within countries are deepening, affecting the poorest countries and the poorest people the most. Many developing countries are still in the midst of coping with the pandemic and are routinely lacking access to both the vaccine and the fiscal resources necessary for their health and socioeconomic response. At the same time, many developed countries are starting to emerge from the pandemic, in part thanks to vaccine availability and the implementation of well-funded recovery programmes.

Renewed global solidarity and international cooperation are needed to achieve vaccine equity and address deep-seated inequalities at all levels. This requires transformative leadership and political will, supported by effective institutions and policies, to build back better and ensure firm commitment to leaving no one behind.





Women, older persons, children and youth, and persons belonging to vulnerable groups are among the most deeply affected by the pandemic. Gender equality and women's empowerment are fundamental for a more inclusive and just society. Combatting inequality and empowering women and groups disproportionally affected by the pandemic requires strengthened people-centred and gender-responsive health and social protection systems. Technology, in particular digital technology, and closing the digital divide, including the gender digital divide, are likewise essential for recovering from the pandemic and achieving the 2030 Agenda.

Unsustainable consumption and production patterns and the overuse of natural resources combined with global population growth are having devastating impacts on the planet, propelling climate change, destroying nature and increasing pollution levels. Countries must enhance their national climate action plans and ambitions to meet the objectives of the Paris Agreement, transition to more sustainable food systems and pursue a low carbon development pathway.

Adequate financial resources and debt service relief and restructuring are urgently needed to support the recovery of developing countries from COVID-19. International support for least developed countries and landlocked least developed countries needs to go beyond official development assistance and include innovative financing, debt relief, trade support and market access measures. The proper functioning of global supply chains and reviving international trade and investments, including investment in research, innovation and sustainable infrastructure, also need to be ensured.

Economic recovery and stimulus packages should trigger investments in the Sustainable Development Goals, address climate change and protect the environment. Effective implementation of the Goals also requires good data and statistics, and there is an urgent need to assist developing countries in building digital data infrastructure and capacity. Last, the Goals cannot be realized without strong partnerships at the local, national, regional and global levels and without including a wide variety of partners and stakeholders through participatory approaches.

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 would 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 would be held during the high-level segment of the Council.
- 2. The Council, in its resolution 2021/1, decided that the forum would be held from 6 to 9 and on 12 July 2021 and the high-level segment of its 2021 session from 13 to 16 July, including the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum from 13 to 15 July.
- 3. In its resolution 74/298, the General Assembly decided that the thematic focus of the 2021 session of the forum would be "Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development" and that the forum, without prejudice to the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the Sustainable Development Goals, would discuss Goals 1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16 and 17 in depth.
- 4. Pursuant to Council resolution 2021/1 and taking into account the continued impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on the work of the Council, the forum held its meetings in the form of in-person meetings at United Nations Headquarters, as well as virtual informal meetings and hybrid informal meetings with both virtual and in-person participation.
- 5. The present report reflects the proceedings of the forum convened under the auspices of the Council at its 2021 session.

II. Proceedings of and action taken at the forum

- 6. From 6 to 15 July 2021, the forum held 24 meetings, composed of 2 hybrid informal meetings, 21 virtual informal meetings and 1 in-person formal meeting for its opening, wrap-up and closing meetings, discussions on the review of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16 and 17 and the thematic review, as well as on the voluntary national reviews by 42 States of their implementation of the 2030 Agenda.
- 7. The proceedings of the virtual informal meetings of the forum are reflected in annex I to the present report.
- 8. In a letter dated 6 May 2021, the President of the Economic and Social Council invited members of the forum and stakeholders to submit official statements for the general debate in writing or through a video recording. The statements and video messages received by the Secretariat can be accessed on the website of the forum. ¹
- 9. Side events and special events were held on the margins of the meetings of the forum and were sponsored by a diverse group of stakeholders, including Governments, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, international and intergovernmental organizations, major groups and other relevant stakeholders. Information on the events is available on the relevant web page of the forum.²

¹ See https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2021#debate.

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² See https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2021#other.

Action on the draft ministerial declaration

- 10. At its 1st meeting, on 15 July, the forum had before it the draft ministerial declaration of the 2021 high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, on the theme "Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development" (E/2021/L.26-E/HLPF/2021/L.2).
- 11. At the same meeting, the President of the Council, Munir Akram (Pakistan), informed the forum that the draft ministerial declaration contained no programme budget implications.
- 12. Also at the same meeting, the President of the Council drew the attention of the forum to the proposed amendments to the draft ministerial declaration submitted by the Russian Federation, as contained in conference room papers E/HLPF/2021/CRP.1, E/HLPF/2021/CRP.2 and E/HLPF/2021/CRP.3.
- 13. Also at the 1st meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement.
- 14. At the same meeting, before the vote, statements in explanation of vote were made by the representatives of Slovenia (on behalf Albania, Canada, Honduras, Iceland, Japan, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America and the European Union), Norway (on behalf of Albania, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Honduras, Iceland, Japan, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland, Tuvalu, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Uruguay and the European Union) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (on behalf of Albania, Canada, Honduras, Iceland, Japan, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Palau, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the European Union).

Action on the amendment contained in conference room paper E/HLPF/2021/CRP.1

15. At its 1st meeting, on 15 July, the forum rejected the amendment by a recorded vote of 130 to 7, with 3 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Armenia, Belarus, Côte d'Ivoire, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia.

Against:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall

Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Angola, Cambodia, Madagascar.

Action on the amendment contained in conference room paper E/HLPF/2021/CRP.2

16. At the 1st meeting, on 15 July, the forum rejected the amendment by a recorded vote of 130 to 4, with 3 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia.

Against:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen.

Abstaining:

Angola, Cambodia, Madagascar.

Action on the amendment contained in conference room paper E/HLPF/2021/CRP.3

17. At the 1st meeting, on 15 July, the forum rejected the amendment by a recorded vote of 131 to 3, with 4 abstentions. The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Belarus, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia.

Against:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Benin,

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Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Abstaining:

Angola, Cambodia, Kazakhstan, Madagascar.

Action on the draft ministerial declaration contained in document E/2021/L.26-E/HLPF/2021/L.2

- 18. At its 1st meeting, on 15 July, a statement was made by the representative of Israel.
- 19. At the same meeting, the forum decided to retain operative paragraph 29 by a recorded vote of 98 to 4, with 40 abstentions. The voting was as follows:³

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Gambia, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Jamaica, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Australia, Canada, Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Panama, Poland, Portugal,

³ The delegation of Luxembourg subsequently indicated that it had intended to abstain.

- Republic of Korea, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Uruguay.
- 20. Also at the same meeting, the forum adopted the ministerial declaration, as a whole, as contained in document E/2021/L.26-E/2021/L.2 (for the adopted text, see E/HLS/2021/1).
- 21. Also at the 1st meeting, after the adoption of the ministerial declaration, statements were made by the representatives of Guinea (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Slovenia (on behalf Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and the European Union), Canada (also on behalf of Australia and New Zealand), the Holy See, Hungary, the United States of America, Mexico, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Turkey, Iraq, Guatemala, Switzerland, the Republic of Korea, Israel, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Ethiopia and Ukraine.

Adoption of the draft report

22. At its 1st meeting, on 15 July, the forum adopted its draft report (E/HLPF/2021/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.

Conclusion of the forum

- 23. At the 1st meeting, on 15 July, at the conclusion of the forum, the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, Amina Mohamed, made a statement.
- 24. At the same meeting, the President of the Council made a statement and declared closed the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council at its 2021 session.

III. Organizational and other matters

A. Agenda

- 25. At its 1st meeting, on 15 July, the forum adopted its provisional agenda (E/HLPF/2021/1):
 - 1. Adoption of the agenda.
 - 2. Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development (General Assembly resolution 74/298):
 - (a) Review of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16 and 17;
 - (b) Thematic review;
 - (c) Voluntary national reviews.
 - 3. Adoption of the ministerial declaration.
 - 4. Adoption of the report.

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B. Attendance

26. The forum was attended by representatives of 156 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 representatives of non-governmental and other organizations also attended. The list of participants is contained in document E/HLPF/2021/INF/1.

C. Documentation

27. The documentation considered by the forum is set out in annex II to the present report. Other relevant documentation is available on the relevant web page of the forum.⁴

⁴ See https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2021#docs.

Annex I

Proceedings of the hybrid informal meetings (1st and 2nd informal meetings) and the virtual informal meetings (3rd to 23rd informal meetings) of the forum

A. Opening

- 1. At the 1st informal meeting, on 6 July 2021, the President of the Economic and Social Council, Munir Akram (Pakistan), made opening remarks.
- 2. At the same meeting, the Vice-President of the Council, Juan Sandoval Mendiolea (Mexico), presented messages from the integration segment of the Council held on 2 July.
- 3. Also at the same meeting, the President of Senegal, Macky Sall, made a keynote statement in a pre-recorded video. Keynote statements made by the following were delivered via videoconference: Director General, World Health Organization, Tedros Adhanom; Managing Director, International Monetary Fund, Kristalina Georgieva; Director General, World Trade Organization, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala; and University Professor of Economics and Public Policy, University of Chicago, Michael Kremer.
- B. Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development
- 1. Review of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16 and 17
 - 4. At its 4th, 6th and 7th informal meetings, on 7 and 8 July 2021, the forum held its review of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16 and 17 (item 2 (a)).
- (a) Interactive panel discussion on the theme "How do we get on track to end poverty and hunger, and transform towards inclusive and sustainable economies?"
 - 5. At its 4th informal meeting, on 7 July, the forum held a review of Sustainable Development Goals 1, 2, 8 and 17 and the interlinkages among them and other Goals, followed by an interactive panel discussion on the theme "How do we get on track to end poverty and hunger, and transform towards inclusive and sustainable economies?", which was chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Collen Vixen Kelapile (Botswana), who made a statement.
 - 6. A keynote address was made by the Federal Minister and Special Assistant on Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety to the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Sania Nishtar.
 - 7. The Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Maria-Francesca Spatolisano, gave a presentation on good practices in the implementation of the Goals.
 - 8. The representative of the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs presented the highlights of the report of the Secretary-General on progress towards Goals 1, 2, 8 and 17.

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- 9. The forum proceeded with the interactive panel discussion, which was moderated by the Coordinator, Scaling-Up Nutrition Movement, Gerda Verburg, who made a statement.
- 10. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: President, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Gilbert F. Houngbo; Director General, International Labour Organization, Guy Ryder; Senior Fellow and Director, Africa Growth Initiative, Brookings Institution, and former Vice-President, African Development Bank, Aloysius Ordu; and Professor of Biological Oceanography, Globe Institute, and Leader, Sustainability Science Centre, University of Copenhagen, Katherine Richardson.
- 11. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Chief Economist, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Maximo Torero; Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights, Olivier De Schutter; Deputy General Secretary, African Regional Organization, International Trade Union Confederation in Rwanda, Eric Manzi; and Director and Founder, Mnandi Africa, Zimbabwe, Ruramiso Mashumba.
- 12. Statements were made by the following respondents: Minister of Economy, Finance and Development, Burkina Faso, Lassané Kabore; Minister for Development Cooperation, Belgium, Meryame Kitir; Minister of Development and Social Inclusion, Peru, Silvana Eugenia Vargas Winstanley; and Chair, Committee on World Food Security, and Permanent Representative of Thailand to Rome-based United Nations agencies (FAO, IFAD and the World Food Programme), Thanawat Tiensin.
- 13. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons responded to interventions made by the representatives of Indonesia, Thailand, Nepal, France, Finland, the European Union, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, China, Guatemala, the Philippines, the Russian Federation, the Holy See and Bangladesh.
- 14. The representative of the United Nations Environment Programme made a statement.
- 15. The following also participated in the discussion: representatives of the women major group and indigenous peoples major group, as well as the representatives of the other stakeholders groups for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, the Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism and communities discriminated on work and descent.
- 16. The Vice-President of the Council (Botswana) made closing remarks.

(b) Interactive panel discussion on the theme "How do we revamp and transform consumption and production and address and mitigate climate change?"

- 17. At its 6th informal meeting, on 7 July, the forum held a review of Sustainable Development Goals 12, 13 and 17 and the interlinkages among them and with other Goals, followed by two rounds of interactive panel discussion on the theme "How do we revamp and transform consumption and production and address and mitigate climate change?", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Pascale Baeriswyl (Switzerland), who made a statement.
- 18. The Minister for Climate Change and Special Assistant to the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Malik Aslam, made opening remarks in a pre-recorded video.
- 19. The representative of the Statistics Division presented the highlights of the report of the Secretary-General on progress towards Sustainable Development Goals 12, 13 and 17.

- 20. A pre-recorded video message was delivered by children and youth climate activists.
- 21. The forum proceeded with the two rounds of discussion, moderated by the Chief Executive Officer of The Nature Conservancy, Jennifer Morris, who made a statement.
- 22. During the first round of discussion, statements were made by the following resource persons: Director General, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Bruno Oberle; Executive Secretary, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Patricia Espinosa (pre-recorded video); and Director, Hirdaramani International Group, Sri Lanka, Nikhil Hirdaramani.
- 23. A statement was made by the lead discussant, who is a chef, farmer, entrepreneur and member of the United Nations Young Champion of the Earth in the Philippines, Louise Mabulo.
- 24. Statements were also made by the following ministerial respondents: Secretary of Climate Change, Sustainable Development and Innovation, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Argentina, and Chair of the Board, 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns, Rodrigo Rodriguez Tornquist; State Secretary to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Environment and Climate, Sweden, Annika Jacobsen; and European Commissioner for Environment, Oceans and Fisheries, Virginijus Sinkevičius (pre-recorded video).
- 25. An interactive discussion ensued, comments were made and questions were posed by the representatives of France, Indonesia, Denmark, Finland, Guyana, Guatemala, Bangladesh and Switzerland, as well as by the representative of the local authorities major group.
- 26. During the second round of discussion, a statement was made by the following resource person: Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Europe, Olga Algayerova.
- 27. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Assistant Secretary-General and Head of the New York Office of the United Nations Environment Programme, Ligia Noronha; and Regional Coordinator for West and Central Africa, Global Network of Civil Society Organizations for Disaster Reduction, Togo, Kossivi Adessou (on behalf of the other stakeholders group for the Sendai Stakeholder Engagement Mechanism).
- 28. A statement was also made by the following ministerial respondent: Special Envoy for Climate Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Portugal, Alexandre Leitão.
- 29. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the lead discussants and the resource person responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Morocco and China, as well as by the representative of the other stakeholders group for the Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism.
- 30. The Vice-President of the Council (Switzerland) made concluding remarks.

(c) Interactive panel discussion on the theme "How do we get on track for building more peaceful, equal and inclusive societies?"

31. At its 7th informal meeting, on 8 July, the forum held its review of Sustainable Development Goals 3, 10, 16 and 17 and the interlinkages among them and with other Goals, followed by an interactive panel discussion on the theme "How do we get on track for building more peaceful, equal and inclusive societies?", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Botswana), who made a statement.

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- 32. The representative of the Statistics Division presented highlights of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress towards Sustainable Development Goals 3, 10, 16 and 17.
- 33. The forum proceeded with the discussion, moderated by the Director General of the International Development Law Organization, Jan Beagle, who made a statement.
- 34. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: Executive Director, Oxfam International, Gabriela Bucher; Executive Secretary, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana; Associate Scientific Director, Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research in South Africa, and Professor of Clinical Epidemiology, Columbia University, Quarraisha Abdool Karim; Senior Fellow, Political Economy Research Institute, University of Massachusetts Amherst, James K. Boyce; and Director, Centre on International Cooperation, New York University, Sarah Cliffe.
- 35. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Vice-Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy, Marina Sereni; Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, Najat Maalla M'jid; Executive Director, World Health Organization Office at the United Nations, Nata Menabde; and Associate Professor, Moldova State University, Valentina Bodrug-Lungu (on behalf of the women major group and the other stakeholders group for the Economic Commission for Europe Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism).
- 36. Statements were also made by the following respondents: Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Coordination, Portugal, Francisco André; Chair, Peacebuilding Commission and Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations, Mohamed Fathi Ahmed Edrees; Secretary-General of the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions, Margit Kraker; Comptroller-General, Chile, Jorge Bermudez Soto; and member of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, Mexico, Irma Pineda Santiago.
- 37. An interactive discussion ensued, during which comments were made and questions were posed by the representatives of Switzerland, France, the European Union, Indonesia, the Netherlands, the Russian Federation, Belgium, Norway, Finland, Nepal, Sweden, the Republic of Korea and Denmark.
- 38. The representatives of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe and the United Nations Environment Programme also participated in the discussion.
- 39. The representative of the non-governmental organizations major group, and the representatives of the other stakeholders groups for civil society financing for development, Together 2030 and persons with disabilities, made statements.
- 40. The Vice-President of the Council (Botswana) made closing remarks.

2. Thematic review

- 41. At its 1st to 3rd, 5th, 8th to 13th, 17th and 18th informal meetings, from 6 to 9 July and on 12 and 14 July 2021, the forum held interactive discussions on the thematic review (agenda item 2 (b)).
- (a) Interactive discussion on the theme "The Sustainable Development Goals in time of crisis: a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery from COVID-19 as an opportunity to realize the Sustainable Development Goals"
 - 42. At its 1st informal meeting, on 6 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the theme "The Sustainable Development Goals in time of crisis: a sustainable, inclusive and resilient recovery from COVID-19 as an opportunity to realize the Sustainable Development Goals", chaired by the President of the Council.

- 43. The Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Liu Zhemin, presented the report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, as contained in document E/2021/58.
- 44. The discussion was moderated by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, Achim Steiner, who made a statement.
- 45. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: Minister of State for the Commonwealth and the United Nations of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Tariq Ahmad; Federal Minister and Special Assistant on Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety to the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Sania Nishtar; Deputy Director General of International Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Netherlands, Birgitta Tazelaar; Executive Director, United Nations Children's Fund, Henrietta H. Fore; Minister of Economic Affairs and Investment, Barbados, Marsha Caddle; Executive Secretary, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, Rola Dashti; Minister of State in charge of Economic Planning, Rwanda, Claudine Uwera; Director, Office of Planning and Budget of Uruguay, Isaac Alfie; Secretary-General, Care International, Sofia Sprechmann Sineiro; Managing Director, Centre for Global Public Goods, and Member, Managing Board, World Economic Forum, Dominic Waughray; and Visiting Senior Fellow, Khazanah Research Institute, and Visiting Fellow, Initiative for Policy Dialogue, Columbia University, Jomo Kwame Sundaram.
- 46. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of France, Finland, the Philippines, Switzerland, China, Indonesia, Nepal, the Republic of Korea and South Africa.
- 47. Statements were also made by the representatives of the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities and the children and youth major group.
- 48. The President of the Council made a statement.

(b) Interactive discussion on the theme "Ensuring that no one is left behind"

- 49. At its 2nd informal meeting, on 6 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the theme "Ensuring that no one is left behind", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Switzerland), who made a statement.
- 50. The discussion was moderated by the Secretary-General of the International Federation on Ageing, Jane Barratt, who also made a statement.
- 51. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet Jeria; Senior Vice-President, Internet Society, Jane Coffin; Managing Director, Technology Bank for Least Developed Countries, Joshua Phoho Setipa; and Senior Research Coordinator, International Policy Centre for Inclusive Growth, and Researcher, Institute of Applied Economic Research, Fabio Veras.
- 52. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Special Rapporteur on the right to development, Saad Alfarargi; Director General, International Organization for Migration, Antonio Vitorino; and Executive Director, Asia Dalit Rights Forum, Beena Pallical (on behalf of the other stakeholders group for communities discriminated on work and descent).
- 53. A statement was made by the following respondent: Minister of Gender, Children and Social Protection, Ghana, Sarah Adwoa Safo.
- 54. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons responded to interventions made by the representatives of Ghana, Mexico, Sweden, Norway, Finland, Belgium, Indonesia and Switzerland.

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- 55. The representatives of the other stakeholders groups for the Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism and Together 2030 (also on behalf World Vision International, a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council) participated in the discussion.
- 56. The Vice-President of the Council (Switzerland) made closing remarks.

(c) Interactive discussion on the theme "Building resilience against future shocks through structural changes and investment in sustainable infrastructure"

- 57. At its 3rd informal meeting, held on 6 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the theme "Building resilience against future shocks through structural changes and investment in sustainable infrastructure", chaired by the President of the Council.
- 58. The discussion was moderated by Professor Emeritus of McMaster University in Canada, Atif Kubursi, who made a statement.
- 59. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: Acting Secretary-General, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), Isabelle Durant; Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Africa, Vera Songwe; Professor of Climate and Environmental Risks and former Director, Environmental Change Institute, Oxford University, Jim Hall; Chief Economist, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, Erik Berglof (pre-recorded video); Director, Global Social Justice Program, Initiative for Policy Dialogue, Isabel Ortiz; Executive Vice-President and Chief, Sustainable Development and International Affairs, Pacific Investment Management Company LLC, Gavin Power; and Professorial Fellow and Co-Director, Centre for Social Protection, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, England, Stephen Devereux.
- 60. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction and Head of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, Mami Mizutori; Director General, International Renewable Energy Agency, Francesco La Camera; Executive Director, Green Climate Fund, Yannick Glemarec (pre-recorded video); Senior Vice-President for Global Affairs and General Counsel of Pinduoduo, China, Jianchong Zhu (pre-recorded video); President, Global Campaign for Education and General Director and Founder, Teacher Creativity Centre, State of Palestine, Refat Sabbah (on behalf of the other stakeholders group for education and academia); and Youth Programme Manager, Voluntary Service Overseas, Nepal, Suran Maharjan (on behalf of the other stakeholders group for volunteers).
- 61. Statements were made by the following respondents: Minister for Transport and Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications, Ireland, Eamon Ryan; and Executive Vice-President, European Commission for an Economy that Works for People, and European Commissioner for Trade, Valdis Dombrovskis (pre-recorded video).
- 62. An interactive discussion ensued, during which comments were made by the representatives of Guyana, France, Thailand, China, Indonesia, and Guatemala.
- 63. Statements were also made by the representatives of the science and technology major group and the non-governmental organizations major group, as well as by the representative of the other stakeholders group for the Sendai Stakeholder Engagement Mechanism.
- 64. The President of the Council made closing remarks.

(d) Interactive discussion on the theme "Looking at the 2020 targets: implementation and review"

- 65. At its 5th informal meeting, held on 7 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the theme "Looking at the 2020 targets: implementation and review", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Mexico).
- 66. The discussion was moderated by the interim President and Chief Executive Officer of the World Resources Institute, Manish Bapna, who made a statement and conducted a poll.
- 67. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: Distinguished Fellow, Overseas Development Institute, and former co-facilitator of the negotiations on the elaboration of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, David Donoghue; Executive Secretary, Convention on Biological Diversity, Elizabeth Maruma Mrema; and Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Ocean, Peter Thompson.
- 68. A statement on behalf of the regional commissions was made by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe.
- 69. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Road Safety, Jean Todt; Director, African Region of the World-Wide Fund for Nature, Alice Ruhweza; and Professor and Chair, International Cooperation Department, Institute of International Relations, La Plata National University, Argentina, Javier Surasky (on behalf of the other stakeholders group for Together 2030).
- 70. An interactive discussion ensued, during which comments were made and questions were posed by the representatives of the Russian Federation, Belgium, Finland, Switzerland, the European Union, Denmark, Guatemala and Indonesia.
- 71. The Vice-President of the Council (Mexico) made closing remarks.

(e) Interactive discussion on the theme "Going local: how can we support local authorities in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals and how can we best build on voluntary national reviews"

- 72. At its 8th informal meeting, on 8 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the theme "Going local: how can we support local authorities in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals and how can we best build on voluntary local reviews", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Sergiy Kyslytsya (Ukraine), who made a statement.
- 73. The discussion was moderated by the Senior Fellow at the Centre for Sustainable Development in the Global Economy and Development Programme at the Brookings Institution, Anthony F. Pipa, who made a statement.
- 74. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: Mayor of Subang Jaya, Malaysia, Noraini Roslan; and Mayor of Helsinki, Jan Vapaavuori.
- 75. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Minister of Local Government and Modernization, Norway, Nikolai Astrup; President, Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities, Bjorn Arild Gram (pre-recorded video); and President, South African Local Government Association, Cllr Thembisile Nkadimeng (on behalf of the local authorities major group).
- 76. Statements were also made by the following respondents: President, Regions4, and Minister for Economic Development, Sustainability and Environment of the Basque Government of Spain, Arantxa Tapia; Commissioner for International Affairs of New York City, Penny Abeywardena; Mayor of Kitakyushu, Japan, Kenji Kitahashi

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- (pre-recorded video); and President, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, Council of Europe, Leendert Verbeek.
- 77. An interactive discussion ensued, during which comments were made and questions were posed by the representatives of France, Israel, Thailand, the European Union, Belgium, the Russian Federation, India and Indonesia.
- 78. Statements were also made by the representative of the children and youth major group and the representative of the other stakeholders group for the Economic Commission of Europe Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism.

(f) Interactive discussion on the theme "Restoring the conditions for Sustainable Development Goals progress in African countries, least developed countries and landlocked developing countries"

- 79. At its 9th informal meeting, on 8 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the theme "Restoring the conditions for Sustainable Development Goals progress in African countries, least developed countries and landlocked developing countries", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Switzerland).
- 80. A presentation was made by the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.
- 81. The forum proceeded with the discussion, moderated by the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, Courtney Rattray, who made a statement.
- 82. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: Deputy Director General of Planning, Qatar Fund for Development, Ali Al-Dabbagh; Executive Director, Energia International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy, Sheila Oparaocha; and Director, Country Programming Division, Green Climate Fund, Pa Ousman Jarju.
- 83. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Global Focal Point, SDG7 Youth Constituency, Chiagozie Udeh; and Technical Secretary, Network of Indigenous and Local Communities for the Sustainable Management of Forest Ecosystems in Central Africa, Basiru Isa (on behalf of the indigenous peoples major group).
- 84. Statements were made by the following respondents: the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan and Chair of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries, Mukhtar Tleuberdi (pre-recorded video); the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malawi and Chair of the Group of Least Developed Countries, Eisenhower Mkaka (pre-recorded video); the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bhutan, Tandi Dorji (pre-recorded video); Cabinet Secretary for Public Service and Gender Affairs, Kenya, Margaret Kobia; and Secretary-General, International Seabed Authority, Michael Lodge.
- 85. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons responded to the interventions made by the representatives of South Africa, Portugal, France, Morocco, Indonesia, Madagascar, Nepal, the European Union and China.
- 86. The representatives of the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities and the women major group, as well as the representative of the other stakeholders group for the Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism, also made statements.
- 87. The Vice-President of the Council (Switzerland) made closing remarks.

(g) Interactive discussion on the theme "Coming together to help small island developing States to get on a path to realize the Sustainable Development Goals"

- 88. At its 10th informal meeting, on 9 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the theme "Coming together to help small island developing States to get on a path to realize the Sustainable Development Goals", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Ukraine).
- 89. A statement was made by the Chief Executive Officer of the Climate Investment Funds, Mafalda Duarte.
- 90. The forum proceeded with the discussion, moderated by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Immigration and International Trade of Antigua and Barbuda, Everly Paul Chet Greene, who made a statement.
- 91. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: President of Seychelles, Wavel Ramkalawan; Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, Fiji, Mereseini Raquita Vuniwaqa; Minister of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Climate Resilience and the Environment, Grenada, Simon Stiell; Senior Minister with Responsibility for Finance, Guyana, Ashni Singh; and Secretary-General of the Commonwealth of Nations, Patricia Scotland.
- 92. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States; and Executive Director, Pacific Islands Associations of Non-Governmental Organizations, Emeline Siale Ilolahia (on behalf of the non-governmental organizations major group).
- 93. An interactive discussion ensued, during which comments were made by the representatives of France, the Netherlands, Belgium, Indonesia and Denmark.
- 94. Statements were also made by the representatives of the business and industry major group and women major group, as well as by the representatives of the other stakeholders groups for communities discriminated on work and descent and the Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism.
- 95. The Vice-President of the Council (Ukraine) made closing remarks.

(h) Interactive discussion on the theme "Mobilizing science, technology and innovation and strengthening the science-policy-society interface"

- 96 At its 11th informal meeting, on 9 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the theme "Mobilizing science, technology and innovation and strengthening the science-policy-society interface", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Ukraine).
- 97. Keynote addresses were delivered by the Co-Chair of the 2021 multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals and Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Indonesia to the United Nations, Mohammad Koba, and the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union, Houlin Zhao.
- 98. The discussion was moderated by the Co-Chair of the 2021 multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals and the Permanent Representative of Latvia to the United Nations, Andrejs Pildegovics, who made a statement.
- 99. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: Co-Chair, United Nations 10-Member Group to Support the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, and

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Professor of Physics and Deputy Director for Research, Biosphere 2, University of Arizona, Cherry Murray; Co-Chair, International Group of Scientists of the 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report, Deputy Director, German Development Institute, and Honorary Professor of the Centre for Ethics and Responsibility, Hochschule Bonn-Rhein-Sieg, Imme Scholz; and Chief Web Advocate, World Wide Web Foundation, Nigeria, Nnenna Nwakanm.

- 100. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: member, civil society advisory group for Europe and Central Asia, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) Sanja Nikolin; and Asia Director, Action Group on Erosion, Technology and Concentration, Elenita Daño (on behalf of the scientific and technological communities major group and the other stakeholders group for the Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism).
- 101. Statements were also made by the following respondents: Minister of Information and Communication Technologies, Colombia, Karen Abudinen (pre-recorded video); Minister of Labour and Social Protection, Mongolia, Ariunzaya Ayush (pre-recorded video); Deputy Minister of Education and Science for European Integration, Ukraine, Andrii Vitrenko; Executive Director, Qatar Computing Research Institute, Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Ahmed El-Magarmid; and Chief Scientist, FAO, Ismahane Elouafi.
- 102. An interactive discussion ensued, during which statements were made by the representatives of Finland, Nigeria, Belgium, Norway, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the European Union, Sweden, Poland, France, China and the Russian Federation.
- 103. Statements were also made by the representatives of the indigenous peoples major group, the other stakeholders group for the Economic Commission for Europe Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism and the non-governmental organizations major group.
- 104. The Vice-President of the Council (Ukraine) made closing remarks.

(i) Interactive discussion on the theme "Vision and priorities of civil society, the private sector and other major groups and stakeholders: realizing the Sustainable Development Goals during the COVID-19 recovery"

- 105. At its 12th informal meeting, on 9 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the theme "Vision and priorities of civil society, the private sector and other major groups and stakeholders: realizing the Sustainable Development Goals during the COVID-19 recovery", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Mexico), who made a statement.
- 106. The Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs made opening remarks in a pre-recorded video.
- 107. The forum proceeded with the discussion, moderated by the Co-Chair of the high-level political forum major groups and other stakeholders coordination mechanism, Mabel Bianco.
- 108. Statements were made by the following resource persons: representative, other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities, Ruth Warick; representative, other stakeholders group on ageing, Kiran Rabheru; representative, other stakeholders group for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, Mariah Rafaela Silva; and representative, indigenous peoples major group and other stakeholders group for the Asia-Pacific Civil Society Engagement Mechanism, Joan Carling.
- 109. Statements were also made by the following lead discussants: Secretary-General, National Commission on Sustainable Development, Office of the Prime

Minister of Finland, Sami Pirkkala; Assistant Secretary-General for Strategic Coordination, Executive Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Volker Türk; President, National Women's Institute of Mexico, Nadine Gasman; and Chair, United Nations Committee of Experts on Public Administration and former Minister of Public Service of South Africa, Geraldine Joslyn Fraser-Moleketi.

- 110. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons responded to the comments made and questions posed by the representatives of France, Norway, Sweden, Senegal, Guatemala, Japan and Austria.
- 111. Statements were made by the representatives of the major groups for children and youth, business and industry, non-governmental organizations and women, as well as by the representatives of the other stakeholders groups for volunteers, the Commission for Europe Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism, Together 2030 and communities discriminated on work and descent.
- 112 The Vice-President of the Council (Mexico) made closing remarks.

(j) Interactive discussion on the theme "Investing in the Sustainable Development Goals: how can public and private financing be scaled up to unlock catalytic investments for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda?"

- 113. At its 13th informal meeting, on 12 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the theme "Investing in the Sustainable Development Goals: how can public and private financing be scaled up to unlock catalytic investments for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda?", chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Ukraine), who made a statement.
- 114. The discussion was moderated by the Senior Fellow and Deputy Director for the Global Economy and Development Programme at the Brookings Institution, Homi Kharas, who made a statement.
- 115. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Alicia Bárcena; Managing Director and Chair, Global Research, JP Morgan Corporate and Investment Bank, Joyce Chang; and Professor of Law, Georgetown University, and non-resident Senior Fellow, Peter G. Peterson Institute for International Economics, Anna Gelpern.
- 116. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Global Advocate for Women in eTrade, UNCTAD, and former Minister of Finance, North Macedonia, Nina Angelovska; and Executive Director, African Forum and Network on Debt and Development, Jason Rosario Braganza (on behalf of the other stakeholders group for civil society financing for development).
- 117. Statements were made by the following respondents: European Commissioner for International Partnerships, Jutta Urpilainen (pre-recorded video); Minister for International Cooperation, Egypt, Rania Al-Mashat; and Minister for Finance, Economic Planning and Trade, Seychelles, Naadir Hassan.
- 118. An interactive discussion ensued, during which comments were made by the representatives of Thailand, Madagascar, France, Norway, Nepal, Finland, Jamaica, Sweden, Guatemala and Indonesia.
- 119. The representatives of the other stakeholders groups for communities discriminated on work and descent and the Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism, as well as the representatives of the non-governmental organizations major group and women major group, also participated in the discussion.
- 120. The Vice-President of the Council (Ukraine) made closing remarks.

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(k) Main messages of the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly

121. At the 17th informal meeting, on 13 July, following a statement by the President of the Council, the President of the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly and Minister of Environment and Climate of Norway, Sveinung Rotevatn, addressed the forum and conveyed the main messages of the Assembly in a pre-recorded video.

(l) Messages from the regions

- 122. At its 18th informal meeting, on 14 July, the forum held an interactive discussion to hear messages from the regions, chaired by the President of the Council, who made a statement.
- 123. The discussion was moderated by the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia and Coordinator of the Regional Commissions, who also made a statement.
- 124. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: Minister of Environment, Sustainable Development and the Congo Basin of the Congo and Chair of the seventh session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, Arlette Soudan-Nonault; Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship of Costa Rica and Chair of the fourth session of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, Rodolfo Solano Quirós; Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation of Fiji and Chair of the eighth session of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development, Mereseini Rakuita Vuniwaqa; Minister of Economy and Planning of Saudi Arabia and Chair of the 2021 Arab Forum for Sustainable Development, Faisal Al Ibrahim (pre-recorded video); and Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Portugal, Francisco André, and State Counsellor to the Prime Minister of Romania, László Borbély, in their capacities as Co-Chairs of the fifth session of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the Economic Commission for Europe Region.
- 125. Statements were made by the following discussants: Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; Executive Secretary, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; Executive Secretary, Economic Commission of Europe; Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Africa; and the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia.
- 126. Statements were also made by the following lead respondents: member of the Board and Minister in charge of Integration and Macroeconomics, Eurasian Economic Commission, Sergei Glazyev; President and Chair of the Board of Directors, African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank), Benedict Okey Oramah; the General Manager, Bank al Etihad, Jordan, Nadia Al Saeed; Director, Public Policy and Internet of Telefonica S.A., Spain, Christoph Steck; President and Chief Executive Officer, Elizka Relief Foundation, Ghana, and Co-Chair of the Africa Regional Mechanism for Major Groups and Other Stakeholders, Kofi Kankam; and representative of the other stakeholders group for the Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanisms.
- 127. An interactive discussion ensued, during which comments were made and questions were posed by the representatives of Lebanon, Iraq and Morocco.
- 128. The representatives of the workers and trade unions major group and the other stakeholders group on ageing also participated in the discussion.
- 129 The President of the Council made closing remarks.

3. Voluntary national reviews

- 130. At its 14th to 17th and 19th to 23rd informal meetings, from 12 to 15 July 2021, the forum held voluntary national reviews by 42 presenting countries (agenda item 2 (c)). The list of presenters at the voluntary national reviews held during the 2021 session of the forum is contained in document E/HLPF/2021/INF/2.
- 131. At the 14th informal meeting, on 12 July, the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, made a statement on lessons learned from the 2021 voluntary national reviews.

(a) Voluntary national reviews: Azerbaijan, Czechia, Egypt and Qatar

- 132. At the 14th informal meeting, on 12 July, presentations on voluntary national reviews by Azerbaijan, Czechia, Egypt and Qatar were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Ukraine).
- 133. Presentations were made on behalf of Azerbaijan by the Deputy Prime Minister and Chairperson of the National Coordination Council for Sustainable Development, Ali Ahmadov; on behalf of Czechia by the Minister of the Environment, Richard Brabec (also pre-recorded video); on behalf of Egypt by the Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Hala El Said; and on behalf of Qatar by the President of the Planning and Statistics Authority, Saleh bin Mohammad Al Nabit (pre-recorded video).
- 134. The presenting countries responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Turkey, the Republic of Korea, China and Azerbaijan, as well as by the representatives of the other stakeholders group for the Economic Commission for Europe Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism, the non-governmental organizations major group and the children and youth major group.
- 135. The Vice-President of the Council (Ukraine) made closing remarks.

(b) Voluntary national reviews: Niger, Uruguay and Colombia

- 136. At the 15th informal meeting, on 12 July, presentations on voluntary national reviews by the Niger, Uruguay and Colombia were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Mexico).
- 137. Presentations were made on behalf of the Niger by the Minister of Planning, Abdou Rabiou; on behalf of Uruguay by the Director of the Planning and Budget Office, Isaac Alfie; and on behalf of Colombia by the Subdirector-General Sectorial at the National Planning Department, Daniel Gomez Gaviri.
- 138. The presenting countries responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Chad, Burkina Faso, Paraguay, Brazil, Sweden and Morocco, as well as by the representatives of the women major group and the non-governmental organizations major group.

(c) Voluntary national reviews: Cabo Verde, Guatemala and Mexico

- 139. At the 15th informal meeting, on 12 July, presentations on voluntary national reviews by Cabo Verde, Guatemala and Mexico were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Mexico).
- 140. Presentations were made on behalf of Cabo Verde by the Vice-Prime Minister and Minister of Finance and Business Development, Olavo Correia; on behalf of Guatemala by the Secretary-General of Planning at the Secretariat for Planning and Programming of the Presidency, Luz Keila Virginia Gramajo Vilchez (pre-recorded video); and on behalf of Mexico by the Minister of Economy and Technical Secretary of Agenda 2030, Tatiana Clouthier Carrillo.

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- 141. The presenting countries responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of France, Portugal, Mexico, El Salvador, South Africa and India, as well as by the representative of the non-governmental organizations major group.
- 142. The Vice-President of the Council (Mexico) made closing remarks.

(d) Voluntary national reviews: Angola, Cuba, Antigua and Barbuda, Plurinational State of Bolivia and San Marino

- 143. At the 16th informal meeting, on 13 July, presentations on voluntary national reviews by Angola, Cuba, Antigua and Barbuda, the Plurinational State of Bolivia and San Marino were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Botswana).
- 144. A presentation on behalf of Angola was made by the Minister of State for Social Affairs, Carolina Cerqueira (also pre-recorded video). The presenting country responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Denmark, France and Portugal, as well as by the representative of the children and youth major group.
- 145. A presentation on behalf of Antigua and Barbuda was made by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Immigration, Everly Paul Chet Greene (also pre-recorded video). The presenting country responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and Saint Lucia, as well as by the representative of the non-governmental organizations major group.
- 146. A presentation on behalf of Cuba was made by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy and Planning, Alejandro Gil Fernández (also pre-recorded video). The presenting country responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the Philippines, Nicaragua, Zimbabwe, the Syrian Arab Republic, Algeria and Indonesia, as well as by the representative of the women major group.
- 147. A presentation on behalf of the Plurinational State of Bolivia was made by the Minister of Development Planning, Felima Gabriela Mendoza Gumiel. The presenting country responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the Russian Federation and Mexico, as well as by the representative of the other stakeholders group for education and academia.
- 148. A presentation on behalf of San Marino was made by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Economic Cooperation and Telecommunications, Luca Beccari. The presenting country responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Andorra, Malta and Paraguay, as well as by the representative of the other stakeholders group for volunteers.

(e) Voluntary national reviews: Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Marshall Islands and Nicaragua

- 149. At the 17th informal meeting, on 13 July, presentations on voluntary national reviews by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Marshall Islands and Nicaragua were chaired by the President of the Council.
- 150. A presentation on behalf of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was made by the Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Song Kim. The presenting country responded to comments made and questions posed by the representative of Cuba, as well as by the representative of the non-governmental organizations major group.
- 151. A presentation on behalf of the Marshall Islands was made by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Casten Ned Nemra. The presenting country responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the Federated States of

Micronesia and Georgia, as well as by the representative of the non-governmental organizations major group.

152. A presentation on behalf of Nicaragua was made by the Minister of Finance and Public Credit, Iván Acosta Montalvan. The presenting country responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Cuba, Indonesia, India, the Syrian Arab Republic and Zimbabwe, as well as by the representative of the non-governmental organizations major group.

(f) Voluntary national reviews: China, Afghanistan and Denmark

- 153. At the 19th informal meeting, on 14 July, presentations on voluntary national reviews by China, Afghanistan and Denmark were chaired by the President of the Council.
- 154. Presentations were made on behalf of China by the State Councillor and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Wang Yi (pre-recorded video); on behalf of Afghanistan by the Minister of Economy, Karima Hamed Faryabi (pre-recorded video); and on behalf of Denmark by the Minister for Finance, Nicolai Wammen (also pre-recorded video).
- 155. The presenting countries responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Indonesia, Egypt, Iraq, Chad, Sweden, Switzerland, the Netherlands, as well as by the representatives of the other stakeholders group for the Asia-Pacific Civil Society Regional Engagement Mechanism and the non-governmental organizations major group.

(g) Voluntary national reviews: Thailand, Chad and Norway

- 156. At the 19th informal meeting, on 14 July, presentations on voluntary national reviews by Thailand, Chad and Norway were chaired by the President of the Council.
- 157. Presentations were made on behalf of Thailand by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Don Pramudwinai (pre-recorded video); on behalf of Chad by the Minister of Economy, Development Planning and International Cooperation, Issa Doubragne (pre-recorded video); and on behalf of Norway by the Minister of Local Government and Modernisation, Nikolai Astrup (pre-recorded video).
- 158. The presenting countries responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Japan, Bhutan, Costa Rica, the Niger, Afghanistan, Madagascar, Finland and Malaysia, as well as by representatives of the women major group, workers and trade unions major group and non-governmental organizations major group.
- 159. The President of the Council made closing remarks.

(h) Voluntary national reviews: Tunisia and the Bahamas

- 160. At the 20th informal meeting, on 14 July, presentations on voluntary national reviews by Tunisia and the Bahamas were chaired by Vice-President of the Council (Switzerland).
- 161. Presentations were made on behalf of Tunisia by the Minister of Economy, Finance and Investment Support, Ali Kooli; and on behalf of the Bahamas by the Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Chet Donovan Neymour.
- 162. The presenting countries responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of France, Qatar, the Dominican Republic and Mexico, as well as by the representatives of the women major group and the non-governmental organizations major group.

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(i) Voluntary national reviews: Dominican Republic and Sierra Leone

- 163. At the 20th informal meeting, on 14 July, presentations on voluntary national reviews by the Dominican Republic and Sierra Leone were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Switzerland).
- 164. Presentations were made on behalf of the Dominican Republic by the Minister of Economy, Planning and Development, Miguel Ceara Hatton (pre-recorded video); and on behalf of Sierra Leone by the Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Francis Mustapha Kai-Kai (pre-recorded video).
- 165. The presenting countries responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Morocco, the Philippines, Liberia, as well as by the representatives of the other stakeholders groups for persons with disabilities and volunteers.

(j) Voluntary national reviews: Japan, Germany, Lao People's Democratic Republic and Malaysia

- 166. At the 21st informal meeting, on 15 July, presentations on voluntary national reviews by Japan, Germany, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Malaysia were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Switzerland).
- 167. Presentations were made on behalf of Japan by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Motegi Toshimitsu (pre-recorded video); on behalf of Germany by the Chancellor of the Federal Republic, Angela Merkel (pre-recorded video); on behalf of the Lao People's Democratic Republic by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Saleumxay Kommasith; and on behalf of Malaysia by the Minister in the Prime Minister's Department of Economy, Dato' Sri Mustapa Mohamed.
- 168. The presenting countries responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Finland, India, Switzerland, Argentina, Bangladesh, the Republic of Korea, Japan, Mexico and Norway, as well as by the representatives of the children and youth major group, the other stakeholders group for the Asia-Pacific Civil Society Regional Engagement Mechanism and the non-governmental organizations major group.

(k) Voluntary national reviews: Cyprus, Indonesia, Iraq and Madagascar

- 169 At the 22nd informal meeting, on 15 July, presentations on voluntary national reviews by Cyprus, Indonesia, Iraq and Madagascar were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Botswana).
- 170. Presentations were made on behalf of Cyprus by the Minister of Finance, Constantinos Petrides; on behalf of Indonesia by the Minister of National Development Planning and Head of the National Development Planning Agency, Suharso Monoarfa; on behalf of Iraq by the Minister of Planning, Khalid Battal Najim; and on behalf of Madagascar by the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development, Baomiavotse Vahinala Raharinirina.
- 171. The presenting countries responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Armenia, Austria, Bulgaria, Iraq, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Finland, Pakistan, Indonesia and Norway, as well as by the representatives of the children and youth major group and the non-governmental organizations major group.

(1) Voluntary national reviews: Bhutan, Namibia, Spain and Zimbabwe

172. At the 22nd informal meeting, on 15 July, presentations on voluntary national reviews by Bhutan, Namibia, Spain and Zimbabwe were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Botswana).

173. Presentations were made on behalf of Bhutan by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Tandi Dorji; on behalf of Namibia by the Director General of the National Planning Commission, Obeth Mbuipaha Kandjoze; on behalf of Spain by the Minister of Social Rights and the 2030 Agenda, Ione Belarra Urteaga; and on behalf of Zimbabwe by the Minister of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare, Paul Mavima.

174. The presenting countries responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Bangladesh, Austria, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Japan, Finland, Argentina, New Zealand and Cuba, as well as by the representatives of the non-governmental organizations major group, the workers and trade unions major group and the children and youth major group.

175. The Vice-President of the Council (Botswana) made closing remarks.

(m) Voluntary national reviews: Paraguay and Sweden

176. At the 23rd informal meeting, on 15 July, presentations on voluntary national reviews by Paraguay and Sweden were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Mexico).

177. Presentations were made on behalf of Paraguay by the National Coordinator of the Sustainable Development Goals Commission of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Helena Felip; and on behalf of Sweden by the Minister for Environment and Climate and Deputy Prime Minister, Per Bolund.

178. The presenting countries responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Chile, Mexico and Finland, as well as by the representatives of the indigenous peoples major group and the other stakeholders group for lesbians, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons.

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Annex II

Documentation

Symbol	Title or description
A/76/79-E/2021/68	Summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the forum on financing for development follow-up, including the special high-level meeting with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
E/2021/33	Report on the twenty-third session of the Committee for Development Policy
E/2021/56	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the progress report on the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns
E/2021/58	Report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals
E/2021/60	World economic situation and prospects as of mid-2021
E/2021/61	Report of the Secretary-General on long-term future trends and scenarios: impacts in the economic, social and environmental areas on the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals
E/2021/62	Report of the Secretary-General on sustainable and resilient recovery from the coronavirus disease pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development
E/2021/70	Note by the Secretariat on the summary of the seventh high-level meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum
E/FFDF/2021/3	Report of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up
E/HLPF/2021/1	Provisional agenda and documentation
E/HLPF/2021/2	Note by the Secretariat on the discussion papers on the theme of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, submitted by major groups and other stakeholders
E/HLPF/2021/3	Note by the Secretariat on the reports of the regional forums on sustainable development
E/HLPF/2021/3/Add.1	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the input from the seventh session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development
E/HLPF/2021/3/Add.2	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the input from the fourth meeting of the Forum of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development

Symbol	Title or description
E/HLPF/2021/3/Add.3	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the input from the fifth session of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the Economic Commission for Europe Region
E/HLPF/2021/3/Add.4	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the report of the eighth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development
E/HLPF/2021/3/Add.5	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the input from the fifth session of the Arab Forum for Sustainable Development
E/HLPF/2021/4	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
E/HLPF/2021/5	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the compilation of main messages for the 2021 voluntary national reviews
E/HLPF/2021/6	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/2021/L.1	Draft report
E/2021/L.26- E/HLPF/2021/L.2	Draft ministerial declaration of the 2021 high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, on the theme "Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development"
E/HLS/2021/1	Ministerial declaration of the 2021 high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, on the theme "Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development
E/HLPF/2021/INF/1	List of participants
E/HLPF/2021/INF/2	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the list of presenters at the voluntary national reviews held during the 2021 session of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council

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