



THE DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL

6 March 2023

Excellency,

I am pleased to share with you the final version of the checklist, on the implementation of the repositioning of the United Nations development system, for utilization by the United Nations Environment Assembly that you preside. The document has benefited from extensive feedback from entities of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG).

The checklist responds to the request by the United Nations General Assembly in resolution 76/4, for the Chair of the UNSDG “to provide adequate information and tools to the governing bodies of the United Nations development system entities to facilitate their oversight role, including monitoring alignment and entity adherence to the dual reporting model.”

Specifically, the checklist aims to fill a gap in the oversight of the implementation of the UN development system reform, ensuring the governing bodies can refer to a single tool to assess the implementation of the reform by their respective entities. This focus complements the oversight of the Resident Coordinator System performed by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Operational Activities Segment, which is informed – *inter alia* – by complementary annual reports by the Secretary-General and myself as Chair of the UNSDG. This oversight is being furthered strengthened with the imminent adoption of a first-ever Results Framework for the Resident Coordinator System (requested in resolution 76/4), expected at the 2023 Operational Activities Segment of the ECOSOC.

The checklist also aligns with publicly available guidance endorsed by the UNSDG, including the Management and Accountability Framework and the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework Guidance.

The checklist is to be filled in by the entities themselves, for the consideration of the United Nations Environment Assembly. I am encouraged by feedback that this would provide a useful addition to the oversight role in your governing body, including about how entities have adapted their planning, programming, and business models to align with the reform efforts.

Her Excellency
Ms. Leila Benali
Minister of Energy Transition and Sustainable
Development of Morocco and President of the United Nations Environment
Assembly
Rabat

In our meetings, several Presidents have asked for specific advice on how to utilize the checklist. I suggest that governing bodies include reporting against the checklist as part of their annual programme of work, either as an additional agenda item on the implementation of the reform of the United Nations development system, or to complement or replace reporting on an existing agenda item on the topic. Governing bodies may choose to complement this tool with additional questions related to their entities' specific mandates.

I have also asked the Development Coordination Office to engage bilaterally with you and the Secretariat of your Governing Body to offer methodological support and advice on how best the checklist can be implemented, in view of the specific characteristics and working methods of each governing body.

The checklist we are introducing today is an innovative tool that will, we trust, simultaneously simplify reporting across the system and enhance oversight of entity-specific implementation of the reforms of the United Nations development system. After several rounds of consultations within the UN system and discussions with Member States, we believe we have a strong tool to move forward. As implementation unfolds, we will remain attentive to any adjustments that may be required in the future. In this regard, it is our plan to review the checklist implementation in one year, to assess its usefulness and ensure it accomplishes its intended objective.

I remain at your disposal to further support your efforts in advancing our collective objective to ensure the UN development system is best equipped to support countries in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A J M', positioned above the printed name.

Amina J. Mohammed