



**The President
of the
Economic and Social Council**

18 November 2020

Excellency,

I am writing to invite the intergovernmental body that you chair to provide an input to the thematic review of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). The HLPF will meet under the auspices of ECOSOC from 6 to 15 July 2021, with a Ministerial Segment from 13 to 15 July.

The Forum is the central platform for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The General Assembly in resolution 70/1 called for the HLPF to conduct thematic reviews of progress on the SDGs, including cross-cutting issues. These are mandated to be supported by reviews by the “ECOSOC functional commissions and other inter-governmental bodies and forums which should reflect the integrated nature of the Goals as well as the interlinkages between them. They will engage all relevant stakeholders and, where possible, feed into, and be aligned with, the cycle of the HLPF”.

I would like to inform you that the 2020 HLPF received a total of 55 inputs from functional commissions and other intergovernmental bodies and forums. I would like to thank all those who informed the thematic review at the 2020 HLPF through their contribution to its theme. These inputs, together with the synthesis provided by the Secretariat, can be found at the HLPF website: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/inputs/>.

The General Assembly defined the theme of the 2021 HLPF to 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*”.

The HLPF in 2021 will also discuss Sustainable Development Goals 1 on no poverty, 2 on zero hunger, 3 on good health and well-being, 8 on decent work and economic growth, 10 on reduced inequalities, 12 on responsible consumption and production, 13 on climate action, 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions, and 17 on partnerships in depth. The Forum will consider the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the SDGs.

I invite you to provide substantive inputs to the 2021 HLPF on its review of the above SDGs and the theme. Your contribution could showcase the views and guidance of your intergovernmental bodies on those aspects of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the various measures and types of international cooperation that can control the pandemic and its impacts and put the world back on track to achieve the SDGs by 2030, within the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development.

H.E. Mr Mr. Sveinung Rotevatn, Minister of Environment and Climate
Government of Norway and
President, UN Environment Assembly

The following template could be considered in providing inputs, while taking into account your intergovernmental body's mandate and views:

- (a) Impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the implementation of the SDGs under review in the 2021 HLPF from the vantage point of your intergovernmental body, bearing in mind the interlinkages with other SDGs;
- (b) Actions, policy guidance, progress, challenges and areas requiring urgent attention in relation to the SDGs and to the theme within the area under the purview of your intergovernmental body;
- (c) An assessment of the situation regarding the principle of “ensuring that no one is left behind” at the global, regional and national levels against of background of the COVID-19 pandemic in achieving the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, within the respective area addressed by your intergovernmental bodies;
- (d) Cooperation, measures and commitments at all levels in promoting sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (e) Various measures and policy recommendations on 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;
- (f) Key messages for inclusion into the Ministerial Declaration of the 2021 HLPF.

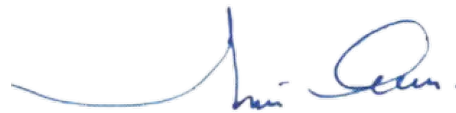
The inputs of intergovernmental bodies to the HLPF thematic reviews can take various formats and do not need to be negotiated texts (in some cases, they are analytical documents prepared by the bureau, bureau's summary of a discussion on the theme and SDGs, agreed conclusions etc.).

It would be essential that your intergovernmental body contributes to the HLPF thematic reviews, even in case its main area of work is not under in-depth consideration at the HLPF, given the interlinkages across the SDGs. Contributions should be as focused as possible and build on the expertise of your intergovernmental body.

I would kindly ask you to send your contribution **no later than 15 March 2021** to the HLPF Secretariat (e-mail: wang24@un.org, vaturi@un.org; copy perez7@un.org, panghulanv@un.org). The inputs to be received will be synthesized as an official document of HLPF, as well as be posted online at the HLPF website.

I look forward to your contributions to the 2021 HLPF.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Munir Akram
President of ECOSOC