



Monday 17 April

10:00–10:45 **Opening of the Forum**

Chair: H.E. Ambassador Lachezara Stoeva, President of ECOSOC

Remarks by H.E. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations

Remarks by H.E. Csaba Kőrösi, President of the General Assembly

Keynote address by H.E. Ms. Janet Yellen, Secretary of the Treasury, United States of America (Video message)

10:45–12:00 **Panel discussion 1: Coping with cascading crises and investing in sustainable development: How to make the right policy choices?**

Our world is facing a poly-crisis that threatens achievement of the SDGs. Adding to the health crisis, new geopolitical tensions, a once-in-a generation surge in inflation and tight financial conditions have led to a global growth slowdown and created an extremely challenging global macroeconomic environment. This session will assess the existing policy response to current crises to 1) take stock of results; 2) evaluate monetary and fiscal policy options for countries as they seek to clamp down on inflation despite incomplete economic recoveries and large unmet financing needs; and 3) develop recommendations to manage policy trade-offs and address immediate needs and long-term structural challenges.

Guiding questions:

1. What lessons can we learn from countries' national macro-policy responses to the confluence of shocks in recent years? What have we learned about the international architecture, its strengths, gaps and weaknesses?
2. How can demands to tighten monetary policy to fight inflation be reconciled with the need for fiscal expansion, including critical social expenditure?
3. Beyond traditional inflation targeting, what other policy solutions could help alleviate the cost-of-living crisis? What role for the international community?

Chair: ECOSOC Vice-President (Italy)

Moderator: Ms. Hanan Morsy, Deputy Executive Secretary, ECA

H.E. Mr. José Antonio Ocampo, Minister of Finance, Colombia

H.E. Mr. Klemen Boštjančič, Minister of Finance, Slovenia

H.E. Ms. Jutta Urpilainen, Commissioner of International Partnerships, European Union (Virtual)

Lead discussant: Ms. Bhumika Muchhala, Third World Network

Interactive discussion (2-minute time limit for statements from the floor)

12:00–13:00 Panel discussion 2: Remaking the international financial architecture to achieve the SDGs

This session will unpack the steps needed to remake international systems, institutions and norms for finance to achieve the Goals by 2030, including in support of an SDG Stimulus: 1) tackling the high cost of debt financing and rising risks of debt distress; 2) massively scaling up affordable long-term financing for development; 3) expanding contingency financing to countries in need; and 4) advancing towards an international financial architecture that is more coherent and better aligned with the needs of the 21st century.

Guiding questions:

1. What immediate steps can the international financial institutions, the public development bank system, the UN, the G20, as well as other actors take to massively boost investments in the SDGs?
2. What long-term or architectural reforms are needed to promote sufficient affordable financing for development and financial stability? What are the steps that different actors can take to realize these?
3. How can the SDG Stimulus proposed by the Secretary-General serve as a link between immediate steps and long-term structural changes needed to address current policy challenges?
4. How can Member States move forward on the commitments in the Addis Agenda to broaden and strengthen the voice and participation of developing countries in international economic decision-making?

Chair: ECOSOC Vice-President (Italy)

Moderator: Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator, UNDP

H.E. Mr. Patrick Njoroge, Central Bank Governor, Kenya

Mr. Nick Dyer, Director General, Humanitarian and Development, Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, United Kingdom

Mr. Markus Berndt, Managing Director, EIB Global

Mr. Amar Bhattacharya, Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution

Lead discussant: Ms. Mae Buenaventura, Asian Peoples' Movement on Debt and Development

Interactive discussion (2-minute time limit for statements from the floor)

15:00–15:15 ECOSOC Vice-President (Zimbabwe)

Introduction of the 2023 Financing for Sustainable Development Report: Financing sustainable transformations

Presentation of the Financing for Sustainable Development Report by Mr. Li Junhua, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs

15:15–16:45 Panel discussion 3: Development cooperation: Long-term resilience and the role of multilateral development banks

Building on the Development Cooperation Forum, this session will look at 1) How a risk-informed approach to development cooperation can reduce disaster risk, build climate change-resilient and sustainable infrastructure, bridge the digital divide, promote gender equality and strengthen social protection; 2) How to enhance access to reliable, predictable concessional finance to help developing countries address exogenous shocks; and 3) The critical role multilateral development banks (MDBs) can play in this regard through the expansion of concessional lending and other instruments.

Guiding questions:

1. How to integrate multidimensional vulnerability in eligibility criteria for concessional financing, to ensure that concessional resources are responding to current risks and targeting the most vulnerable, including climate vulnerable countries?
2. What contributions can development cooperation make to support developing countries' integrated and coordinated employment and social protection policies and strategies?
3. How to scale up affordable long-term financing for the SDGs, including through the MDBs?

Chair: ECOSOC Vice-President (Zimbabwe)

Keynote address by H.E. Ms. Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister, Bangladesh (Video message)

Moderator: Ms. Mariangela Parra-Lancourt, Chief of Strategic Engagement and Policy Integration Branch

H.E. Mr. Francisco André, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Portugal

Mr. Jürgen Zattler, Director General for International development policy and United Nations; 2030 Agenda; social and environmental transformation; climate, Germany

Mr. Patrick Zimpita, Principal Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Malawi

H.E. Mr. Carsten Staur, Chair, Development Assistance Committee, OECD

Mr. Stephane Guimbert, Director, Operations Policy in the Operations Policy and Country Services Vice Presidency, World Bank (virtual)

Lead discussant: Mr. Vitalice Meja, Reality of Aid Africa (RoA-A)

Interactive discussion (2-minute time limit for statements from the floor)

Tuesday 18 April

10:00–12:00 **Special High-level Meeting with Bretton Woods Institutions, WTO and UNCTAD**

Themes: 1) Supporting developing countries in dealing with the compounding crises and in financing the SDGs; and 2) External debt

Chair: H.E. Lachezara Stoeva (Bulgaria), President of ECOSOC

Statements by intergovernmental representatives:

H.E. Ambassador Lachezara Stoeva, President of the Economic and Social Council

H.E. Mr. Carlos Cuerpo Caballero, Secretary General for the Treasury and International Finance of Spain, and Chair of the IMFC Deputies (virtual)

Ms. Mercy Miyang Tembon, Executive Secretary of the Development Committee on behalf of the Chair of the Development Committee

H.E. Bahtijors Hasans, President, Trade and Development Board UNCTAD

Interactive Dialogue with Executive Directors of World Bank and IMF

Moderator: Sarah Cliffe, Executive Director, Center for International Cooperation, New York University

Opening remarks

- *Mr. Koen Davidse, Dean of the Board of Executive Directors, WBG*
- *Mr. Facinet Sylla, Chair of the IMF Liaison Committee*

Topic 1: External debt

Speakers

- *Mr. Jun Mizuguchi, Executive Director, IMF*
- *Mr. Parameswaran Iyer, Executive Director, WBG*
- *H.E. Ambassador Mr. Maurizio Massari, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Italy)*

Topic 2: Supporting developing countries in dealing with the compounding crises and in financing the SDGs

Speakers

- *Ms. Ayanda Dlodlo, Executive Director, WBG*
- *Mr. Robert Nicholl, Executive Director, IMF*
- *H.E. Ambassador Mr. Albert Ranganai Chimbindi, Vice-President of ECOSOC (Zimbabwe)*

¹ Due to the limited time available, time limits (5 minutes for statements on behalf of groups, 3 minutes for national statements and 2 minutes for statements by speakers other than States) will be strictly implemented, including through microphone cutoff, as necessary.

12:00–13:00

Panel discussion 4: Fostering debt sustainability by addressing gaps in the sovereign debt architecture

This session will explore reforms to the sovereign debt architecture to close longstanding gaps, and immediate steps that can be taken now towards such reforms. This includes policy actions to 1) Create fiscal space for countries that suffer from debt overhangs to invest in climate action and the SDGs, 2) Close longstanding gaps in the international debt architecture to more effectively and fairly resolve debt crises, and 3) reduce risk of a future repeat of widespread debt crises, through more effective debt crisis prevention, transparency, better debt management, and related measures.

Guiding questions:

1. How can we scale up the use of state-contingent elements in sovereign debt contracts? How can they be made into a more standard feature of sovereign borrowing, and how can creditors and the international community facilitate greater take-up?
2. What instruments and approaches could be used at scale to address debt overhangs and create fiscal space for SDG investments? How can we speed up debt crisis resolution, within the Common Framework and for countries not eligible?
3. What actions are needed at national and global levels to break the cycle of repeat build-ups of sovereign debt and widespread crises?

Chair: ECOSOC Vice-President (Indonesia)

Keynote address by H.E. Mr. Joko Widodo, President, Indonesia (Video message)

Moderator: Sarah Cliffe, Executive Director, Center for International Cooperation, New York University

H.E. Mr. Shehan Semasinghe, State Minister of Finance, Sri Lanka

H.E. Mr. Naadir Hassan, Minister of Finance, Seychelles

H.E. Mr. Abdelkerim Ahmadaye Bakhit, President, Economic, Social, Cultural and Environmental Council, Chad

H.E. Mr. Christophe Guilhou, Director of Sustainable Development, Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs, France

Mr. Robert Powell, IMF Special Representative to the UN

Lead discussant: Mr. Jason Braganza, African Forum and Network on Debt and Development (AFRODAD)

Interactive discussion (2-minute time limit for statements from the floor)

15:00–16:30

Panel discussion 5: Private investment for developing countries

Bolstering private investment is a critical factor for countries to develop sustainably and to meet the SDGs. Yet overall trends in cross-border investment flows to developing countries are not encouraging. This session will explore 1) The challenges to augment private investment in developing countries in the context of decelerating global growth and fragmentation; 2) The challenges developing countries face in effectively developing a pipeline of projects at scale that can match investors' standards and risk profiles; and 3) The role the system of development banks can play to foster private investment where it is most needed.

Guiding questions:

1. What policies and strategies can be employed to mobilize higher private investment flows and channel them toward sustainable infrastructure and SDG-aligned investment portfolios?
2. Which financial instruments and products can more effectively and equitably share risks and rewards between public and private investors?
3. How can a pipeline of more bankable SDG investment projects be developed and connected with a potential pool of investors?

Chair: ECOSOC President/Vice-President

Keynote address by H.E. Mr. Paul Kagame, President of Rwanda (video message)

Moderator: Dr. Werner Hoyer, President, European Investment Bank

H.E. Mr. Neal Herman Rijkenberg, Minister of Finance, Eswatini

Mr. Pedro Manuel Moreno, Deputy Secretary-General, UNCTAD

Mr. Nils Bolmstrand, Chief Executive Officer, Nordea Asset Management

Ms. Karen Fang, Managing Director, Global Head of Sustainable Finance, Bank of America

Lead discussant: Ms. Flora Sonkin, Society for International Development

Interactive discussion (2-minute time limit for statements from the floor)

16:30–18:00 General debate²

Chair: ECOSOC Vice-President (Zimbabwe)

Wednesday 19 April

10:00–11:30 Panel Discussion 6: Financing sustainable industrial transformations

This session will explore policies to finance structural transformations to drive growth, job creation, technological advancement and low-carbon transitions in developing

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countries. Discussions will assess 1) how the revival of industrial policies can support sustainable transformations, and how measures across all the action areas of the Addis Agenda can contribute; 2) international support and action can ensure that the 'great finance divide' and an unlevel playing field does not undermine developing countries' ability to invest in sustainable industrial transformations and ultimately to achieve the SDGs.

Guiding questions:

1. How can countries use their financing policies – across budgets, tax codes, financial sector regulations, macroeconomic, investment trade and technology policies – to facilitate sustainable industrial transformations?
2. What role can development finance institutions, from national development banks to the multilaterals, play to support such transformations in developing countries?
3. What steps should the international community take to provide all countries with sufficient policy space to facilitate sustainable industrial transformations while managing risks of fragmentation?

Chair: ECOSOC Vice-President (Chile)

Moderator: Mr. ZOU Ciyong, Deputy Director General, UNIDO

H.E. Ms. Javiera Petersen, Vice-Minister of Economy and Smaller Enterprises, Chile

Mr. Elnur Ibrahimov, Leading Advisor on SDGs in Ministry of Economy, Azerbaijan

Ms. Jayati Ghosh, Professor of economics, University of Massachusetts Amherst

Mr. Sanjay G. Reddy, Associate Professor and Department Chair of economics, The New School

Lead discussant: Mr. Stefano Prato, Society for International Development

Interactive discussion (2-minute time limit for statements from the floor)

11:30–13:00 Panel discussion 7: Climate financing for adaptation and the SDGs

Despite record investment in the energy transition in 2022, the world is on track to warming of 2.8 degrees, far above the targets of the Paris Agreement. The climate crisis continues unabated, and vulnerable countries are facing a precarious future-. This session will 1) take stock of the current climate financing landscape, to identify lessons that can contribute to defining the contours of a new collective quantified goal on climate finance; 2) how to significantly scale up adaptation finance and 3) how to ensure a balanced approach to mitigation and adaptation in development cooperation policies and practices.

Guiding questions:

1. How are development partners responding to the climate adaptation finance gaps outlined in NDCs in developing countries?
2. How can private sector investment be mobilized to support climate adaptation, and what are the most promising mechanisms for doing so?
3. What role can MDBs play in helping to mobilize private sector climate finance for adaptation in developing countries?

Chair: ECOSOC President/Vice-President

Moderator: Ms. Ligia Noronha, Assistant Secretary-General and Head of New York Office, UNEP

H.E. Mr. Ahmed Kamaly, Deputy Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Egypt (virtual)

Ms. Eva Del Hoyo-Barbolla, Director General for Sustainable Development Policies, Spain

Ms. Cam Do, Director General, Innovative and Climate Finance Bureau, Canada (virtual)

Ms. Marie-Hélène Loison, Deputy Director General, Agence Française de Développement (virtual)

Lead discussant: Ms. Carola Mejía, Red Latinoamericana por Justicia Económica y Social (LATINDADD)

Interactive discussion (2-minute time limit for statements from the floor)

15:00–16:30 Panel discussion 8: Advancing international tax cooperation and tackling illicit financial flows to safeguard and mobilize domestic resources

Building on the outcomes of the 2023 ECOSOC Special Meeting on International Cooperation in Tax Matters, this session will look at ways countries and the international community can: 1) Strengthen international tax cooperation to make it fully inclusive and more effective 2) Expand data collection and information sharing to bolster financial integrity, and 3) Close policy and administrative gaps, including through the deployment of new tools and technologies, to bolster international tax cooperation and combat IFFs.

Guiding questions:

1. What are the key weaknesses and gaps in the international tax cooperation architecture, and how can discussions at the UN help strengthen the inclusiveness and effectiveness of international tax cooperation?
2. What is needed to rapidly expand the availability and use of beneficial ownership information in order to effectively combat IFFs?

3. How can existing institutional coordination mechanisms to combat IFFs be enhanced? What new coordination mechanisms at the domestic and international levels are needed?

Chair: ECOSOC President/Vice-President

Keynote address by H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Mayaki, FACTI Panel Co-Chair (Video message)

Moderator: Dr. Iyabo Masha, Director, G24 Secretariat

H.E. Ms. Bjørg Sandkjær, State Secretary/Deputy Minister for Development, Norway

H.E. Mr. Francis Nkea Ndzigue, Minister for the Promotion of Good Governance and the Fight against Corruption, Gabon – virtual

Ms. Zayda Manatta, Head of the Secretariat of the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes OECD

Ms. Katherine Baer, Deputy Director, Fiscal Affairs Department, IMF

Lead discussant: Ms. Chenai Mukumba, Tax Justice Network Africa

Interactive discussion (2-minute time limit for statements from the floor)

16:30–18:00 General debate³

Chair: ECOSOC President/Vice President

Thursday 20 April

10:00-11:30 Panel discussion 9: Safeguarding food security through multilateralism, trade, and national actions

After years of gains on SDG 2, global food security has been grossly eroded by the ongoing effects of multiple crises. This session will place 1) a renewed focus on the sustainable production of agricultural commodities; and 2) policies to ensure fair distribution of gains derived from trade in commodities and processed products, with the aim of safeguarding food security.

Guiding questions:

1. What best practices can be considered to enhance the production, value addition, and distribution of commodities to ensure global food security?

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2. What policies can be adopted globally to ensure sustained resilience from shocks in food production and trade?
3. How can commodity value chains be re-balanced to foster a better distribution of value along the chains, to ensure producer countries are adequately compensated and can better benefit from upgrading?

Chair: ECOSOC President/Vice-President

Keynote addresses by H.E. Mr. Emmerson Mnangagwa, President, Zimbabwe (Video message)

Moderator: Mr. Pedro Manuel Moreno, Deputy Secretary-General, UNCTAD

H.E. Ms. Madeleine Alingué Minister of State for Economic Prospective and International Partnerships, Chad

*Ms. Allison A. Thomas, Assistant Deputy Administrator & Managing Director
USDA-Foreign Agricultural Service and APEC Chair for the Policy Partnership for Food Security*

H.E. Sheikh Mohammed Belal, Managing Director, Common Fund for Commodities

Mr. David Laborde, Director of the Agrifood Economics Division, FAO

Lead discussant: Ms. Jane Nalunga, Southern and Eastern Africa Trade Information and Negotiations Institute (SEATINI) Uganda

Interactive discussion (2-minute time limit for statements from the floor)

11:30 – 13:00 Roundtable: Integrated National Financing Frameworks – national actions to raise financing for the SDGs

Building on the growing momentum for the demand and support for Integrated National Financing Frameworks (INFFs) implementation, this session will provide: 1) a forum to share experiences and lessons learned by countries that are developing INFFs and to report back to ECOSOC on INFF progress as part of their follow-up to the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and 2) for the international community to explore how to make use of INFFs to align its support with national priorities and plans.

Guiding questions:

1. How can INFFs help enhance the consistency and alignment of all financing in support of Agenda 2030 at the national level? How can the international community make better use of country-led INFFs to align support with national priorities?
2. What lessons can we learn from country experiences to understand the opportunities, challenges, solutions and support needed for countries to progress with their INFF processes?

Chair: ECOSOC Vice-President (Zimbabwe)

*Keynote addresses by Mr. Achim Steiner, Administrator of UNDP
and Mr. Navid Hanif, Assistant Secretary-General, UN DESA*

*Moderator: Ms. Shari Spiegel, Chief of Branch, UN DESA
Roundtable with speakers from the floor*

H.E. Ms. Rose Pola Pricemou, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Guinea

H.E. Ms. Mariyam Manarath Muneer, Deputy Minister of Finance of Maldives

H.E. Mr. Luis Madera Sued, Vice-minister of Planning and Public Investment, Dominican Republic

Ms. Raden Siliwanti, Director for Multilateral Funding, Ministry of National Development Planning, Indonesia

Ms. Carin Jämtin, Director-General, Swedish International Development Corporation Agency

Lead discussant: Olivier Cattaneo, Head of the Policy Analysis and Strategy Unit, Financing for Sustainable Development Division, OECD

Civil Society lead discussant: Mr. Luca De Fraia, Action Aid International

Interactive discussion (2-minute time limit for statements from the floor)

15:00–16:00 General debate⁴

Chair: ECOSOC President/Vice President

16:00–18:00 Closing of the Forum

Chair: President of ECOSOC

Closing remarks by the Deputy Secretary-General

Adoption of the Outcome Document

Closing statement by the President of ECOSOC

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