



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

15 December 2021

Dear Mr. Azzouz,

Through you, I write to invite the ITU Council to provide an input to the thematic review of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) in 2022. The HLPF will meet under the auspices of ECOSOC from 5-7 and 11-15 July 2022 at UN Headquarters in New York, with a Ministerial Segment from 13-15 July.

The HLPF is the central platform for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the global level. 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”.

The Assembly in resolution 75/290 B reiterated that “In the conduct of the thematic reviews, the high-level political forum could consider the inputs to the high-level political forum from intergovernmental bodies and forums, including relevant multi-stakeholder forums, and, as appropriate, the findings, research, data and recommendations from the United Nations system.”

I would like to inform you that the 2021 HLPF received a total of 68 inputs from functional commissions and other intergovernmental bodies and forums. I would like to thank all those who informed the thematic review at the 2021 HLPF through their contribution. These inputs, together with the synthesis provided by the Secretariat, can be found at the HLPF website: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/inputs/>; <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2021#docs> .

The General Assembly also in resolution 75/290 B defined the theme of the 2022 HLPF to be “*Building back better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*”.

The HLPF in 2022 will review progress toward SDGs 4 on quality education, 5 on gender equality, 14 on life below water, 15 on life on land, and 17 on partnerships for the Goals. The Forum will take into account the different and particular impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic across these SDGs and the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the Goals.

Mr. Elsayed Elsayed Azzouz
Chairperson, 2019 session
ITU Council

I therefore invite you to provide substantive inputs to the 2022 HLPF on its review of the above SDGs and the theme. Your contribution could showcase the views, findings, research, data and policy recommendations from your intergovernmental bodies on specific aspects of an SDG-driven response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the SDGs under review.

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

- (a) Progress, experience, lessons learned, challenges and impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the implementation of SDGs 4, 5, 14, 15 and 17 from the vantage point of your intergovernmental body, bearing in mind the three dimensions of sustainable development and the interlinkages across the SDGs and targets, including policy implications of their synergies and trade-offs;
- (b) Assessment of the situation regarding the principle of “leaving no one behind” against the background of the COVID-19 pandemic and for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, within the respective areas addressed by your intergovernmental body;
- (c) Actions and policy recommendations in areas requiring urgent attention in relation to the implementation of the SDGs under review;
- (d) Policy recommendations, commitments and cooperation measures for promoting a sustainable, resilient and inclusive recovery from the pandemic while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda;
- (e) Key messages for inclusion into the Ministerial Declaration of the 2022 HLPF.

It is essential that your intergovernmental body contribute to the HLPF thematic reviews, even if its main area of work is not under in-depth consideration this year, given the interlinkages across the SDGs.

The inputs of intergovernmental bodies to the HLPF should be as focused as possible. They may also be submitted in various formats (analytical documents prepared by the bureau, summary of a panel discussion, agreed conclusions or other agreed document etc...).

I would kindly ask you to send your contribution **no later than 1 March 2022** to the HLPF Secretariat (e-mail: wang24@un.org, vaturi@un.org; copy perez7@un.org, panghulanv@un.org). Inputs received before the deadline will be included in the official synthesis report and submitted to the HLPF. All inputs will be made available online at the HLPF website.

I look forward to your contributions to the 2022 HLPF.

Yours sincerely,



Collen Vixen Kelapile
President of ECOSOC