



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

27 November 2017

Excellency,

The United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) will convene under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) at UN Headquarters in New York from 9 to 18 July 2018 (with a ministerial segment on 16 - 18 July).

The forum, which was created at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in June 2012 (Rio+20) to provide high-level policy guidance and promote and review implementation of sustainable development, has also been given a role as a central platform for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs with the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in September 2015.

Specifically, the General Assembly in resolution 70/1 called for thematic reviews of progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including cross-cutting issues, to take place at the HLPF. These will 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.

In this context, I would like to point out the 2017 HLPF received a total of 40 inputs from intergovernmental bodies and forums. I would like to thank all those who contributed to the thematic reviews at the 2017 HLPF through their contribution to its theme. These inputs, together with the synthesis provided by the Secretariat, can be found at the 2017 HLPF website: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/inputs/>

As you know, the General Assembly in its resolution 70/299 on “Follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level” has decided that the HLPF, under the auspices of ECOSOC and without prejudice to the integrated, indivisible, interlinked nature of the sustainable development goals, will discuss a set of goals and their interlinkages including, if appropriate, with other goals, at each session representing the three dimensions of sustainable development, with a view to facilitating an in-depth review on progress of all goals over the course of a four-year cycle, with means of implementation, including goal 17, reviewed annually. In this regard, the General Assembly further defined the theme of the 2018 HLPF to be “Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies”. All 17 SDGs will be examined from the perspective of the theme. Additionally, the following SDGs will be discussed together with SDG 17: 6, 7, 11, 12, and 15.

*Mr. Houlin Zhao, Secretary-General
International Telecommunication Union
Geneva*

In this regard, I invite you to provide substantive inputs to the 2018 HLPF showcasing your intergovernmental body's contribution to the 2030 Agenda in general, and particularly for the SDGs and respective targets that are most relevant to your intergovernmental body's mandate. The following template, inspired by the report of the Secretary-General on global follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (A/70/684), could be considered in providing inputs:

- (a) an assessment of the situation regarding the principle of "ensuring that no one is left behind" at the global level;
- (b) the identification of gaps, areas requiring urgent attention, risks and challenges;
- (c) valuable lessons learned on transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies;
- (d) emerging issues likely to affect building sustainable and resilient societies;
- (e) areas where political guidance by the high-level political forum is required;
- (f) policy recommendations on ways to accelerate progress in establishing sustainable and resilient societies.

This reporting template can be accessed at <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf> and I would kindly ask you to send your contribution no later than 27 April 2018 to the HLPF Secretariat (e-mail: wang24@un.org).

I look forward to your contributions to the 2018 HLPF.

Yours sincerely,



Marie Chatardová
President of ECOSOC