



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

12 April 2016

Excellency,

The United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) will convene under the auspices of ECOSOC at UN headquarters in New York from 11 to 20 July 2016 (with a ministerial segment on 18 -20 July).

The forum 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.

The 2016 session of the HLPF marks the inaugural year of the 2030 Agenda. During this session the forum will fully assume its central role in overseeing a network of review and follow-up processes at the global level as mandated by the 2030 Agenda.

The theme of the 2016 session is “Ensuring that no one is left behind”, which highlights the integrated and universal nature of the agenda and the indivisibility of the SDGs. It underscores the premise that no single goal or target will be met unless it has been met for the poorest or most vulnerable. All 17 SDGs will be examined from the perspective of the theme, which is also consistent with the thematic focus of the activities of ECOSOC.

The 2030 Agenda stipulates that thematic reviews of progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), including cross-cutting issues, will also take place at the HLPF. These will be supported by reviews by the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and other intergovernmental bodies and forums, reflecting the integrated nature of the Goals as well as the interlinkages between them.

In this regard, I invite you to offer substantive inputs to the 2016 HLPF showcasing your intergovernmental body’s contribution towards the 2030 Agenda in general, and particularly for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and respective targets that are substantial 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 ensuring that no one is left behind;
- (d) emerging issues likely to affect the realization of this principle;
- (e) areas where political guidance by the high-level political forum is required;
- (f) policy recommendations on ways to accelerate progress for those at risk of being left behind

This reporting template can be accessed at <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf> and I would kindly ask you to send the completed template no later than 16 May 2016 to the Secretariat’s e-mail pietracci@un.org.

I look forward to your contributions to the 2016 HLPF.

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

Sincerely yours,



Oh Joon
President of ECOSOC

H.E. Ms. Amira Daoud Hassan Gornass
Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Sudan to FAO
Rome, Italy