# Follow up to the review of the work of ECOSOC subsidiary bodies

The review of the work of the [ECOSOC subsidiary bodies](https://www.un.org/ecosoc/en/content/ecosoc-subsidiary-bodies), mandated in [GA resolution 75/290 A](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/75/290%20A), was led by Amb. Lachezara Stoeva (Bulgaria), in her capacity as Vice-President of the Council, on behalf of the Bureau of ECOSOC at its 2022 session.

Based on the [assessments](https://www.un.org/ecosoc/sites/www.un.org.ecosoc/files/files/en/2022doc/Compilation_Bureaux_assessments.pdf) prepared by the Bureaux of the functional commissions and expert bodies[[1]](#footnote-2), as well as on informal consultations with Member States, the Vice-President prepared a [summary of recommendations](https://www.un.org/ecosoc/sites/www.un.org.ecosoc/files/files/en/2022doc/VP_summary_of_Recommendations-FINAL_27May7AM.pdf).[[2]](#footnote-3) The outcome of the review was ECOSOC [decision 2022/334](https://undocs.org/en/E/2022/L.9), through which the Council took note of the Vice-President’s [summary of recommendations](https://www.un.org/ecosoc/sites/www.un.org.ecosoc/files/files/en/2022doc/VP_summary_of_Recommendations-FINAL_27May7AM.pdf) and invited the President and the Bureau of the Council as well as the Chairs and the Bureaux of the functional commissions and expert bodies of ECOSOC, all Member States and the Secretariat to implement, to the extent possible within existing mandates and resources, the recommendations contained in the summary.

The following Guiding Principles were agreed to in the review process:

| **Guiding Principles** |
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| 1. Respect the mandate of the review of the work of ECOSOC Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies, as outlined in General Assembly resolutions 75/290 A and 72/305. |
| 1. Respect the existing mandates of ECOSOC Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies, their expert nature and their autonomy. |
| 1. Respect the indivisibility, universal and interlinked nature of all SDGs, as well as the equal importance of all SDGs, while allowing specific bodies to focus on specific SDGs related to their mandates. The aim is to ensure that these bodies are taking the SDGs into account within their respective mandates. |
| 1. Strengthen the oversight, guidance and coordination role of ECOSOC vis-à-vis its Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies. |
| 1. Adopt a holistic approach to the work of these bodies while taking into account their diversity and avoiding a one-size-fits-all approach. |
| 1. Give priority to actions that will increase the UN’s ability to better support Member States in achieving the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. |
| 1. Minimize the amount of additional work that Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies will be expected to perform as a result of the review; and focus, instead, on efforts to improve coordination and alignment of their work, increase their efficiency and effectiveness, and avoid duplication. |
| 1. Improve the sharing of learning and best practices and promote cooperation and interlinkages between these bodies as well as with ECOSOC and other UN processes, so as to maximize the benefits of the work of ECOSOC and relevant subsidiary bodies for Member States. |
| 1. Improve and review the follow-up to the outcomes of Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies including by increasing their interaction with the UN system. |
| 1. Be cost-neutral, allowing the Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies to easily follow-up on the outcome of the review for example by reprioritizing efforts among various aspects of their work. |
| 1. Be actionable and practical. |
| 1. Enable ECOSOC, its Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies and the Secretariats to take the process forward and implement action-oriented recommendations. |

Below the recommendations endorsed through decision 2022/332 are presented in two formats, in order to facilitate their follow up:

1. [By entity/ body](#Entity) undertaking follow up actions, or “action owners”.[[3]](#footnote-4)
2. [By cluster](#Cluster) as discussed during the review process (*forthcoming*).

# 1. Follow up of recommendations by entity/ body undertaking follow up actions (“action owners”)

| **Recommendations** | **Suggested actions** | **Relevant events/ timing** |
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| **Recommendations for consideration /follow up by ECOSOC:** | | |
| II. Aligning with the 2030 Agenda | | |
| 1. The Council is encouraged to give guidance to its Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies on areas of the 2030 Agenda that they could address more specifically, taking into account the indivisible and interrelated nature of the SDGs as well as the views and mandates of the respective bodies. Such recommendations will also allow ECOSOC to ensure that its bodies contribute to its work, as well as to the high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF) and other upcoming intergovernmental meetings. | * The ECOSOC Bureau could consider preparing specific guidance related to (1) areas of the annual theme of ECOSOC and the HLPF and/or priorities for the session a given subsidiary body to address from its respective angle, and (2) areas of last year’s Ministerial Declaration that should be assessed by the Council’s subsidiary bodies. * See follow up to recommendations 15e and 15d. | * Meetings between Bureau of ECOSOC and Bureaux of functional commissions and expert bodies * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Coordination Segment * Management Segment * HLPF/HLS |
| III. Coordination issues among Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies, areas for synergies, possible duplication and gaps | | |
| 1. The Council is encouraged to consider ways to promote the further strengthening of collaboration among its Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies. This could be done by: 2. Encouraging these bodies to work together and draw from each other’s work so as to promote integrated policy approaches, including on the theme of ECOSOC and the HLPF, while respecting the respective mandate and expertise of each subsidiary body. | * The ECOSOC Bureau could consider initiating a process to agree on mechanisms (for example, a small set of simple workflows) that would make it easier for subsidiary bodies to draw from each other’s pre-, in- and post-session work so as to promote integrated policy approaches. This process would aim to feed into the review of resolution 75/290 A during the 78th session of the GA. | * Preparations for the review of resolution 75/290 A, which will take place during GA78. * Meetings between Bureau of ECOSOC and Bureaux of functional commissions and expert bodies * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Coordination Segment * Management Segment * HLPF/HLS |
| 1. Monitoring the coordinated follow up of the Ministerial Declaration of ECOSOC and the HLPF by Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies at the Coordination Segment. | * Inviting the Secretariat to share with the Bureau subsidiary bodies’ recommendations related to the follow-up to last year’s declaration. | * Meetings between Bureau of ECOSOC and Bureaux of functional commissions and expert bodies * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Coordination Segment * Management Segment * HLPF/HLS |
| 1. Further raising awareness about the work of these bodies, including notably those headquartered away from New York. The Coordination Segment and ECOSOC’s review of draft resolutions proposed by them offer opportunities to do so. Dedicated meetings within the ECOSOC calendar and events on the margins of the Council’s Segments and Forums may also be considered within existing resources. | * The ECOSOC Bureau could consider including the Chairs of functional commissions and expert bodies in meetings of the Council in a more systematic basis, in order to include the perspective of their respective areas of expertise as well as to highlight interlinkages. * The ECOSOC Bureau could consider inviting Chairs of subsidiary bodies to organize side events on their respective sessions on the margin of relevant segments and meetings of ECOSOC. * See follow up to recommendation 2 (bullets 2 and 3). | * Coordination Segment * Management Segment * HLPF/HLS * Meetings of ECOSOC and the HLPF where functional commissions and expert bodies could contribute to a discussion on integrated approaches bringing the perspective of their respective areas of expertise (see recommendation 28) |
| 1. The ECOSOC Bureau could hold more regular meetings with the Bureaux of Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies. These meetings should be for information sharing purposes not for decision making. | * The ECOSOC Bureau could consider holding a preparatory discussion with the Bureaux of the functional commissions and expert bodies in October on specific guidance to the subsidiary bodies, in order to allow for their feedback and for the preparatory work for their sessions to incorporate the prospective guidance. * The ECOSOC Bureau could consider holding a subsequent meeting with the Bureaux of functional commissions and expert bodies ahead of the newly mandated discussion on key messages taking place at the June Management Segment. This meeting would provide an early update on the work of the subsidiary bodies and would enable the Council to better envision their contribution to the meetings of the HLPF and the High-level Segment as well as to prepare for deliberating on their work at the Management Segment. * The ECOSOC Bureau could consider establishing a rotating presence in the sessions of the subsidiary bodies. This could be materialized by delivering a statement at the opening or any other relevant occasion and/or requesting a briefing by the Bureaux at the end of the sessions on the key issues and recommendations from their respective sessions. | * Meetings between Bureau of ECOSOC and Bureaux of functional commissions and expert bodies |
| 1. Identifying major issues to be addressed by ECOSOC’s Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies, while promoting synergies and coherence, identifying gaps, and preventing duplication of work, thus allowing the “ECOSOC system” to most effectively support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. | * The ECOSOC Bureau could consider inviting the Secretariat to provide suggestions on urgent issues requiring the attention of subsidiary bodies. Such guidance could be included in the preparations for the Coordination Segment. * See follow up to recommendation 16. | * Coordination Segment * Management Segment |
| 1. The Council is encouraged to fully use its Coordination Segment to provide direction and coordination to its Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies. The first edition of the new ECOSOC coordination segment in 2022 showed that this segment has great potential to provide guidance to those bodies, including on issues they should address and areas where they are encouraged to increase coordination and coherence. Preparations for the segment should be inclusive, and identify ways to best use the segment, within its mandates from General Assembly resolution 75/290A. They should also clarify the kind of guidance the segment is expected to provide. The Secretariat is invited to continue preparing the work of this segment through action-oriented analysis of the work of Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies. The President’s summary of the segment should be widely disseminated for consideration by these bodies. | * See follow up to recommendations 1 and 15e. * The ECOSOC Bureau could consider launching the preparations of the Coordination Segment during the meeting with the Bureaux of the functional commissions and expert bodies in late September/early October. * The ECOSOC Bureau, with the assistance of the ECOSOC Secretariat, could consider conducting early preparations of the Coordination Segment in order to assure successful meetings in early February, including by consulting/briefing member states on the draft programme. * The ECOSOC Secretariat could build on lessons learned and highlights of the first edition of the Coordination Segment in preparing the mandated Informal note by the Secretariat, coordinating and communicating the documentation, and organizing the meetings. | * Meetings between Bureau of ECOSOC and Bureaux of functional commissions and expert bodies * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Coordination Segment |
| 1. With the support of the Secretariat, ECOSOC is encouraged to consider how it could look at the draft agendas of the Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies in a holistic and integrated manner, rather than sequentially. This will also require informal discussions between the ECOSOC Bureau and bureaux of these bodies ahead of their sessions so as to shape the agendas in a consultative fashion, while respecting each body’s expertise. The reason for this recommendation is that the approval by ECOSOC of the agenda of the future session of its Functional Commissions and relevant Expert Bodies is the opportunity for the Council to identify major issues that should be addressed by them while promoting synergies and coherence. | * The Bureau could discuss possible themes for the 2024 sessions of subsidiary bodies at its meeting with the Chairs of functional commissions and expert bodies, based on a note by secretariats, so as to ensure that critical issues related to the follow-up to the 2030 Agenda are addressed, bearing in mind these bodies’ respective programmes of work. | * Meetings between Bureau of ECOSOC and Bureaux of functional commissions and expert bodies * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Coordination Segment * Management Segment |
| 1. ECOSOC may consider ways, including through the adoption of a resolution, to provide substantive guidance to its Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies following the meeting of the HLPF under the auspices of the General Assembly (the “SDG Summit”) in 2027 to consider new priorities and address gaps identified by the Political Declaration that would be adopted at that Summit to promote a coordinated follow-up to and implementation of the 2030 Agenda in its entirety. | * See follow up to recommendation 15d. * The ECOSOC President could consider submitting a resolution at the subsequent Coordination Segment with specific guidance on the follow up of the SDG Summit, after consultations with the ECOSOC Bureau and the Bureaux of the functional commissions and expert bodies. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Coordination Segment * Management Segment * HLPF/HLS * SDG Summit |
| V. How ECOSOC can best use the outcomes of subsidiary bodies | | |
| 1. Incorporate the outcome of the work of its Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies in its own work in a more effective way, in order to benefit fully from their expertise. The ECOSOC President could consider inviting more systematically the Chairs of these bodies to participate in round table discussions during the ECOSOC session, as done in 2022, bearing in mind the need for bureaux to reflect the views of the whole membership. The HLPF could likewise draw more systematically from the inputs of ECOSOC Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies for conducting its thematic reviews, including by building on innovative policy guidance, ideas and trends emanating from their work. | * See follow up to recommendations 15c (bullet 1), 15d (bullet 2), 33 (bullet 2). * The Secretariat should undertake communication efforts to draw delegations’ attention to the synthesis of inputs of intergovernmental bodies to the HLPF thematic reviews. | * HLPF/HLS * Meetings of ECOSOC and the HLPF where functional commissions and expert bodies could contribute to a discussion on integrated approaches bringing the perspective of their respective areas of expertise (see recommendation 28) |
| 1. Dedicate enough time to examine the content of the outcomes of the discussions in its Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies, while avoiding the repetition of those discussions. Proactive engagement of Member States in the meetings of the Management Segment is critical in this regard. The Secretariat is invited to provide timely information to allow Member States to prepare substantive inputs to the Management Segment. | * The ECOSOC Bureau could sensitize Member States of the importance of engaging in the meetings of the Management Segment, including briefing member states ahead of time on the key outcomes expected. * See follow up to recommendations 15d (bullet 2), 31, 34. | * Meetings between Bureau of ECOSOC and Bureaux of functional commissions and expert bodies * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Coordination Segment * Management Segment |
| 1. Consider dedicating part of its operational activities segment to examining critical outcomes of the Functional Commissions and relevant Expert Bodies that require follow-up at country level. Chairs of these bodies can also be encouraged to participate in the governing bodies of UN system entities, where appropriate. Implementation of these bodies’ outcomes could be monitored closely both in qualitative and quantitative terms. Efforts should also be made to disseminate their work to a wider audience. | * The ECOSOC Bureau could identify key subsidiary bodies’ mandates requiring follow-up at the Operational Activities Segment. * See follow up to recommendation 28. * The President could write to the Chair of governing bodies of the UN system to encourage the invitation to the relevant bodies. | * Operational Activities for Development Segment * Executive Boards of UN funds, programmes and specialized agencies. * Letter of the President of ECOSOC to be sent by October 2022 |
| 1. As mandated by the General Assembly in resolution 75/290A, Member States are encouraged to fully engage in the management segments of the Council to integrate the key messages from the Functional Commissions and Experts Bodies and the United Nations system on the main theme of ECOSOC and the HLPF and develop action-oriented recommendations for follow-up and for feeding into the high-level political forum on sustainable development (GA resolution 75/290 A para 28). | * See follow up to recommendations 15d (bullet 2), 17, 28, 29, 34. | * Meetings between Bureau of ECOSOC and Bureaux of functional commissions and expert bodies * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Management Segment |
| **Recommendations for consideration / follow up by the Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies:** | | |
| II. Aligning with the 2030 Agenda | | |
| 1. Continue aligning their work with the 2030 Agenda, taking into account its economic, social and environmental dimensions, while delivering on their respective mandates and functions. | * The Secretariats of functional commissions and expert bodies could explore with their respective Bureaux additional ways to align their work with the 2030 Agenda, taking into account its economic, social and environmental dimensions, while delivering on their respective mandates and functions and incorporate the Bureaux’s guidance into the preparatory work for their sessions. * The Secretariats of functional commissions and expert bodies could review the inputs to the [SDG mapping](https://www.un.org/ecosoc/sites/www.un.org.ecosoc/files/files/en/2022doc/220131_SDG_mapping_Compiled.pdf) and update them with relevant work of their respective body in support of the implementation of the SDGs, as necessary. * The Secretariats could also explore with their respective Bureaux additional ways to communicate their work in support of the SDGs and coordinate these efforts with the ECOSOC Secretariat in order to channel them throughout ECOSOC work as well. OISC could further the dissemination of such work through the ECOSOC media channels as well as continue to promote the work of the subsidiary bodies with the Council and the HLPF, and the GA as applicable. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Meetings between Bureau of ECOSOC and Bureaux of functional commissions and expert bodies * Coordination Segment * Management Segment |
| 1. Place the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, at the heart of their work. | * The Secretariats of functional commissions and expert bodies could explore with their Bureaux additional ways to address SDG1 in the work of their respective bodies and incorporate the Bureaux’s guidance into the preparatory work for their forthcoming sessions. * See follow up to recommendations 2, 7, 19. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Coordination Segment * Management Segment * Meetings of ECOSOC and the HLPF where SDG1 is discussed to which functional commissions and expert bodies could contribute from the perspective of their respective areas of expertise (see recommendation 28) |
| 1. Be guided by the key principle of the 2030 Agenda, Leaving No One Behind, and the commitment to reach the furthest behind first. | * The Secretariats of functional commissions and expert bodies could explore with their Bureaux additional ways to mainstream/address LNOB in the work of their respective bodies and incorporate the Bureaux’s guidance into the preparatory work for their forthcoming sessions. * See follow up to recommendations 2, 7, 19. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Coordination Segment * Management Segment * Meetings of ECOSOC and the HLPF where LNOB is discussed to which functional commissions and expert bodies could contribute from the perspective of their respective areas of expertise (see recommendation 28) |
| 1. Mainstream gender equality and the empowerment of women in their work, and dedicate special attention to targets on gender equality contained in SDG 5 and other SDGs that fall within their purview. | * The Secretariats of functional commissions and expert bodies could explore with their Bureaux additional ways to mainstream gender equality and the empower of women into their work and incorporate the Bureaux’s guidance into the preparatory work for their forthcoming sessions. * See follow up to recommendations 2, 7, 19. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Coordination Segment * Management Segment * Meetings of ECOSOC and the HLPF where SDG5 is discussed to which functional commissions and expert bodies could contribute from the perspective of their respective areas of expertise (see recommendation 28) |
| 1. Reflect on the interlinkages of SDG 13 on climate change with the SDGs and issues within their purview and how their policy recommendations can contribute to climate action, where relevant. | * The Secretariats of functional commissions and expert bodies could suggest to their respective Bureaux that their body conducts a reflection on the interlinkages between their work and SDG13, where relevant, and incorporate the Bureaux’s guidance into the preparatory work for their forthcoming sessions, while also exploring how to best communicate such initiatives. * See follow up to recommendations 2, 7, 19. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Coordination Segment * Management Segment * Meetings of ECOSOC and the HLPF where SDG13 is discussed to which functional commissions and expert bodies could contribute from the perspective of their respective areas of expertise (see recommendation 28) |
| 1. Give adequate attention to the interlinkages between the SDGs within their purview and the other SDGs, including SDGs that are not part of their traditional focus. | * The Secretariats of functional commissions and expert bodies could reflect in their SG reports the interrelations between the theme under review and various SDGs with a view to achieve integrated, more effective and transformative policymaking to accelerate the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. * See follow up to recommendation 19. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Coordination Segment * Management Segment * Meetings of ECOSOC and the HLPF on accelerated action for the implementation of the SDGs where functional commissions and expert bodies could contribute to a discussion on integrated approaches bringing the perspective of their respective areas of expertise (see recommendation 28) |
| 1. Continue to consider financing and other Means of Implementation in their respective areas of work, building on SDG 17. | * See follow up to recommendations 2, 7, 19. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Coordination Segment * Management Segment * Meetings of ECOSOC and the HLPF on accelerated action for the implementation of the SDGs focusing on means of implementation where functional commissions and expert bodies could contribute from the perspective of their respective areas of expertise (see recommendation 28) |
| 1. Consider whether and how to address aspects related to SDG 6 on water and sanitation in their work, if relevant, given the links of this SDG with the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. | * The Secretariats of functional commissions and expert bodies could explore with their Bureaux additional ways to address SDG6 in the work of their respective bodies, if relevant, and incorporate the Bureaux’s guidance into the preparatory work for their forthcoming sessions. * See follow up to recommendations 2, 7, 19. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Coordination Segment * Management Segment * Meetings of ECOSOC and the HLPF on accelerated action for the implementation of the SDGs where functional commissions and expert bodies could contribute to a discussion on SDG6 bringing the perspective of their respective areas of expertise (see recommendation 28) |
| 1. Consider the impact of long-term trends, such as demographic trends, on progress towards the SDGs within their purview. | * The Secretariats of functional commissions and expert bodies could suggest to their respective Bureaux that their body conducts a reflection on the impact of long-term trends, such as demographic trends, on their work, and incorporate the Bureaux’s guidance into the preparatory work for their forthcoming sessions. * The ECOSOC Bureau could consider how to best incorporate the result of the reflections of the impact of the long-term trends on the subsidiary bodies’ work into the final day of ECOSOC High-level Segment. * See follow up to recommendations 2, 7, 19.) | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Coordination Segment * ECOSOC High-level Segment (see recommendation 28) |
| 1. Provide expertise and policy recommendations to allow ECOSOC to address the global challenges on its agenda such as the COVID-19 recovery, climate change and poverty eradication. | * See follow up to recommendations 1, 15e, 16, 17, 20, 23. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Coordination Segment * Management Segment |
| 1. The Commission for Social Development could regularly consider progress in achieving SDG 10 on reducing inequality and related policies, as also recommended by the General Assembly.[[4]](#footnote-5) | * The Secretariat of CSocD could consider exploring with its Bureau the best way to incorporate regular consideration of review of progress in achieving SDG10 in the annual work of the Commission and incorporate the Bureaux’s guidance into the preparatory work for their forthcoming sessions. * See follow up to recommendations 7, 19. | * CSocD session and preparatory work * Coordination Segment * Management Segment |
| III. Coordination issues among Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies, areas for synergies, possible duplication and gaps | | |
| 1. Strengthen their coordination and cooperation where appropriate. | * Cooperation possibilities could be explored between subsidiary bodies, as well as between them and UN agencies, in order to address the multidimensionality of issues and the interlinkages between SDGs as well as between the Goals and other areas under their purview. * Cooperation initiative could also serve as a way to emphasize progress, gaps and best practices in the context of SDG17. * See follow up to recommendations 2 and 7. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Meetings between Bureau of ECOSOC and Bureaux of functional commissions and expert bodies * Meetings between focal points * Coordination Segment |
| 1. Consider addressing specific, focused and well delineated themes, rather than broad general themes, as this may lead to more practical guidance and maximize the impact of their work. | * The Secretariats of functional commissions and expert bodies could consider with their Bureaux proposing to their respective bodies the adoption of specific, focused and well delineated themes and incorporate the Bureaux’s guidance into the preparatory work for their forthcoming sessions. * See follow up to recommendation 26. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Management Segment |
| 1. Work particularly closely together if they are addressing similar issues. ECOSOC could clarify their respective roles if needed. [[For example, the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) may be considered as the subsidiary body maximizing Member States engagement in developing policy guidance, within its mandates, while ECOSOC STI Forum is the platform to engage all stakeholders in debating, reflecting, stocktaking and providing policy directions in preparation for the work of the HLPF on this topic. Opportunities for joint work between the UN Secretary General’s Technology Envoy and CSTD may be explored]]. | * See follow up to recommendations 19, 15, 16, 17. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Meetings between Bureau of ECOSOC and Bureaux of functional commissions and expert bodies * Meetings between focal points * Coordination Segment |
| 1. Maintain the network of focal points established for the current process of review, with a view to promoting continuing exchanges and coordination with ECOSOC and among them. | * The ECOSOC Bureau could consider updating the network of focal points for the Bureaux of functional commissions and expert bodies at a meeting held with the Bureaux in September. * See follow up to recommendation 15d. | * Meetings between Bureau of ECOSOC and Bureaux of functional commissions and expert bodies * Coordination Segment |
| IV. Working methods | | |
| 1. Further deepen their focus on interlinkages between the SDGs and sectors under their purview and other SDGs and make recommendations that build on synergies and address trade-offs. This can maximize the impacts of ECOSOC’s work in bringing about transformative integrated policies to advance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. | * See follow up to recommendations 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Coordination Segment * Management Segment |
| 1. Enhance coordination and exchanges among themselves while bringing to the table their own expertise, to support the elaboration of integrated policy approaches. | * See follow up to recommendations 19, 21, 23. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Meetings between Bureau of ECOSOC and Bureaux of functional commissions and expert bodies * Meetings between focal points * Coordination Segment |
| 1. Consider ways to further deepen and broaden stakeholder participation within their rules of procedures and specific composition (noting that some of them are intergovernmental bodies), mandates and long-standing practices. Proposals to increase youth engagement in UN intergovernmental bodies will be considered as part of the follow-up to the Secretary-General’s report on Our Common Agenda. Several bodies already do so and the others could be encouraged to do so, where possible. | * The Secretariats of functional commissions and expert bodies could consider with their Bureaux ways to further deepen and broaden stakeholder participation within their rules of procedures and working methods and incorporate the Bureaux’s guidance into the preparatory work for their forthcoming sessions. * A survey of existing practices could be undertaken. * See follow up to recommendations 2 and 19. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Coordination Segment |
| 1. Dedicate an agenda item to the theme of ECOSOC and the HLPF and to the interrelations with their own priority theme, where applicable, and the follow-up to the 2030 Agenda. | * The Secretariats of functional commissions and expert bodies could consider proposing to their Bureaux including in their programme of work, if not already adopted, an item dedicated to contributions to the work of the Council and the HLPF and incorporate the Bureaux’s guidance into the preparatory work for their forthcoming sessions. * Bureaux of functional commission and expert bodies could consider proposing to their respective subsidiary bodies exploring through this agenda item the interlinkages of the subject area of their adopted theme and the main theme of the Council. * See follow up to recommendation 20. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Management Segment |
| 1. Continue to adopt consensus-based approaches. | * Bureaux of functional commission and expert bodies, supported by their respective Secretariats, could consider ways to further promote consensus-based approaches in the work of their respective bodies and incorporate these ways into the preparatory work for their forthcoming sessions. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Management Segment |
| V. How ECOSOC can best use the outcomes of subsidiary bodies | | |
| 1. Provide shorter and more accessible and actionable recommendations for the consideration of ECOSOC. | * Bureaux of functional commission and expert bodies, supported by their facilitators and respective Secretariats, could consider proposing to their respective bodies shorter, more accessible actionable recommendations at the time of submitting draft proposals in their forthcoming sessions. * See follow up to recommendation 15a. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Coordination Segment * Management Segment |
| 1. More systematically invite countries conducting Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) at the HLPF to participate in their session and engage in a dialogue on the implementation of the SDGs most closely related to their work. This would help to maximize peer learning on policy experiences emanating from the VNRs. | * The Bureaux of functional commissions and expert bodies could explore further opportunities to include VNR countries into their discussions and incorporate them into the preparatory work for their forthcoming sessions. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work * Coordination Segment * HLPF/HLS |
| **Recommendations for the Secretariat:** | | |
| II. Aligning with the 2030 Agenda | | |
| 1. The Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies could be provided with further information on the SDGs that are furthest off track so that they can prioritize them in their deliberations according to their respective mandates. This should not be achieved at the expense of the technical work of these bodies. | * The ECOSOC Secretariat could provide to the Secretariats of the functional commissions and expert bodies an overview of progress of implementation of the SDGs based on the latest SG report on Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals and in cooperation with the Statistics Division, for their transmittal to their respective Bureaux. * The Secretariats of functional commissions and expert bodies could explore with their respective Bureaux how to best incorporate the information, including to seek cooperation opportunities with other subsidiary bodies and/or UN agencies, into the preparatory work for their forthcoming sessions. | * Meeting of Secretariats * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions and preparatory work |
| 1. The webpage on subsidiary bodies on the ECOSOC website could be further enhanced as a central searchable webpage or repository consolidating all events, rules of procedures, reports and outputs/publications of different subsidiary bodies. It could serve as a onestop shop for Member States to learn about issues under consideration in subsidiary bodies and could facilitate coordination and collaboration among relevant ECOSOC’s subsidiary bodies. | * DESA is exploring with DGC and OICT the revamping of the ECOSOC website. | Ongoing |
| **Recommendations for consideration of Member States:** | | |
| V. How ECOSOC can best use the outcomes of subsidiary bodies | | |
| 1. Engage meaningfully in meetings of the Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies. It is important that the policy and normative outcomes of the work of Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies are utilized more effectively by Member States in the development of national policies. It is also important to retain the technical nature of the work of each Functional Commission and Expert Body by ensuring the participation of relevant decision-makers and experts in the area within its mandate, while recognizing that it is up to each Member State to identify its representatives. | * The ECOSOC Bureau could sensitize Member States to the importance of:   + Engaging meaningfully in the work of the subsidiary bodies, at the expert level, as such engagement may provide important support to Member States’ implementation of the SDGs.   + Integrating the key messages from the Functional Commissions and Experts Bodies and the United Nations system on the main theme of ECOSOC and the HLPF and developing action-oriented recommendations for follow-up and for feeding into the high-level political forum on sustainable development.   + Utilizing more effectively the policy and normative outcomes of the work of Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies in the development of national policies. * Member States could channel their specific needs for support/ implementation gaps to the relevant subsidiary bodies. If they are members of those bodies, then these requests would be made by their respective delegates or experts. If they are not members, they could channel their requests through their respective regional groups or the Bureaux of the bodies. Such engagement would encourage a demand driven approach to the programming by the subsidiary bodies. * See follow up to recommendation 1. | * Subsidiary bodies’ sessions * Coordination Segment * Management Segment |

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# 2. Follow up of recommendations by cluster of issues as discussed during the review process

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1. The review process focused on the Functional Commissions and Expert Bodies of ECOSOC which provide policy and technical advice to the Council. It did not include the Regional Commissions nor the Standing Committees, Ad Hoc or other related bodies of the Council. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. A series of [infographics](https://www.un.org/en/content/ecosoc-coordination/assets/pdf/Infographics.pdf) presenting the latest work of the ECOSOC subsidiary bodies and the [joint video presentation](https://youtu.be/OZ1MsHy3T64) made by the Chairs at the [2022 Coordination Segment](https://www.un.org/en/content/ecosoc-coordination/#segment), the [mapping of their work in support of the SDGs](https://www.un.org/ecosoc/sites/www.un.org.ecosoc/files/files/en/2022doc/220131_SDG_mapping_Compiled.pdf) as well as in the [Informal note](https://www.un.org/ecosoc/sites/www.un.org.ecosoc/files/files/en/2022doc/cs_inf_note.pdf) by the Secretariat in support of the discussions at the Segment were also background information to assist Member States in the review process. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. ECOSOC Secretariat functions are undertaken by DGACM and DESA, each responsible for functions under their respective purview. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. The General Assembly, it its resolutions on the Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the 24th Special Session of the General Assembly, has called upon the Commission for Social Development to continue to address inequality in all its dimensions, in the context of the implementation of the Copenhagen Declaration and the Programme of Action, as well as the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The latest resolution on this matter is [A/RES/76/134](https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/76/134). [↑](#footnote-ref-5)