



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

10 November 2022

Excellency,

I am writing to invite the United Nations Forum on Forests that you chair to provide an input to the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) in July 2023. The HLPF will meet under the auspices of ECOSOC from 10 to 19 July 2023 at UN Headquarters in New York, with a Ministerial Segment from 17 to 19 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 2022 HLPF received a total of 71 inputs from functional commissions, other intergovernmental bodies and forums and UN system organizations. I would like to thank all those who informed the thematic review at the 2022 HLPF through their contribution. These inputs, together with the official synthesis provided by the Secretariat, can be found at the HLPF website: <https://hlpf.un.org/inputs>; https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/298332022_HLPF_synthesis_report.pdf

The General Assembly in resolution 75/290 B defined the theme of the 2023 HLPF under the auspices of ECOSOC to be “*Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels*”.

The HLPF in 2023 will also review in-depth Goals 6 on clean water and sanitation, 7 on affordable and clean energy, 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure, 11 on sustainable cities and communities, 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.

The HLPF in July 2023 will also help prepare for the September 2023 SDG Summit – the HLPF to be convened under the auspices of the General Assembly from 19 to 20 September 2023.

I therefore invite you to provide substantive inputs to the July 2023 HLPF on its review of the above five SDGs and its theme, bearing in mind the preparations for the SDG Summit. 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 and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and the SDGs.

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 6, 7, 9, 11 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) Three key areas where transformative actions for accelerated progress have been successful, and three key areas where support is most urgently needed, with regard to the cluster of SDGs under review in July 2023.
- (c) Examples of specific actions taken to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic that also accelerate progress towards multiple SDG targets, including actions identified by your intergovernmental body, building on interlinkages and transformative pathways for achieving SDGs.
- (d) Assessment of the situation in the mid-point of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, against the background of the COVID-19 pandemic and within the respective areas addressed by your intergovernmental body, and 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 Political Declaration of the September 2023 SDG Summit.

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 2023** to the HLPF Secretariat (e-mail: wang24@un.org, vaturi@un.org; copy perez7@un.org, panghulanv@un.org; cruz@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 2023 HLPF.

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



Lachezara Stoeva
President of ECOSOC

H.E. Zéphyrin Maniratanga
Permanent Representative of Burundi to the United Nations
Chair of the United Nations Forum on Forests at its 18th session