



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

15 March 2017

Excellency,

Further to my letter of 03 February 2017 on the re-appointment of the co-Chairs to the STI forum, I invite you to the second multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (STI Forum), which I have been mandated to convene in my capacity as President of the Economic and Social Council.

The STI Forum is scheduled to take place at UN Headquarters in New York on 15-16 May 2017. Building upon last year's event, I expect this year's STI Forum to also be informative and interactive, fully supporting the Technology Facilitation Mechanism and advancing STI for the SDGs.

In addition to several cross-cutting themes (please see draft programme and concept note attached), this year we also have dedicated sessions on SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 9 and 14 in order to promote coherence with the High Level Political Forum.

To this end, I would like to emphasize the great importance of engaging with leading policy makers, scientists, experts in technology, and innovators, who can enrich the discussions and highlight concrete ways in which science, technology and innovation can accelerate progress towards the SDGs.

I would therefore like to encourage the participation of Ministers from relevant fields, chief scientists, chief technology advisers or heads of national research institutions of your Government, to strengthen the discussions and interactions at the STI Forum.

You can find more information with regard to the 2017 STI Forum at its website at <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/TFM/STIForum2017> (see attached information note for participation). In order to maintain the interactive nature of the Forum, I would request you kindly upload national statements, if any, at the website so that there is no need to have them read out in the sessions.

Please contact Mr. Wei Liu at the Division for Sustainable Development in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at liuw@un.org in case you need any further details.

I am looking forward to your support and the active participation of your Government in this Forum.

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

Frederick Musiiwa Makamure Shava
President of ECOSOC

All Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers
to the United Nations
New York