Economic and Social Council
2020 Partnership Forum

Friday, 3 April 2020
Trusteeship Chamber, UNHQ

“Partnerships furthering the Decade of Action”

Draft Programme

The annual ECOSOC Partnership Forum provides a unique intergovernmental space for candid and inclusive discussions on the role and contribution of partnerships to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). As one of the key means of implementation (Mols) included in SDG 17, partnerships are essential for achieving the entire 2030 Agenda, as well as enhancing the other Mols discussed in SDG 17, including finance, technology and data.

With only ten years left to achieve the SDGs, the 2020 ECOSOC Partnership Forum will provide a value-added policy space for Member States and other key stakeholders to focus on key cross-cutting and interlinked issues that are central to the achievement of 2030 Agenda, and how multi-stakeholder partnerships could galvanize synergistic actions around them.

Opening Session

10:00–10:30 am Welcoming Remarks
  - H. E. Ms. Mona Juul, President, ECOSOC
  - Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations (TBC)
  - Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations

Keynote Speaker
  - Ms. Agnes Kalibata, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for 2021 Food Systems Summit (TBC)
  - Ms. Hellen Akinyi Onyango, Crop Aggregator, Farm to Market Alliance

Session I: Transformative Partnerships in and between (i) Agriculture, Food and Nutrition; and (ii) Health and Well-being Sectors

10:30 – 11:00 am Dialogue
  - Government of Ghana (TBD)
  - IDH Farmfit Fund, IDH the Sustainable Trade Initiative (TBD)
  - Mr. Scott Ratzan, Executive Director, Business Partnership for Sustainable Development (BPSD) of United States Council for International Business (USCIB)

Moderator: Ms. Izabella Teixeira, co-chair of UNEP International Resources Panel

Discussant: Government of Brunei

11:00 – 11:30 am Q & A
Focus Questions:

- What are the interlinked areas between food production, food consumption, health and well-being where the biggest partnership gaps exist and where more structured and tailored partnerships could bring rapid, synergistic transformations? For instance, how can more sustainable value chains be created across these sectors to enhance the capacities of micro, small, and medium-size enterprises (MSMEs) and ensure the accountability measures for all actors, with a view to reducing waste, encouraging sustainable use of natural resources, and improving equitable access to food and health services?

- What are the roles of governments, civil society, the private sector, farmers, indigenous peoples, and other stakeholders to address any systemic gaps? How can they engage and collaborate better?

- What are some of the concrete examples that demonstrate ways to maximize the shared benefits of partnership efforts in interconnected challenges?

Session II: Transformative Partnerships in and between (iii) Urban Development; and (iv) Energy Sectors

11:30 am–12:00 pm Dialogue

- Ms. Babita Bisht, Deputy Director of External Affairs, Green Climate Fund
- Ms. Richenda Van Leeuwen, Managing Director for Empowering Clean Economies, Rocky Mountain Institute
- Mr. Martin Powell, Chief Sustainability Officer for Siemens USA

Moderator: Ms. Izabella Teixeira, co-chair of UNEP International Resources Panel

Discussants:

- Government of Greece (TBC)
- Mr. Ibrahim Hafeezur Rehman (TBC)

12:00 – 12:30 pm Q & A

Focus Questions:

- What are the interlinked areas between urban development; and energy and materials use, where more structured and tailored partnerships could bring rapid, synergistic transformations? For instance, how can multi-stakeholder partners develop long-term circular economy solutions for healthy cities and communities; ensure policy coherence and climate resilience; and enhance sustained access to urban public goods for all, including affordable renewable energy and sustainable urban food system – based on the principles of strong country ownership and government leadership?

- What biggest partnership gaps exist and what are the roles of governments, civil society, private sector and other stakeholders to address such gaps? How can they engage and collaborate better?

- What are some of the concrete examples that demonstrate ways to maximize the shared benefits of partnership efforts in interconnected challenges?

Closing Session

12:30 – 1:00 pm Closing Remarks

- H. E. Ms. Mona Juul, President, ECOSOC
- Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General, United Nations (TBC)
- Mr. Liu Zhenmin, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations