



Permanent Mission of Finland  
to the United Nations



Permanent Mission of Iraq  
to the United Nations

5 March 2021

Excellency,

Following up on our letter of 19 February and the timeline we shared, we are writing to inform you that we have held, or are scheduled to hold, meetings with the five regional groups to listen to their views on the process and content of the Ministerial Declaration of the high-level segment of the 2021 session of the Economic and Social Council and the high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council.

In line with the announced timeline, we are now writing to invite you to send us your suggestions for the outline of the Ministerial Declaration. Following views expressed in the consultations with the regional groups the deadline for this submission is extended to 15 March 2021. We are expecting briefly annotated inputs on the outline (structure), of the declaration and not drafting of the text. In preparing your inputs we would like to emphasize the need for an action oriented and concise document, that will send a clear message on the areas that most urgently need our attention in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda with a clear focus on both the theme for this year's HLPF and the nine SDGs to be reviewed in depth.

The request for written inputs on the substance of the draft declaration itself will be sent later in April as indicated in the roadmap attached to our above-mentioned letter. Having a clear structure agreed before will allow us to focus the drafting and negotiation process better.

Upon receiving your written inputs on the outline, we will prepare a draft outline based on the views shared, that will be circulated on 22 March 2021. We then intend to convene a virtual meeting on 7 April with the view of hearing comments from delegations.

Please kindly send your inputs to [sofie.sandstrom@formin.fi](mailto:sofie.sandstrom@formin.fi) and [h.luai@iraqmission-un.com](mailto:h.luai@iraqmission-un.com) with copy to [theunissen@un.org](mailto:theunissen@un.org) and [lehtinen@un.org](mailto:lehtinen@un.org).

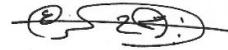
All Permanent Representatives and  
Permanent Observers to the United Nations  
New York

We rely on your support and cooperation in working together in a transparent and open manner to achieve an ambitious outcome of the 2021 ECOSOC session and the 2021 HLPF, with a focus on recovering better in the Decade of Action and Delivery.

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



Jukka Salovaara, Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of Finland  
to the United Nations



Mohammed Hussein Bahr Aluloom, Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of Iraq  
to the United Nations