Welcome to 2020 HLPF Special Event

“SDG Acceleration Actions to Build Back Better”

The meeting will begin shortly.
"BBC is committed to 50:50 gender balance on-screen, on-air and in lead roles across all genres."

For more information, visit: sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgactions

#SDGactions
"University students in Haiti are founding community pharmacies to reach 60% of Haitians by 2021."

For more information, visit: sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sgactions

#SDGactions
“The Governments of Liechtenstein, the Netherlands and Australia are working towards reducing modern slavery through public-private partnership.”

#FinanceAgainstSlavery
#2030Agenda
#SDGactions

For more information, visit: sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgactions
2020 HLPF Special Event

“SDG Acceleration Actions to Build Back Better”

Tuesday, 14 July 2020
8:00 – 8:50 a.m. EDT

Opening Remarks

• She served as Ambassador to Israel (2001-2005), accredited to Cyprus for the same period. State Secretary/Deputy Foreign Minister at the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2000), Special Advisor/Ambassador/Middle East Coordinator in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (1997-2000) chairing the AHLC (Ad Hoc Liaison Committee on Assistance to the Palestinians). She was Minister Counsellor at the Norwegian Embassy in Tel Aviv (1994-1997). Her first posting was at the Norwegian Embassy in Cairo (1988-1990).

• Mona has been with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs since 1986, during which time she has gained broad diplomatic experience.
Mr. Liu Zhenmin has been the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs since 2017.

Prior to his appointment, Mr. Liu was Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of China since 2013.

Among his various diplomatic assignments, he served as Ambassador and Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of the People’s Republic of China to the United Nations Office at Geneva and Other International Organizations in Switzerland (2011-2013).

Mr. Liu has more than 30 years of experience in the diplomatic service, with a strong focus on the promotion of bilateral, regional and global issues.

He was deeply involved for 10 years in climate change negotiations including the conclusion of the Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement. He also widely participated in the international activities on the protection of our planet including Antarctica and the oceans.
Ms. Vera Songwe brings to ECA and the position of Executive Secretary, a long-standing track record of providing policy advice on development and a wealth of experience in delivering development results for Africa, as well as a demonstrated strong and clear strategic vision for the continent.

Prior to joining the ECA, she was Regional Director of the International Finance Corporation, covering West and Central Africa. In addition, she continues to serve as a non-resident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution’s Africa Growth Initiative. She is also a member of the African Union institutional reform team under the direction of the President of Rwanda, Paul Kagame, and a board member of the African Leadership Network and the Mo Ibrahim Foundation.

Previously, she was Country Director for the World Bank, covering Cape Verde, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania and Senegal. She was also Adviser to the Managing Director of the World Bank for Africa, Europe and Central and South Asia and a lead Country Sector Coordinator for the organization. She had earlier served as the World Bank’s Senior Economist in the Philippines.
Examples of SDG Acceleration Actions
Baroness Sugg CBE was appointed as Parliamentary Under Secretary of State in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Department for International Development on 13 February 2020. On 5 March 2020 the Prime Minister also appointed her as the Special Envoy for Girls’ Education.

She was previously Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Department for International Development from 23 April 2019 to 13 February 2020, Government Whip (Baroness in Waiting) from 15 June 2017 to 26 July 2019 and Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Transport from October 2017 to April 2019.

She became a Conservative life peer on 30 August 2016.

She previously served as Director of Operations and Campaigns at Downing Street under David Cameron.

She was appointed a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE) in the 2015 Dissolution Honours.
Mr. Amitabh Kant is presently CEO of National Institution for Transforming India (NITI). He is a member of the Indian Administrative Service, IAS.

He is the author of Branding India - An Incredible Story. Mr. Kant has been a key driver of the “Make in India”, Startup India, “Incredible India” and God’s Own Country initiatives that positioned India and Kerala State as leading manufacturing and tourism destinations.

Mr. Amitabh Kant was also the National Project Director of the Rural Tourism Project of UNDP which made a paradigm shift in spreading tourism to Indian villages which had core-competency in handicrafts, handloom and culture.

Mr. Kant has been the recipient of Economic Time Policy Change Agent of the Year Award, the Bloomberg TV Personality of the year Award, the NDTV Administrator of the year Award and the Distinguished Fellowship of the Institute of Directors. He is the recipient of One Globe Award-2016 for leadership in Transforming Governance for the 21st Century.
Ms. Gemma Santana
Director-General for the 2030 Agenda, Mexico’s Office of the Presidency

• Ms. Santana has an academic background in International Business (University of Guadalajara), holds a Master Degree in Social Responsibility (Anáhuac University) and is certified on Sustainable Development by the Program LEAD MEXICO at COLMEX.

• Ms. Santana has been a promoter of Social Entrepreneurship for more than 15 years. She has created social companies in Jalisco for people with disabilities and women heads of families. Moreover, is author of the book "Social Entrepreneurship" Business for Peace, LIMUSA 2017.

• Her professional experience also involves Social Entrepreneur with Transfo: organization dedicated to transforming philanthropy projects into social businesses; and with Ecotienda: store of natural and organic products.

• She has lived in indigenous communities for sustainable development projects, in the construction of housing and productive projects.

• Ms. Santana was Deputy General Director at INADEM, Program Director of ENACTUS Mexico and Latin America.
• Mike Froman serves as vice chairman and president, Strategic Growth for Mastercard. In that role he is responsible for growing strategic partnerships, scaling new business opportunities, and advancing the company’s efforts to partner with governments and other institutions to address major societal and economic issues.

• Mike oversees the Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth and is a member of the company’s management committee. Prior to joining Mastercard, Mike was affiliated with the Council on Foreign Relations and continues to serve as a distinguished fellow. From 2013 to 2017, Mike served as the U.S. Trade Representative, President Barack Obama’s principal advisor and negotiator on international trade and investment issues. During his tenure, Mike worked to open foreign markets for U.S. goods and services, reach landmark trade agreements and enforce the rights of American workers, farmers and firms.

• From 2009-2013, he served at the White House as assistant to the President and deputy national security advisor for international economic affairs.
Ms. Thembisile Nkadimeng
Mayor of Polokwane, President of South African Local Government Association (SALGA) and Co-President of United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG)

- Ms. Thembisile held various managerial roles in both government and the private sector, amongst them being the Assistant Director: Department of Safety, Security & Liaison between 1997 and 1999 and Deputy Director: Communications Services, Dept. of Public Works between 1999 and 2002.

- With her good demeanor for accepting new challenges she moved upwards to occupy Directorship for Corporate Communication & Marketing in the Office of the Premier in 2002 until 2006 when she became Chief Director: Human Resources and Corporate Services at the Department of Agriculture. A position she occupied until 2009 when she moved to the private sector to join Anglo American Platinum as Corporate Affairs Manager until 2013.

- She dedicated her life to advance social cohesion by leading the organization in various committees where she held various leadership positions ranging from being the BEC member: Deputy Branch Secretary, Flora Park, ANCWL Deputy Chairperson, Member of the Communication PEC Committee between 2008 and 2013 and the Deputy Coordinator: Peter Mokaba Regional Task Team since 2013 to date.
More than ever, people and countries everywhere rely on the United Nations to rise to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic – a human crisis. The Secretary-General has emphasized that the creativity of the response must match the unique nature of the crisis – and the magnitude of the response must match its scale.

Moving ahead on the Decade of Action for SDG implementation, the recovery from the COVID-19 is an opportunity for governments and stakeholders alike to Build Back Better their societies. The SDG Acceleration Actions online database is a tool to help inspire and mobilize actions around the world to promote the implementation of the SDGs, as well as build resilience and bring inclusive recovery in the context of new realities post COVID-19, so that the global economy, planet and people we serve could emerge stronger together from the crisis. [Read more about the SDG Acceleration actions]
TO ACHIEVE THE SDGs BY 2030, WE NEED:

AMBITION

COMMITMENT

ACTION

REGISTER AT: is.gd/SDGActions sustainabledevelopment.un.org
THANK YOU.