

Critical milestones towards a coherent, efficient, and inclusive follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda at the global level

COVER NOTE:

1. In September 2015, the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit adopted a new framework to guide development efforts between 2015 and 2030, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development”.
2. The 2030 Agenda contains 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets¹. The SDGs address, in an integrated manner, the social, economic and environmental dimensions of development, their interrelations, aspects related to peaceful societies and effective institutions, as well as means of implementation (finance, technology, capacity development etc.).
3. Heads of State and Government also committed to engage in systematic follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The follow-up and review will be based on regular, voluntary and inclusive country-led reviews of progress at the national level feeding into reviews at the regional and global levels.
4. At the global level, the United Nations high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF) will have the central role in overseeing a network of follow-up and review processes. It is to work coherently with the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and other relevant organs and forums, in accordance with existing mandates, building on their work in order to boost implementation.
5. The HLPF will meet (i) every four years at the level of Heads of State and Government under the auspices of the and (ii) every year under the auspices of ECOSOC.
6. The follow-up and review processes at all levels will track progress in implementing the universal goals and targets, including the means of implementation, in all countries, in a manner which respects their universal, integrated and interrelated nature and the three dimensions of sustainable development. These processes will be guided by a number of other principles

¹ [http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/69/L.85&Lang=E]

defined in the 2030 Agenda². For example, they will be voluntary and country-led, support the identification of solutions and best practices, help to mobilize the necessary means of implementation and partnerships, as well as be open, inclusive, participatory and transparent for all people.

7. The dedicated follow-up and review for the Addis Ababa Conference on Financing for Development-and the means of implementation of the SDGs is integrated with the follow-up and review framework of the 2030 Agenda. The HLPF will build, inter alia, on the outcome of the annual ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development as well as on the summary of the annual Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation launched by the 2030 Agenda as part of a Technology Facilitation Mechanism. The HLPF will also take into account the biennial ECOSOC Development Cooperation Forum. A General Assembly Dialogue on Financing for Development will be held back-to-back with the HLPF meeting, when it meets under the auspices of the General Assembly.
8. The 2030 Agenda stipulates that the HLPF will conduct:
 - i. Regular reviews of country-level implementation, “including developed and developing countries as well as relevant UN entities and other stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector”;
 - i. Thematic reviews of progress on the Sustainable Development Goals, including cross-cutting issues, building on the work of the functional commissions of ECOSOC and other intergovernmental bodies and forums.
9. The follow-up and review by the HLPF will be informed by an annual SDG progress report and a Global Sustainable Development Report, which shall strengthen the science-policy interface and serve as an evidence-based instrument to support policymakers³.

Mandate for the report by the Secretary-General on global follow-up and review

10. The 2030 Agenda requested “the Secretary-General, in consultation with Member States, to prepare a report, for consideration at the seventieth session of the General Assembly in preparation for the 2016 meeting of the HLPF which outlines critical milestones towards coherent, efficient and inclusive follow-up and review at the global level. The report should:
 11. include a proposal on the organizational arrangements for State-led

² Agenda 2030 para 74

³ 2030 Agenda, extracts of para 83

- reviews at the HLPF under the auspices of ECOSOC, including recommendations on voluntary common reporting guidelines,
- (i) clarify institutional responsibilities,
 - (ii) provide guidance on annual themes, on a sequence of thematic reviews, and
 - (iv) [provide guidance] on options for periodic reviews for the HLPF⁴.”
12. The present questionnaire aims to collect views of Member States on milestones towards coherent, efficient and inclusive follow-up and review of 2030 Agenda at the global level, so as to inform the analysis and proposals to be contained in the report of the Secretary-General.
13. It takes existing mandates as a starting point and aims to determine how these can be operationalized or further clarified or elaborated on if needed.
14. The Secretariat kindly invites all Member States to provide responses to the following questions and submit them to the Division for Sustainable Development of the UN Department for Economic and Social Affairs (axster@un.org, copied to zubcevic@un.org and powellj1@un.org) **no later than 15 November 2015**.

⁴2030 Agenda states that this report should “include a proposal on the organizational arrangements for state-led reviews at the high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF) under the auspices of ECOSOC, including recommendations on voluntary common reporting guidelines. It should clarify institutional responsibilities and provide guidance on annual themes, on a sequence of thematic reviews, and on options for periodic reviews for the HLPF” (Paragraph 90, Transforming our world” the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development)

Questionnaire:

For each item below, please feel free to provide an answer in any format that is convenient to you. If possible, please provide a brief explanation for your responses. You may consider using the elements in italics to frame your answers. Please feel free to leave blanks for questions you feel unprepared to answer.

General comments from Mexico

The answers for this questionnaire should be understood in the context of the systemic nature of Agenda 2030's follow-up and review framework. It's a three-tier framework; the national, regional and global level. It includes a constellation of entities and subsidiary bodies (functional commissions and other intergovernmental bodies, forums and segments) at the global level, most of them coordinated by the Economic and Social Council.

The institutional arrangements and mandates of the global framework at the global level have its foundation in two relevant resolutions that have yet to be fully implemented for the proper function of the framework: 68/1 and 67/290. Therefore, any further analysis and recommendations on further details on the organization of the global framework in particular de HLPF, as mandated in paragraph 90 of the Agenda 2030 Summit outcome document, should be based on the provisions of the above mentioned resolutions.

The systemic follow-up requires understanding the interlinkages between those relevant resolutions in order to answer the questions on the mandates and roles of the GA, ECOSOC and the HLPF under their auspices.

As put by the former ECOSOC bureau in their letter address to the cofacilitators of the post-2015 development agenda process last june:

"The message of the membership was clear: the HLPF, under the auspices of the GA and ECOSOC, and a reformed Council should serve the post Rio-process, later to become the post-2015 development agenda.

By placing the forum within the high level segment (HLS) of the Council, which would continue to discharge its functions, HLPF and ECOSOC were wisely intertwined so as to benefit and strengthen each other. The HLPF, tasked to provide the political leadership, guidance and recommendations for sustainable development, follow-up and review progress in the implementation of sustainable development commitments, and ECOSOC, as a principle body for coordination, policy review, policy dialogue and its key

role in the balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, are to be seen as. The membership placed the annual HLPF at the end of the ECOSOC cycle so as to benefit from the yearly work of the Council and its functional and regional commissions and expert bodies. The deliberations of the ECOSOC system thus culminate each year in the HLPF, and place the forum at the top of the sustainable development architecture.

What counts from our view now, is to let ECOSOC play this role of central coordinator with the HLPF as the apex of the cycle, so that the whole process of implementation and follow-up and review of the post-2015 development agenda can benefit from it. The aim of the establishment of the HLPF and the reform of the ECOSOC with its segments and subsidiary bodies was to create an architecture that would support the implementation and follow-up and review of the post-2015 development agenda.

I. Institutional responsibilities for follow-up and review:

1. How can the General Assembly, ECOSOC and the HLPF work coherently in follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda? What should be the role of the General Assembly in follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda? Do you see a need to adjust the working methods and agenda of the General Assembly, its plenary, second, third committees in particular and their relation to ECOSOC to respond to the 2030 Agenda and ensure coherence, complementarity and efficiency? If so, how?

It is important to identify and acknowledge the comparative advantages of the GA and ECOSOC as two of the charter bodies of the UN, and those of the HLPF as the space in which an integrated review of Agenda 2030 and the SDG will take place. As stated in resolution 67/290, they all should work in a coherent manner in order to avoid duplication by any of the three fora.

Comparative advantages and complementarities:

General Assembly and its Committees (in particular Second and Third) Main role: Norm-setting and operational guidance to the UN development system on key issues pertaining to the three dimensions of sustainable development.

ECOSOC

Main role: Policy review, dialogue and recommendations for sustainable development. Ensure system-wide coherence. ECOSOC should be responsible to coordinate and integrate the work of the whole UN system as well as the subsidiary bodies of the council (functional commissions as well as funds, programmes and specialized agencies) on the follow up and review of the 2030 Agenda; taking into consideration that its mandate and convening power allow the Council to also engage effectively and in a flexible manner with other external organizations and processes, such as the Bretton Woods institutions, Multilateral Development Banks, OECD, regional mechanisms, NGOs and private sector, in order to inform the HLPF in the advance of the 2030 Agenda's implementation.

The ECOSOC should be the privileged organism that coordinates and integrates the work of the whole UN system on the follow up and review of the 2030 Agenda, taking into consideration that its mandate and convening power allow the Council to also engage effectively and in a flexible manner with other external organizations and processes, such as the Bretton Woods institutions, Multilateral Development Banks, OECD, regional mechanisms, NGOs and private sector, in order to inform the HLPF in the advance of the 2030 Agenda's implementation.

HLPF

Main role: central platform to address critical issues related to the implementation of the SDGs and the three dimensions of sustainable development. Provide political guidance and address challenges and emerging issues on such implementation.

The discussions in the HLPF should be based in the inputs provided by the national and regional follow-up and review mechanisms, as well as from the inputs produced by the ECOSOC system (its functional commissions and subsidiary bodies as well as its segments). The GSDR should serve as the science policy interface that informs the overall discussions.

There is a need to identify the format of the outcome document with the recommendations of the three instances.

2. Given its Charter and other mandates, how can ECOSOC help ensure that global follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda is coherent?

The coherence of the global follow-up and review lies in the fact that the HLPF is anchored both in the General Assembly and ECOSOC. Then again, identifying their comparative advantages as mentioned before, give us the path to ensure coherence at the global follow-up and review.

Resolutions 68/1 (paragraph 7) and 67/290 (paragraph 7c) give the basis on how the thematic alignment of the whole ECOSOC system and the HLPF under its auspices should be ensured. 68/1 resolution mandates that the annual theme of ECOSOC should provide guidance to the work of its entire system, including its segments. 67/290 mandates that the HLPF shall have a thematic focus reflecting the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, in line with the thematic focus of the activities of the Council and consistent with the post-2015 development agenda.

Therefore is crucial to ensure relevant annual themes of ECOSOC to provide guidance to the work of its entire system including the HLPF under its auspices. Such themes should be broad and crosscutting, avoiding a silo-ed discussion in order to follow the overall vision and integrated nature of the SDG and Agenda 2030.

The ECOSOC should have an “interface” function, emphasizing its coordination role both within and outside the UN system to make the process of informing the HLPF more efficient through building blocks with the relevant bodies and mechanisms. It should also review and update the division of labor with other organizations, international fora and consultation mechanisms. ECOSOC can also point into inconsistencies and propose measures to address them.

In terms of organization the High Level Segment of ECOSOC and the HLPF should be organized in only one session avoiding past experiences of an extreme and illogical division of work that only duplicates discussions. For this, a single secretariat for the organization of the HLPF and the HLS is crucial. A thoughtful analysis of activities of the HLS and a careful rearrangement of them is needed to ensure coherence with the HLPF work.

3. How can the HLPF most effectively make linkages with the follow-up and review arrangements of United Nations conferences and processes on (1) least developed countries (LDCs), (2) small island developing States (SIDS), and (3) and landlocked developing countries (LLDCs)⁵?

⁵ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, paragraph 82

A practical linkage of the HLPF to those major conferences and Summits is the allocation of adequate time to discuss the progress achieved and remaining challenges of these groups of countries, including the middle income countries, taking into account the reports of progress in the implementation of the PoA for such categories. They could be used as inputs for the GSDR and later on incorporated in the policy guidance instrument that the HLPF has: its ministerial declaration.

4. Should the General Assembly provide some guidance to ECOSOC functional commissions and other intergovernmental bodies and forums on how they should best reflect their contribution to the review of SDGs, and to the HLPF generally, in their work programmes and sessions? And what would it be?

Mexico does not support this proposal. The guidance to its own functional commissions and other intergovernmental bodies and forums of ECOSOC should be provided by the Council. Furthermore, there are ongoing dedicated processes in the functional commissions to reflect in their own methods of work in order identify the best ways to provide inputs to the overall review of the SDG in the HLPF.

Functional Commissions should not modify their core business to adapt to the SDG's, but align and find positive synergies and interfaces.

5. How can the HLPF best build on the outcome of ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development and the summary by the Co-Chairs of the multi-stakeholder forum on Science, Technology and Innovation?

The Forum on Financing for Development will provide a discussion platform to promote coherence and collaboration among development partners and governments on the mobilization of financial and non-financial resources that will be needed to implement the 2030 Agenda.

The day before the HLPF meets, the results of the Forum and its follow up should be presented (all coordinated by the FfD Office), so that the HLPF can pronounce itself on the results and provide recommendations and guidance on next steps.

Other relevant fora related to the FfD process, such as the DCF, and the Spring Meetings of the IMF/World Bank should also contribute to the discussion based on their respective mandates, opening clear and efficient channels of discussion.

II. Overarching annual theme of the HLPF vs thematic reviews of progress of the SDGs to be carried out by the HLPF:

[The 2030 Agenda decided the thematic reviews of the HLPF will be supported by the reviews conducted by the functional commissions of ECOSOC⁶ and “other intergovernmental bodies and forums”⁷. These various bodies and forums are mandated to “reflect the integrated nature of the Goals as well as the interlinkages among them”. They “will engage all relevant stakeholders and, where possible, feed into, and be aligned with, the cycle of the HLPF”⁸. The HLPF, when meeting under the auspices of ECOSOC, “shall have a thematic focus reflecting the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development, in line with the thematic focus of the activities of the Council and consistent with the post-2015 development agenda”⁹. The thematic focus of the HLPF should allow the HLPF to follow-up and review the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The GA decided that ECOSOC will base its annual programme of work on a main theme and defined the characteristics of this annual theme.¹⁰]

6. Should the HLPF thematic reviews of the progress on the SDGs (i) focus on clusters of closely related SDGs or (ii) examine progress in all SDGs based upon on a transversal theme such as gender, health or education or (iii) address four SDGs every year, taken in a numerical order, along with SDG17? If option (ii) is preferred, when and how should the transversal theme be decided upon?

As mentioned above is crucial to ensure transversal crosscutting annual theme for the ECOSOC system and the HLPF under its auspices in order to stay true to the integrated and interlinked nature of the Agenda 2030 and the SDG as well as to guide and bring coherence to the work of the ECOSOC system (functional commissions and other intergovernmental bodies, forums and segments). Silo-ed or clustered themes and reviews should be avoided.

7. What kind of inputs should functional commissions and other intergovernmental bodies and forums provide to the HLPF (e.g. negotiated outcomes, summary of discussions and analysis or other)? And how should the inputs of various platforms be presented to the HLPF so as to best support its review and political leadership, guidance and recommendations?

⁶ For example, the Commission on Social Development, Commission on the Status of Women, Commission on Population and Development etc....

⁷ Examples would include the World Health Assembly, International Labour Conference etc.

⁸ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, para 85

⁹ General Assembly resolution 67/290, op 7c

¹⁰ General Assembly resolution 68/1, paras 7-9

There are two kinds of inputs: Substantive-technical and political inputs.

Substantive-technical: the work of the functional commissions and intergovernmental bodies are supported by agencies and entities in charge of the assessment of progress of their respective mandates (i.e. Commission of Population and Development supported by UNFPA and DESA). The inputs produced for the deliberations of such bodies in form of reports should also serve as a basis for the discussions in the HLPF together with the GSDR. Those reports could include a dedicated chapter on the progress made on related SDG and targets (i.e. population related targets), that would further inform the elaboration of the GSDR. The GSDR will provide key inputs for decision-making at the HLPF.

Political: the political discussions conducted in the abovementioned bodies and reflected in the negotiated documents could serve as inputs for the political guidance of the HLPF to be reflected in its ministerial declaration.

8. What would be good overarching annual themes for the HLPF to address (when it meets under the auspices of ECOSOC) and how can they be aligned to that the theme of ECOSOC? Please give several examples?

Please refer to answer 2 and 6 of the questionnaire. The HLPF theme should be aligned to the ECOSOC system annual theme. (Mandates 68/1 and 67/290).

9. How long in advance should HLPF themes be known? For example, (i) should there be a programme of work for the four years in between two meetings of the HLPF under the auspices of the General Assembly or for a longer time period or (ii) should themes be determined every year and if so how could other intergovernmental platforms and other relevant actors contribute to the HLPF review?

The ECOSOC system and the HLPF under its auspices theme should be determined every two years in order bring some predictability so the functional commissions and other intergovernmental bodies, forums and segments can align their work and substantive focus.

More than two year in advance could hamper the capacity of the ECOSOC system and HLPF under its auspices to respond to emerging trends and challenges.

10. Should the multi-stakeholder forum on Science, Technology and Innovation address the same theme as the HLPF?

The forum on Science, Technology and Innovation could align its focus to the overall annual theme of the ECOSOC system and the HLPF under its auspices, so to make its discussion more relevant to the implementation of the SDG and their means of implementation.

It would be convenient create synergies between enabling elements such as STI and goals implementation. Analysing the same theme is desirable.

11. How should the United Nations Statistical Commission best contribute to the work of HLPF?

The Statistical Commission already has a mandate to monitor the on-going technical suitability of the indicators for measuring progress on the targets (that are being prepared by the IAEG-SDG) through the High Level Group for SDG indicators, so to improve them or adapt them to emerging challenges.

Its inputs should inform the elaboration of the GSDR and the progress report of the SDG (pending discussion on the scope and mythology of the GSDR).

The Statistical Commission could also provide technical inputs for a comprehensive and coherent preparation of the reports, enhancing methodologies to measure goals taking into consideration the interrelations of the three dimensions of development and the appropriate approaches to measure poverty and inequality based on inclusiveness terms.

The Statistical Commission should periodically review the follow up indicators, verify their implementation at the national and international level and provide reports. It should also provide the statistical data on the advance of the 2030 Agenda in coordination with ECOSOC and other relevant bodies.

12. What arrangements would be needed to allow the HLPF to identify and consider new and emerging issues?

The ECOSOC system provides other opportunities to discuss emerging issues according to the 68/1 resolution mandates. The integration segment for instance could serve as a prominent platform to discuss such issues. It could be better linked to the work of the HLPF.

Furthermore, the sustainable development global report should be the main source of information to identify and address new and emerging challenges.

13. How can platforms and processes outside the UN system, including those run by other international or regional organizations and by non-state actors, contribute to thematic reviews at the HLPF?

The ECOSOC and its bodies should reach out to these regional and global platforms and processes, and coordinate the integration of their outcomes that are solid and relevant, both technically and politically. Therefore, it is fundamental to consider regional processes outside the UN system and encourage coherence among them, as well as inclusion of other actors, which should be engaged through participatory decision-making.

The HLPF modalities are one of the most inclusive ones, therefore, the participation of other actors and international institutions outside the UN should be ensured, particularly the international financial institutions.

Technical, scientific and academic inputs from platforms and organizations should be essential part of the elaboration of the GSDR.

III. HLPF National Reviews of implementation:

Preparation and conduct of national reviews:

14. How often would countries be expected to participate in regular state-led reviews in order to allow for a meaningful exchange of experiences and feedback at the HLPF? Should there be a minimum number of reviews within 15 years to be presented at the HLPF?

Due to the voluntary nature of the national reports to the HLPF, there shouldn't be a minimum number or reviews. Moreover, member states differ in their capacity to produce reports therefore their readiness to participate in global reviews will vary.

15. How can the HLPF discussions on the reviews be best prepared in order to facilitate a sharing of experiences and the provision of political leadership, guidance and recommendations at the HLPF? How would countries like to be supported in preparing the review process at global level?

There are relevant lessons learned from the National Voluntary Presentations of ECOSOC from which we can draw good practices in the preparation of the reviews.

The main element of such reviews is the national report, which could be elaborated based on general guidelines. The theme of ECOSOC system and the HLPF under its auspices is a useful instrument to focus the content of the national report while allowing reviewing the national progress of all SDGs according to national priorities and capacities.

General themes or questions could be elaborated to be answer during the reviews (share practices and experiences, identify challenges, gaps).

It would be important to ensure the participation of other states in the presentations so to identify opportunities for cooperation. Other actors could be invited by the interested member state.

Discussions should be interactive and dynamic, fostering inclusive dialogue among all stakeholders and leading to actionable outcomes and conclusions. Also, they should encourage sharing knowledge and best practices among countries.

Voluntary common reporting guidelines:

16. In order to help elaborate voluntary common reporting guidelines for State-led reviews at the HLPF, kindly indicate what issues you would want the HLPF to address systematically when it examines national implementation reviews?

See answer 14 and 15

17. How can the guidelines leave enough flexibility to Member States while ensuring sufficient comparability between HLPF reviews to facilitate cross-country comparisons and to help track global progress? Could guidelines identify a core set of issues, in addition to the status of all SDGs and Targets, which all countries would be encouraged to address in their reviews and, in

addition, a number of issues which countries might consider addressing if feasible?

See answer 14 and 15.

In addition, the design and implementation of the guidelines should take into consideration the national priorities and capacities, therefore a set of basic elements in the national reports could be required for all countries.

The emerging issues could be taken as part of the focus of the national reports if identify well in advance, additionally of the thematic focus of the ECOSOC system and the HLPF under its auspices.

Presentation of national reviews to the HLPF:

18. How should the country reviews be featured and discussed at the formal HLPF meeting?

Lessons learned from the National Voluntary Presentations of ECOSOC could provide the basis to determine the procedures to discuss national reports.

Reviews should aim to share practices and experiences, identify challenges, gaps and moreover, opportunities for cooperation. In the extent possible, there should be a limited number of national reviews each year, always ensuring equal regional representation.

The national presentations should be complement by regional ones, based on the follow-up and review mechanisms established at that level.

19. How can national reviews give adequate attention to the means of implementation? How can they help to mobilize new support and partnerships?

There is no country-evaluation, it is an analysis of the implementation of certain SGD's and areas of development. They should also focus on development effectiveness.

20. What kind of outcome should result from the HLPF national reviews of implementation, and how could there be a follow-up to these reviews?

No outcome is needed, it is for countries to determine how to take into account the discussions on their national presentations. Follow-up with peer countries, partners and institutions could be conducted.

IV. Regional reviews and processes

21. How should the outcome of regional review processes be considered at HLPF?

Through the GSDR and through limited (in time) regional presentations in the HLPF, the later should be previously agreed at the regional follow-up mechanisms under the Economic Commissions.

V. Inclusion of UN system and other stakeholders in global follow-up and review

22. How can the HLPF support the participation by the major groups and other relevant stakeholders in the follow-up and review processes conducted at the global level including the thematic and country reviews? What are possible options to seek their contributions to the reviews at the HLPF, (building on the modalities for the participation of major groups defined by General Assembly resolution 67/290 and the practices of the General Assembly open working group on SDGs)?

The HLPF modalities in 67/290 provide space for major groups and other stakeholders to interact. The mandates of Agenda 2030 should also serve as a basis to ensure broad participation of actors from all sectors.

23. The 2030 Agenda calls on major groups and other stakeholders to report on their contribution to the implementation of 2030 Agenda. How can such reviews be prepared and conducted at the HLPF? How can these actors be encouraged to engage in such reviews?¹¹

It could be done in the same segment in which the national and regional reviews are conducted. This brings a real opportunity for exchange.

24. How should UN system contribution to the implementation of 2030 Agenda be reviewed?

¹¹ Agenda 2030 states in para 89 that “the high-level political forum will support participation in follow-up and review processes by the major groups and other relevant stakeholders in line with resolution 67/290. We call on those actors to report on their contribution to the implementation of the Agenda.”

All entities of the UN should make every effort to contribute to the implementation of Agenda 2030. No agency should have the sole ownership of a Goal or set of Goals. They should focus on the crosscutting issues reflected in different targets in order to achieve a coherent and integrated implementation, follow-up and review of the SDG.

Their assessment on the targets (both measuring and policy and trend analysis) should inform the intergovernmental discussions in the functional commissions and other intergovernmental bodies, forums and segments as well as the Committees of the General Assembly.

Through the already established mechanisms of interagency coordination and mechanisms in charge of overseeing ECOSOC.

25. What steps can the UN system, including the Secretariat take to best support follow-up and review in a coherent and effective manner?

There's a need to restructure the Secretariat in a manner that better reflect the new institutional arrangements and the integrated vision of Agenda 2030. The organization of ECOSOC sessions, in particular the High Level Segment should be supported by the same team in charge of the organization of the HLPF within the secretariat, in order to ensure successful and meaningful sessions of the HLPF under the auspices of the Council.

These will ensure having only one session avoiding past experiences of an extreme and illogical division of work that only duplicates discussions. This is why a single support team for the organization of the HLPF and the HLS is crucial. A thoughtful analysis of activities of the HLS and a careful rearrangement of them is needed to ensure coherence with the HLPF work.

VI. Other views and ideas

Is very important to understand that the HLPF should become an attractive platform in which member states and all stakeholders renew their commitment to the implementation of Agenda 2030 and the SDG. This means ensuring an innovative way of organizing its sessions and activities and what is more important be an effective platform to support member states to achieve sustainable development.

We should keep in mind its substantive mandates while aiming for interactive ways to fulfill them. The HLPF could become the best tool of the UN to ensure coherence and to draw from all the relevant work that is conducted in the GA and the ECOSOC system.

Well informed discussions and deliberations, focused on an overall crosscutting annual theme, could provide a real opportunity to ensure political guidance up to the ambitious Agenda that all member States have envisioned and agreed upon.

26. Please add any other points you would like to raise.