

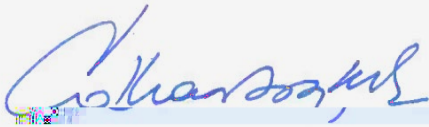
THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

26 March 2021

Excellency,

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 26 March 2021 from H.E. Mr. Alexander Marschik, Permanent Representative of Austria and H.E. Mr. Cheikh Niang, Permanent Representative of Senegal, the co-facilitators for the intergovernmental negotiations for the review process of the Economic and Social Council and the High-Level Political Forum as per General Assembly resolution 74/298 of 12 August 2020 entitled “Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 67/290 on the high-level political forum on sustainable development, resolution 70/299 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level and resolution 72/305 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council”.

Following the virtual consultation held on 19 March, the aforementioned letter conveys that the co-facilitators will convene a virtual consultation on the revised draft of the resolution for the HLPF/ECOSOC Review on Wednesday, 31 March 2021 at 10:00 a.m. The consultation will focus on four areas identified in the attached letter by the co-facilitators. Connection details for the meeting will be provided by the Department of General Assembly and Conference Management in a subsequent cor All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York



Alexander Marschik

We are also pleased to convey a diagram illustrating the proposed structure of the Economic and Social Council, as well as an outline indicating the number of days that the draft resolution proposes to eliminate or repurpose and the number of days it proposes to add to the ECOSOC calendar.

It is our hope that these accompanying documents will clarify further the proposals and text contained in the draft resolution of 17 March.

We encourage Member States to actively express their views on the revised draft resolution and its annexes. We look forward to your feedback and active engagement in the upcoming meeting.

We would also like to reiterate our request that any written inputs provided by Member

	and innovation for the SDGs				
	Youth forum	2	2	0	Res. 72/305 and annual resolution on ECOSOC working arrangements (e.g. E/RES/2021/1)
	Development Cooperation Forum	2 every 4 years	2 every 2 years	-1	

					has entitlements that are not fully used.
	High-level segment of the Council	4 (+ 1 in February – see above)	5	0	
Organizational session (July)		1	1	0	
Management meeting - elections (April/May)		1	1	0	"...normally in the first half and last quarter of the year" GA res. 72/305, Para. 26
Management segment (June)		Up to 2	Up to 2	0	"The meetings of the management segment will, in principle, last no more than two days, twice per cycle..." GA res. 72/305, para. 24
Management segment (July)		Up to 2	Up to 2	0	
Management meeting - elections (November/December)		0.5 (organized within existing conference services)	0.5 (organized within existing conference services)	0	"...normally in the first half and last quarter of the year" GA res. 72/305, Para. 26

26 March 2021

Non-paper by the co-

- The resolution encourages countries to strengthen the evidence, science, evaluation and data basis for their VNRs. This aims to ensure that the findings of the VNRs are robust and can inform the country's policy making.
- The resolution encourages countries to follow the Secretary-General's guidelines as a suggested tool. The guidelines are regularly updated in light of the experience with the VNRs, feedback by countries and other stakeholders. They encourage a degree of consistency and comparability among the VNRs.
- The regional forums on sustainable development are encouraged to enhance peer learning and feedback among countries during the preparations of the VNRs and to discuss and follow-up on issues arising from the voluntary national reviews. It notes that it is important to avoid overlap with the HLPF: the VNRs bring a lot of energy and proactive participation in the HLPF and it is important to preserve the dynamism of this core UN platform for the 2030 Agenda.

Content of the VNRs:

- ✕ The draft resolution encourages countries to address not only successes but also challenges, gaps and areas where more action or new partnerships are needed to implement the 2030 Agenda. This is because discussing challenges and gaps - along with best shialf5U -4.6 (i)ld(-)T(b478 (e)-(-)Tt3(o)2 (n)2 (36-)Tj0.326 0 T

- It is also suggested that countries may wish to use their VNR to inform citizens about their implementation of the 2030 Agenda. This is a way to promote awareness of the 2030 Agenda among people and to showcase the government's efforts to reach the SDGs.
- In addition, the draft proposes to strengthen ECOSOC's integrated policy guidance on the follow-up and operationalization of the findings and outcomes of the HLPF, including the Voluntary National Reviews. To this end, the proposed comprehensive report of the Secretary-General for the ECOSOC Focus week would include lessons learned from the Voluntary National Reviews at the HLPF with recommendations for fol7 (t)-4.6 (i)-4f4T. oval Rhebyry NngC5w -4.6002 Tc - sh

26 March 2021

*Non-paper by the co-facilitators of the
General Assembly review process of ECOSOC and the HLPF*

**Ensuring the relevance of ECOSOC and using ECOSOC for a
more effective and efficient UN system**
(elaboration on the provisions of the 17 March 2021 draft resolution)

- The current General Assembly review process offers an opportunity to enhance the authority of the Council and make it more relevant in supporting the achievement of higher standards of living, conditions for social and economic development, as well as solutions for international economic, health
Th

HLPF in July, bearing in mind that the

from the previous ECOSOC and HLPF. This would also help promote coherence and synergies in the work of subsidiary bodies and help avoid duplication.

- While the functions of the new Coordination Segment would be quite close to those of the Integration Segment, it would be more forward-looking and more focused on coordination issues.
- Through the new Coordination Segment, the Council would ensure that its functional commissions and other subsidiary bodies best support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the work of the Council in the following months and deliver on their respective mandates. It would provide guidance to address specific aspects of its annual theme. It would also address coordination issues arising from its subsidiary bodies. It could thus improve the division of labour among them and address gaps, overlaps and duplications. It would ensure that synergies are created across the work of the ECOSOC functional commissions and other subsidiary bodies.
- ECOSOC also would be entrusted to conduct a dedicated process to review the agendas and work of its subsidiary bodies. Through this process, the Council would showcase the work of its subsidiary bodies and ensure that there are aligned with the ECOSOC's programme of work and effectively contribute to advancing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and their mandates.
- The Coordination Segment would also allow ECOSOC to deliver on its Charter mandate to “co-ordinate

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL [PROPOSAL]

February

March

April

May

June

July

September

- **Youth Forum**
2 days, NY
Presidential Statement
- **Development Cooperation Forum**
2 days, NY
(*Quadrennial*)
President's Summary
- **FfD Forum**
4 days, NY
Agreed Conclusions
- **Management Segment (elections)**
1 day

- **Multi-stakeholder Forum on STI**
2 days, NY
Co-Chairs' Summary
- **Operational Activities for Development Segment**
3 days, NY
Resolution

- **Relief, Development and Resilience Meeting**
1 day, NY/GVA
Resolutions/decisions parallel

- 9 days, NY
Ministerial Declaration
[Year 1-3]
- President's Summary*
- Management Segment**
up to 2 days
Resolutions/decisions

General Assembly
HLPF at Summit Level (Sept)
Political Declaration
[Year 4]

SDG Moment
[Year 1-3]

Commission for Social Development

Committee for Development Policy

Statistical Commission

Commission on the Status of Women

Commission on Population and Development

United Nations Forum on Forests

Commission on Narcotic Drugs (Vienna)

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Committee of Experts on Public Administration

Commission on Science & Technology for Development (Geneva)

Ongoing: Sessions of subsidiary bodies – ECOSOC Commissions, Functional Commissions, Expert bodies, Standing Committees, Ad Hoc bodies and other related bodies