



Economic and Social Council

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High-level political forum on sustainable development

Convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council
7–16 July 2020

Report of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council at its 2020 session

Summary

In her summary of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council at its 2020 session, the President of the Economic and Social Council reported that, according to the review by the forum of progress in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, progress has been uneven and acceleration is needed in many areas. Even before the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic revealed and deepened inequalities among and within countries, global progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals had stalled and, in some cases, reversed.

The 2030 Agenda should be placed at the heart of the recovery from the pandemic, as a guide to build back better. All countries are challenged to embark on risk-informed transformative sustainable development pathways to realize the Sustainable Development Goals. In this regard, timely and reliable data and statistics are essential to both the immediate COVID-19 response and long-term recovery through achievement of the Goals, for development and targeting of effective policies and for monitoring of impact and progress.

The pandemic has exacerbated existing food systems challenges, in particular in vulnerable countries. Urgent, targeted action is required to prevent a humanitarian emergency. Nature-based solutions and circular economy approaches should be strengthened and mainstreamed into decision-making to support human health and livelihoods, transform economic systems to consume and produce sustainably, manage increased disaster risks and the associated socioeconomic losses, and address both climate change and biodiversity loss.

Innovative partnerships and institutional mechanisms to finance COVID-19 responses, support economic transitions and build resilience must include a renewal of multilateralism, new social contracts, financial safety nets, global risk pooling and a strengthened science-policy interface. Governance for inclusive societies and whole-of-society approaches are imperative to ensure lasting transformational change, which



requires action at the national and local levels with the meaningful engagement of all stakeholders. The private sector plays a fundamental role in assuming greater responsibility for promoting green investments and reshaping the human-nature relationship. The pandemic presents a unique opportunity for the removal of fossil fuel subsidies and the phasing out coal, while protecting vulnerable populations with just transition strategies.

The contributions of young people, women and vulnerable groups in the least developed and landlocked developing countries, as well as in all countries in Africa, are critical for shaping the narrative in building a more resilient economic and social fabric.

The pandemic is equally a health and an economic crisis for small island developing States, as many have seen significant revenue falls in the face of rising debt burdens.

The COVID-19 crisis has compounded existing challenges related to the financing of sustainable development. There is a need for greater mobilization of financial resources, quicker disbursements and a more strategic alignment of resources. Public finance for development will remain critical, and it is important to safeguard tax revenues, tackle debt challenges and protect official development assistance budgets.

The crisis has reconfirmed that international cooperation in science, technology and innovation is essential, and that investments should be made in building capacity, as well as recognizing and fully utilizing existing capacity in developing countries, so that no one is left behind.

Science, technology and innovation must be harnessed to promote equity and sustainability. Access for vulnerable groups should be prioritized, and solutions should incorporate diverse sources, including local and traditional knowledge, community-generated knowledge and the social sciences.

The world has a shared responsibility to safeguard development gains and ensure that the global response to COVID-19 is guided by the principle of leaving no one behind, so that recovery leads to more equal, inclusive and sustainable economies and to more resilient societies.

I. Introduction

1. The General Assembly, in its resolution 67/290, decided that the meetings of the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council would be convened annually by the President of the Council for a period of eight days, including a three-day ministerial segment. Pursuant to paragraph 11 (c) of the annex to Assembly resolution 68/1, the three-day ministerial meeting is to be held during the high-level segment of the Council.
2. The Council, in its resolution 2020/1, decided that the forum would be held from 7 to 13 July 2020 and the high-level segment of the Council from 14 to 17 July, including the three-day ministerial segment of the forum from 14 to 16 July.
3. In its decision 74/508, the General Assembly decided that the theme of the 2020 session of the forum would be “Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development”.
4. Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 2020/4 of 4 June, entitled “Further revised working arrangements for the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council and sessions of its subsidiary bodies”, and decisions 2020/205 of 3 April, 2020/206 of 22 May and 2020/219 of 24 June on the procedure for taking decisions during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, and taking into account both the prevailing conditions relating to the pandemic affecting working arrangements and the available technological and procedural solutions, the forum held virtual informal meetings from 7 to 16 July 2020.
5. The present report and its annexes reflect the proceedings of the forum convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council at its 2020 session.

II. Work of the session

6. From 7 to 16 July 2020, the forum held 18 virtual informal meetings to review progress in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals and to discuss how to achieve the Goals and accelerate progress during the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development in the light of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.
7. The forum heard voluntary national reviews by 47 States of their implementation of the 2030 Agenda.
8. The proceedings of the virtual informal meetings of the forum are reflected in annex I to the present report.
9. In accordance with the invitation of the President of the Economic and Social Council for members of the forum and stakeholders to submit official statements for the general debate in writing or through a video recording, communicated in her letter dated 22 June 2020, statements and video messages received by the secretariat can be accessed on the website of the forum.¹
10. Side events and special events were held on the margins of the meetings of the forum and were sponsored by a diverse group of stakeholders, including Governments, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, international and intergovernmental organizations, major groups and other relevant stakeholders. Information on the events is available on the website of the forum.²

¹ See sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2020#debate.

² See sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2020#other.

Draft ministerial declaration

11. The forum had before it the draft ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council and the 2020 high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, on the theme “Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development” ([E/2020/L.20-E/HLPF/2020/L.1](#)).

12. In a letter dated 17 July 2020, the President of the Council stated that the draft ministerial declaration contained no programme budget implications. In the same letter, the President placed the draft ministerial declaration under silence procedure until Wednesday, 22 July 2020, at 5 p.m., pursuant to Council decisions 2020/205, 2020/206 and 2020/219.

13. In a letter dated 22 July 2020, the President of the Council stated that silence had been broken on the draft ministerial declaration.

III. Organizational and other matters

Agenda

14. The provisional agenda of the forum ([E/HLPF/2020/1](#)) read as follows:
 1. Adoption of the agenda.
 2. Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development:
 - (a) Thematic review;
 - (b) Voluntary national reviews.
 3. Adoption of the draft report.

Documentation

15. The documentation considered by the forum during the session is set out in annex II to the present report. Other relevant documentation is available from the website of the forum.³

³ See sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2020#docs.

Annex I

Proceedings of the virtual informal meetings of the forum

1. The virtual informal meetings of the forum were attended by the representatives of 129 States Members of the United Nations and States members of the specialized agencies. Representatives of intergovernmental organizations and other entities, representatives of the United Nations system and representatives of major groups and other relevant stakeholders¹ also attended. The list of participants who attended the virtual informal meetings will be issued as a separate document ([E/HLPF/2020/INF/1](#)).

A. Opening and conclusion of the virtual informal meetings

2. At the first informal meeting, held on 7 July 2020, the President of the Economic and Social Council, Mona Juul (Norway), opened the informal meetings of the forum and, following a video presentation on young people, COVID-19 and the Sustainable Development Goals, delivered a statement.

3. At the eighteenth informal meeting, held on 16 July, at the conclusion of the forum, the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, Amina Mohammed, made a closing statement.

4. At the same meeting, the President of the Council made closing remarks and declared the informal meetings of the forum closed.

B. Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development

1. Thematic review

5. At the first to seventh informal meetings, held from 7 to 10 July 2020, the forum held interactive discussions under its thematic review.

(a) Launching the decade of action at a time of crisis: keeping the focus on the Sustainable Development Goals while combating COVID-19

6. At the first informal meeting, on 7 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the topic “Launching the decade of action at a time of crisis: keeping the focus on the Sustainable Development Goals while combating COVID-19”, in two parts, chaired by the President of the Council.

7. At the same meeting, the Vice-President of the Council, Mher Margaryan (Armenia), made a statement and presented messages from the integration segment of the Council, held as an informal virtual meeting on 6 July 2020. The Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs presented the report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals ([E/2020/57](#)).

8. Keynote statements were made by the European Union Commissioner for International Partnerships, Jutta Urpilainen, and the Commissioner for Economic Affairs of the African Union Commission, Victor Harison.

¹ The major groups, as defined in Agenda 21, are: women; children and young people; indigenous peoples; non-governmental organizations; local authorities; workers and trade unions; business and industry; the scientific and technological community; and farmers. In addition, the General Assembly, in its resolution [67/290](#), recognized the role of other stakeholders, such as private philanthropic organizations, educational and academic entities, persons with disabilities, volunteer groups and other stakeholders active in areas related to sustainable development.

Part one: Keeping the focus on the Sustainable Development Goals while combating COVID-19: progress on the Goals, regional dimensions and countries at different levels of development, including middle-income countries

9. The discussion was moderated by the Executive Vice-President and Managing Director of the World Resources Institute, Manish Bapna, who made a statement.

10. The forum heard presentations by the following resource persons: the Assistant Director General for Emergency Preparedness and International Health Regulations of the World Health Organization, Jaouad Mahjour; the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa and coordinator of the regional commissions, Vera Songwe; and the Founding Director of the Institute for Innovation and Public Purpose at University College London and member of the Committee for Development Policy, Mariana Mazzucato.

11. A statement was made by the Minister of National Planning and Economic Policy of Costa Rica, María del Pilar Garrido.

12. A statement was made by the lead discussant, the President of United Cities and Local Governments and Mayor of the city of Al Hoceïma in Morocco, Mohammed Boudra.

13. An interactive discussion ensued, during which comments were made by the representatives of the Philippines, speaking on behalf of the Like-minded Group of Supporters of Middle-Income Countries, Tuvalu, speaking on behalf of the Pacific Islands Forum, Switzerland, Algeria, Nepal, Romania, Israel, Nicaragua, France and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

14. A statement was made by the ministerial respondent, the State Secretary for Infrastructure and Water Management of the Netherlands, Stientje van Veldhoven.

15. A representative of the women major group also made a statement.

Part two: Keeping the focus on the Sustainable Development Goals while combating COVID-19: 2020 targets, data and institutions for integrated policymaking

16. The discussion was moderated by the Executive Director of the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data, Clare Melamed, who made a statement.

17. The forum heard presentations by the following resource persons: the Co-Chair of the High-level Group for Partnership, Coordination and Capacity-Building for Statistics for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Chairperson of the National Statistics Office of Mongolia, Ariunzaya Ayushr; the Chair of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration, Geraldine Joslyn Fraser-Moleketi; and the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund, Henrietta Fore.

18. Statements were made by the following respondents: the Minister of Planning and Economic Development of Egypt, Hala Al Said; the Vice-Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany, Norbert Barthle; and the Deputy Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme, Joyce Msuya.

19. Statements were also made by the following lead discussants: the President and co-founder of Environmental Systems Research Institute and producer of geographic information systems and location intelligence, Jack Dangermond; and the President of Peru Employers' Federation, María León Klenke, speaking on behalf of the business and industry major group.

20. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons responded to comments made by the representatives of Turkey, Japan, Fiji, Guatemala, Cuba,

Indonesia, Poland, South Africa, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Korea, Belgium, Egypt and Afghanistan.

21. A statement was made by the representative of the other stakeholders group for the Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism.

(b) Building back better after COVID-19 and acting where we will have the greatest impact on the Sustainable Development Goals

22. At the second informal meeting, held on 7 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the topic “Building back better after COVID-19 and acting where we will have the greatest impact on the Sustainable Development Goals”, in three parts.

Part one: Protecting and advancing human well-being and ending poverty

23. The Vice-President of the Council, Omar Hilale (Morocco), chaired the discussion and made a statement.

24. A keynote statement was made by the World Health Organization Director General’s Special Envoy on COVID-19 Preparedness and Response, David Nabarro.

25. The discussion was moderated by the former Minister of Finance of Cabo Verde and member of the Committee of Experts on Public Administration and the United Nations High-level Advisory Board on Economic and Social Affairs, Cristina Duarte.

26. The forum heard presentations by the following resource persons: the Deputy Director of the German Development Institute, Imme Scholz; and the Group Chief Executive Officer of Amref Health Africa, Githinji Gitahi.

27. Statements were made by the lead discussants: the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights and Head of the New York Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ilze Brands Kehris; and the founder and Coordinator of Focus of Disabled Persons, a non-governmental organization based in Kenya, Jane Miano, speaking on behalf of the other stakeholder groups on ageing and for persons with disabilities.

28. Statements were made by the ministerial respondents: the Deputy Minister for Policy and International Relations of the Ministry of the Environment of Czechia, Vladislav Smrz; and the Vice-Minister of Multilateral Affairs and Cooperation of Panama, Eryka Mouynes.

29. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons and the lead discussants responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the European Union, Guatemala, Thailand and the Plurinational State of Bolivia, as well as the representative of the non-governmental organizations major group.

30. The moderator made concluding remarks.

Part two: Ending hunger and achieving food security

31. The Vice-President of the Council (Morocco) chaired the discussion and made a statement.

32. The discussion was moderated by the former Assistant Director General for Economic and Social Development of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and former Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Jomo Kwame Sundaram.

33. The forum heard presentations by the following resource persons: the Co-Chair of the Independent Group of Scientists for the 2019 Global Sustainable Development Report and former Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environment of

Indonesia, Endah Murniningtyas; and the Vice-Chair of the Steering Committee of the High-level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition and former Director of the Federal Office for Agriculture of Switzerland, Bernard Lehmann.

34. A statement was made by the lead discussant, the Executive Director of the International Indian Treaty Council, Andrea Carmen, speaking on behalf of the indigenous peoples major group.

35. Statements were made by the ministerial respondent, the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries of Argentina, Luis Basterra, and by the representatives of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

36. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons and lead discussant responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Nicaragua, Finland, Nepal, Indonesia, Switzerland, Chile, France, Sweden and Costa Rica.

37. Statements were also made by the representative of the other stakeholders group for the Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism and by the representative of the women major group.

38. The moderator made concluding remarks.

39. The Vice-President of the Council (Morocco) made a statement.

Part three: Transformative pathways to realize the 2030 Agenda: a whole-of-society approach taking into account the impact of COVID-19 (stakeholders' perspective)

40. The President of the Council chaired the discussion and made a statement.

41. The discussion was moderated by the Advisor for the United Nations Programme at the Centre for International Dialogue and Cooperation, Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung, Maria Theresa Nera-Lauron.

42. The forum heard presentations by the following resource persons: an eighth grade student at Indus International School in Pune, India, Haaziq Kazi, speaking on behalf of the children and youth major group; a member of the Board of the Huairou Commission, Limota Limotat Goroso Giwa, speaking on behalf of the other stakeholders group for the Sendai Stakeholder Engagement Mechanism; the President of the Global Campaign for Education, Refat Sabbah, speaking on behalf of the other stakeholders group for education and academia; and the representative of Trans Smart Trust, Alessandrabree Chacha, speaking on behalf of the other stakeholders group for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons.

43. A statement was made by the lead discussant, the Director of Sustainable Development at Fingo, an umbrella organization for Finnish development non-governmental organizations, Rilli Lappalainen, speaking on behalf of the delegation of Finland.

44. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Mexico, Nicaragua, Norway, Switzerland and Sweden, as well by the representatives of the non-governmental organizations major group, the women major group and the other stakeholders group for the Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism.

45. The moderator made concluding remarks.

46. The President of the Council made concluding remarks.

47. At its third informal meeting, held on 8 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the topic “Building back better after COVID-19 and acting where we will have the greatest impact on the Sustainable Development Goals”, in two parts.

Part one: Responding to the economic shock, relaunching growth, sharing economic benefits and addressing developing countries' financing challenges

48. The Vice-President of the Council (Armenia) chaired the discussion and made a statement.

49. The discussion was moderated by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Financing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Mahmoud Mohieldin.

50. The forum heard presentations by the following resource persons: the Global Director of the Poverty and Equity Global Practice at the World Bank, Carolina Sánchez-Páramo; and the Chief Executive Officer of the Council on Energy, Environment and Water of India and member of the Committee for Development Policy, Arunahba Ghosh.

51. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana; and the Deputy General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation of Senegal, Mamadou Diallo, speaking on behalf of the workers and trade unions major group.

52. A statement was made by the Special Rapporteur on the right to development, Saad Alfarargi.

53. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons, the lead discussants and the Special Rapporteur on the right to development responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Guatemala, Finland, Jamaica, Ethiopia, the European Union, Indonesia, Nepal, Uruguay, Fiji, France and Madagascar, as well as by the representative of the International Labour Organization.

Part two: Mobilizing international solidarity, accelerating action and embarking on new pathways to realize the 2030 Agenda and the Samoa Pathway: Small island developing States

54. The Vice-President of the Council (Pakistan) chaired the discussion and made a statement.

55. A keynote statement in a pre-recorded video message was made by the Attorney General, Minister for Economy and Minister responsible for climate change of Fiji, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum.

56. The discussion was moderated by the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, Fekitamoeloa 'Utoikamanu.

57. The forum heard presentations by the following resource persons: the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Maldives, Abdulla Shahid; the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, Alicia Barcena; and the Head of the Sustainable Markets Group at the World Economic Forum, Terri Toyota.

58. A statement was made by the lead discussant, the Executive Director and founder of MY World México, Karol Alejandra Arámbula Carrillo, speaking on behalf of the non-governmental organizations major group.

59. A statement was made by the ministerial respondent, the Minister of Economic Affairs and Investment of Barbados, Marsha Caddle.

60. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons and the lead discussant responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Belize, speaking on behalf of the States members of the Alliance of Small Island States, Tuvalu, speaking on behalf of the States members of the Pacific Islands Forum, Indonesia, the United Kingdom, Ireland, the Netherlands, Italy, Afghanistan, Jamaica, Cabo Verde, Morocco, Cuba, Denmark and Fiji, as well as the representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

61. Statements were also made by the representatives of the women major group and the other stakeholders group for the Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism.

62. At its fourth informal meeting, held on 8 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the topic “Building back better after COVID-19 and acting where we will have the greatest impact on the Sustainable Development Goals”, in two parts.

Part one: Protecting the planet and building resilience

63. The Vice-President of the Council, Munir Akram (Pakistan), chaired the discussion and made a statement.

64. The discussion was moderated by the Chief Executive Officer of the International Cooperative and Mutual Insurance Federation, Shaun Tarbuck, who also made a statement.

65. Statements were made by the following resource persons: the Minister of Culture, Tourism and Environment of Angola, Adjany Costa; and the Co-Chair of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, Sandra Díaz.

66. Statements were also made by the following lead discussants: the President of the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies and Project Professor at the Institute for Future Initiatives of the University of Tokyo, Takeuchi Kazuhiko; and the President of the World Farmers’ Organisation, Theo de Jager, speaking on behalf of the farmers major group.

67. Statements were also made by the following respondents: the Minister of the National Emergency Secretariat of Paraguay, Joaquin Roa Burgos; the Vice-Minister of Environment of Colombia, Maria Claudia Garcia; the State Secretary to the Minister for Environment of Sweden, Eva Svedling; the State Minister at the Ministry of Disaster Management Relief of Bangladesh, Enamur Rahman, speaking in a pre-recorded video message; the Chair of the sixteenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests and Permanent Representative of Suriname to the United Nations, Kitty Sweeb; and the Executive Secretary of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity, Elizabeth Maruma Mrema.

68. An interactive discussion ensued, and statements were made by the representatives of Finland and Tuvalu, speaking on behalf of the States members of the Pacific Islands Forum.

Part two: Sustaining efforts to ensure access to sustainable energy

69. The discussion was chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Armenia), who made a statement.

70. The discussion was moderated by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Sustainable Energy for All, Damilola Ogunbiyi, who also made a statement.

71. Statements were made by the following resource persons: the Director General of the International Renewable Energy Agency, Francesco La Camera; the Policy Director for Energy and Climate Change at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway and co-facilitator of the Technical Advisory Group on Sustainable Development Goal 7, Hans Olav Ibrekk; and the Executive Director of the International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy, Sheila Oparaocha.

72. A statement was also made by the lead discussant, the Deputy Director General for Science at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Leena Srivastava, speaking on behalf of the scientific and technological communities major group.

73. Statements were also made by the following respondents: the Minister of Energy of Pakistan, Omar Ayub Khan, in a pre-recorded video message; the State Secretary for Foreign Affairs and for Ibero-America and the Caribbean, Cristina Gallach; the Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, Li Yong; the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, Mami Mizutori; and the Assistant Minister at the Ministry of Energy of the United Arab Emirates, Fatima Al Foora.

74. An interactive discussion ensued and statements were made by the representatives of France, Portugal, Denmark, Sweden, Indonesia, Norway, Nepal, Iraq, Guatemala, Poland and Costa Rica.

75. Statements were also made by the representatives of children and youth major group, the non-governmental organizations major group and the women major group.

76. At the fifth informal meeting, held on 9 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the topic “Building back better after COVID-19 and acting where we will have the greatest impact on the Sustainable Development Goals”, in two parts.

Part one: Bolstering local action to control the pandemic and accelerate implementation

77. The Vice-President of the Council, Juan Sandoval (Mexico), chaired the discussion and made a statement.

78. The discussion was moderated by the Secretary-General of Local Governments for Sustainability, Gino Van Begin, who also made a statement.

79. The forum heard presentations by the following resource persons: the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), Maimunah Mohd Sharif; and the Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan, Yūji Kuroiwa.

80. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Europe, Olga Algayerova; an architect and researcher from Ecuador, Santiago del Hierro; and the President of Fundación para Estudio e Investigación de la Mujer, Mabel Bianco, speaking on behalf of the women major group.

81. A statement was also made by the respondent, the Commissioner for International Affairs of New York City, Penny Abeywardena.

82. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons and lead discussants responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Finland, Indonesia, France, the United Kingdom, Belgium, Sweden, Norway, Guatemala, the European Union and Afghanistan.

83. Statements were also made by the representatives of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, the local

authorities major group, the indigenous peoples major group, the non-governmental organizations major group and the women major group.

84. The Vice-President of the Council (Mexico) made concluding remarks.

Part two: Are we leaving no one behind in eradicating poverty and working towards the 2030 Agenda?

85. The Vice-President of the Council (Armenia) chaired the discussion and made a statement.

86. The discussion was moderated by Emeritus Professor at the University of Essex, Research Affiliate at the Center for Women's Global Leadership at Rutgers University and member of the Committee for Development Policy, Diane Elson, who also made a statement.

87. The forum heard presentations by the following resource persons: the National Coordinator of the WorldWIDE Network and member of the Board of Habitat International Coalition, Nigeria, Ifeyinwa Ofong; and the Executive Director of the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, Winnie Byanyima.

88. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: the Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, Rola Dashti; the Chair of the Internet Governance Forum's Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Group of South Africa, Anriette Esterhuysen; the Director of the Justice, Development and Peace Commission of the Catholic Diocese of Ijebu-Ode, Nigeria, John Patrick Ngoyi; and the United Nations youth delegate on sustainable development of Germany, Sophia Bachmann.

89. Statements were also made by the respondents: the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund, Natalia Kanem; and the Director of the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, Paul Ladd.

90. Statements were also made by the representatives of Nicaragua, Mexico, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, the European Union, Jamaica, Nepal, India, China, Switzerland, South Africa, Sweden, Indonesia, Norway, Guatemala, France, Afghanistan, Finland, Nigeria and Botswana.

91. A statement was made by the representative of the International Telecommunication Union.

92. Statements were also made by the representatives of the other stakeholders groups for persons with disabilities and for volunteers, as well as by the representatives of the indigenous peoples major group, the non-governmental organizations major group and the women major group.

93. The Vice-President of the Council (Armenia) made concluding remarks.

(c) Mobilizing international solidarity, accelerating action and embarking on new pathways to realize the 2030 Agenda and respond to COVID-19: African countries, least developed countries and landlocked developing countries

94. At the sixth informal meeting, held on 9 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the topic "Mobilizing international solidarity, accelerating action and embarking on new pathways to realize the 2030 Agenda and respond to COVID-19: African countries, least developed countries and landlocked developing countries", chaired by the President of the Council, who made an opening statement.

95. A keynote statement was made by the President of the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa and Special Envoy for the 2021 Food Systems Summit, Agnes Kalibata.

96. The discussion was moderated by the Executive Director of the Centre for Policy Dialogue in Bangladesh, Fahmida Khatun.

97. The forum heard presentations by the following resource persons: the former Prime Minister of the Niger and Chief Executive Officer of the African Union Development Agency-New Partnership for Africa's Development, Ibrahim Assane Mayaki; the Director General of the Qatar Fund for Development, Khalifa bin Jassim Al-Kuwari; and the Deputy Director of the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, Ahmed Ouma.

98. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: the Junior Member of Parliament of Zimbabwe, Vanessa Chivizhe, and the Acting Executive Chairperson and National Coordinator of VIONet Zimbabwe, Trymore Karikoga, speaking on behalf of the other stakeholders group for volunteers.

99. Statements were made by the respondents: the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Relations of Lesotho, Matšepo Ramakoae; the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, Fekitamoeloa 'Utoikamanu; and the Director General of the National Planning Commission of Malawi, Thomas Munthali.

100. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons and lead discussants responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Belgium, Burkina Faso, speaking on behalf of the Group of African States, Morocco, Malawi, speaking on behalf of the Group of Least Developed Countries, the Philippines, Egypt, Portugal, Nepal, the United Kingdom, Sierra Leone, Indonesia, Afghanistan, Ireland, Bangladesh, Paraguay, Ethiopia, South Africa, China, Nigeria and Mongolia, as well as the representatives of the non-governmental organizations major group, the women major group, the business and industry major group and the other stakeholders group for the Asia Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism.

101. The moderator made concluding remarks.

(d) Means of implementation to match the scope of the crisis and the breadth of our ambition for 2030

102. At the seventh informal meeting, held on 10 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the topic "Means of implementation to match the scope of the crisis and the breadth of our ambition for 2030", in two parts.

Part one: Mobilizing well-directed financing

103. The discussion was chaired by the President of the Council and was moderated by a Senior Research Fellow at the Overseas Development Institute, Annalisa Prizzon, who made a statement.

104. The forum heard presentations by the following resource persons: the Minister of Finance and Member of Parliament of Barbados, Ryan Straughn; the Director of the Development Cooperation Directorate at the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Jorge Moreira da Silva; and a partner at Gobi Partners, Thailand, Sharinee Shannon Kalayanamitr.

105. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: the Vice-President of the European Investment Bank, Ambroise Fayolle; and the Coordinator of the Asian Peoples' Movement on Debt and Development, Lidy Nacpil, speaking on behalf of the other stakeholders group for civil society financing for development.

106. A statement was made by the respondent, the State Secretary and Director of the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs of Switzerland, Marie-Gabrielle Ineichen-Fleisch.

107. An interactive discussion ensued, during which comments were made by the representatives of Nicaragua, France, the European Union, Indonesia, Sweden, Nepal, Norway and Nigeria.

108. A statement was made by the representative of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), as well as by the representative of the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

Part two: Science, technology and innovation

109. The Vice-President of the Council (Mexico) chaired the discussion and made a statement.

110. The discussion was moderated by the Director of the Science and Technology Policy Research Institute of the Council of Science and Industrial Research in Ghana, George Essegbey, who also made a statement.

111. The forum heard presentations by the following resource persons: the Senior Director of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine of the United States and Co-Chair of the United Nations 10-Member Group to Support the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, Vaughan Turekian; and the Executive Director of the Wits Reproductive Health and HIV Institute at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg and member of the Board of the Gavi Alliance, Helen Rees.

112. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: the Executive Director of the InterAcademy Partnership for Research and member of the Global Young Academy, Teresa Stoepler; and the Co-Coordinator of the Action Group on Erosion, Technology and Concentration in the Philippines, Elenita Dano, speaking on behalf of the other stakeholders group for the Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society Organization Engagement Mechanism.

113. Statements were made by the following respondents: the Assistant Minister in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of Serbia, Viktor Nedovic; the Chair of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development and Deputy Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Tertiary Education, Research, Science and Technology of Botswana, Kekgonne Baipoledi; and the European Union Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, Mariya Gabriel.

114. An interactive discussion ensued, during which comments were made by the representatives of India, speaking also on behalf of Japan; Finland, speaking on behalf of the Group of Friends of Digital Technologies; Israel, speaking as Co-Chair of the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals; Nicaragua; Finland; Indonesia; Guatemala; Bangladesh; Egypt; Poland; Jamaica; Norway; Nigeria; Botswana; Costa Rica; and Belgium.

115. Statements were made by the representatives of the International Telecommunication Union and the women major group.

116. The Vice-President of the Council (Mexico) made closing remarks.

2. Voluntary national reviews

117. At the eighth to twelfth and fourteenth to eighteenth informal meetings, held from 10 to 16 July 2020, the forum held voluntary national reviews by 47 presenting countries.

118. At its eighth informal meeting, held on 10 July, the forum heard a statement by the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, Amina Mohammed.

119. At the same meeting, the Vice-President of the Council and Deputy Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations made a statement in his capacity as Chair of the Group of Friends of the Voluntary National Reviews, Follow-up and Review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

120. At the twelfth informal meeting, held on 14 July, following an opening statement by the President of the Council, the forum heard a keynote address in a pre-recorded video message by the President of the fifth session of the United Nations Environment Assembly and Minister of Climate and Environment of Norway, Sveinung Rotevatn, who conveyed the key messages and recommendations from the United Nations Environment Assembly to the forum as a contribution to the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development.

121. At the same meeting, the forum also heard a pre-recorded video message by the President of the Forum of Ministers of the Environment of Latin America and the Caribbean and Minister of Environment and National Beautification of Barbados, Trevor Prescod, on behalf of the region.

122. At the thirteenth informal meeting, on 15 July, the forum held a discussion on the findings and recommendations from the regional forums on sustainable development (see paras. 173–178 below).

(a) Voluntary national reviews: Armenia, Samoa, Ecuador, Honduras and Slovenia

123. At the eighth informal meeting, held on 10 July, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Armenia, Samoa, Ecuador, Honduras and Slovenia were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Armenia), who also made a statement.

124. A presentation on behalf of Armenia was made by the Deputy Prime Minister, Mher Grigoryan, in a pre-recorded video message, and on behalf of Samoa by the Deputy Prime Minister, Fiame Naomi Mataafa, also in a pre-recorded video message.

125. During the ensuing discussion, the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Armenia, Artak Apitonian, responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the Russian Federation, Egypt, Mexico and Kyrgyzstan. The Deputy Prime Minister of Samoa responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of New Zealand, Ireland and Mexico, as well as by the representative of the indigenous peoples major group.

126. A pre-recorded presentation on behalf of Ecuador was made by the Technical Secretary of Planning, Sandra Katherine Argotty, followed by pre-recorded responses to comments and questions received from the delegations of Peru, India and Estonia in advance of the presentation.

127. A pre-recorded presentation on behalf of Honduras was made by the Secretary of State for General Coordination, Martha Doblado Andara, followed by pre-recorded responses to comments and questions received from the delegations of Peru and Guatemala in advance of the presentation.

128. A pre-recorded presentation on behalf of Slovenia was made by the Minister of the Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy, Zvonko

Černač, followed by pre-recorded responses to comments and questions received from the delegations of Estonia and North Macedonia in advance of the presentation.

(b) Voluntary national reviews: Nepal, Georgia, Nigeria, Kenya, Uganda, Bangladesh, India, Morocco and the Niger

129. At the ninth informal meeting, held on 13 July, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Nepal, Georgia, Nigeria, Kenya, Uganda, Bangladesh, India, Morocco and the Niger were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Morocco).

130. Presentations were made on behalf of Nepal by the Vice-Chair of the National Planning Commission, Pushpa Raj Kadel, and on behalf of Georgia by the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Lasha Darsalia.

131. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Austria, Lithuania, Indonesia, Singapore, Norway and Kyrgyzstan, as well as by the representative of the indigenous peoples major group.

132. Presentations were made on behalf of Nigeria by the Senior Special Assistant to the President of Nigeria on the Sustainable Development Goals, Adejoke Orellope-Adefulire; on behalf of Kenya by the Cabinet Secretary of National Treasury and Planning, Ukur Yatani; and on behalf of Uganda by the Minister for General Duties and Cabinet Focal Point for the Sustainable Development Goals, Mary Karoro Okurut.

133. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Bangladesh, the Gambia, Denmark, the United Kingdom and Norway, as well as by the representative of the non-governmental organizations major group.

134. Pre-recorded presentations were made by the delegations of Bangladesh, India, Morocco and the Niger, followed by pre-recorded responses to questions and comments received from the delegations of India (for Bangladesh); Ecuador and Bangladesh, as well as major groups and other stakeholders groups, including Wada Na Todo Abhiyan (for India); Mexico, India, Djibouti and the Niger (for Morocco); and other stakeholders group for the Sendai Stakeholder Engagement Mechanism (for the Niger) in advance of their presentations.

(c) Voluntary national reviews: Panama, Benin, Costa Rica, Peru and Argentina

135. At the tenth informal meeting, held on 13 July, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Panama, Benin, Costa Rica, Peru and Argentina were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Mexico).

136. A pre-recorded presentation was made by the delegation of Panama, followed by pre-recorded responses to questions and comments received from the delegations of Argentina and Costa Rica, as well from the non-governmental organizations major group, in advance of the presentation.

137. Following the presentation, a statement was also made by the Minister of Social Development of Panama, María Inés Castillo de Sanmartín.

138. Presentations were made on behalf of Benin by the Senior Minister of Planning and Development, Abdoulaye Bio Tchane, and on behalf of Costa Rica by the Minister of National Planning and Economic Policy, María del Pilar Garrido.

139. During the ensuing discussion, the Acting Director of the Cabinet of Benin, Sakinatou Bello, speaking on behalf of the Senior Minister of Planning and Development, and the Minister of National Planning and Economic Policy of Costa

Rica responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Switzerland, Mexico, the United Kingdom, Norway and Bhutan, as well as by the representative of the other stakeholders group for education and academia.

140. Presentations were made on behalf of Peru by the President of the Directive Council of the National Centre of Strategic Planning of the Office of the Prime Minister, Javier Abugattas, and on behalf of Argentina by the Executive Secretary of the Nacional Council on the Coordination of Social Policies, Victoria Tolosa Paz.

141. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Ecuador, Spain, Mexico and Paraguay, as well as by the representatives of the indigenous peoples major group and the other stakeholders group for education and academia.

142. The Vice-President of the Council (Mexico) made a statement.

(d) Voluntary national reviews: Finland, Bulgaria, the Russian Federation, Burundi and the Gambia

143. At the eleventh informal meeting, held on 14 July, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Finland, Bulgaria, the Russian Federation, Burundi and the Gambia were chaired by the President of the Council.

144. A presentation on behalf of Finland was made by the Prime Minister, Sanna Marin, in a pre-recorded video message.

145. During the ensuing discussion, the Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, Krista Mikkonen, the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations, Jukka Salovaara, and the Secretary-General of the National Commission for Sustainable Development, Annika Lindblom, responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Sweden, Switzerland, Norway, Romania and Costa Rica, as well as by the representative of the indigenous peoples major group.

146. A presentation on behalf of Bulgaria was made by the Prime Minister of Bulgaria, Boyko Borissov.

147. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Argentina, Indonesia and Botswana, as well as by the representative of the children and youth major group.

148. A presentation on behalf of the Russian Federation was made by the Minister of Economic Development, Maksim Reshetnikov, in a pre-recorded video message.

149. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of India, Kyrgyzstan and China, as well as by the representative of the non-governmental organizations major group.

150. A presentation on behalf of Burundi was made by the President of the Economic and Social Council of Burundi, Denise Sinankwa.

151. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania and the representative of the workers and trade unions major group.

152. A presentation on behalf of the Gambia was made by the Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs, Mambury Njie, in a pre-recorded video message.

153. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representative of Morocco and the representative of the children and youth major group.

(e) Voluntary national reviews: Brunei Darussalam, the Federated States of Micronesia and North Macedonia

154. At the twelfth informal meeting, held on 14 July, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Brunei Darussalam, the Federated States of Micronesia and North Macedonia were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Armenia), who made a statement.

155. Pre-recorded presentations were made by the delegations of Brunei Darussalam and the Federated States of Micronesia, followed by pre-recorded responses to questions and comments received in advance of the presentations.

156. A pre-recorded presentation was also made by the delegation of North Macedonia.

157. During the ensuing discussion, the chargé d'affaires ad interim of the Permanent Mission of North Macedonia to the United Nations, Dusko Uzunovski, responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Slovenia, Costa Rica and Montenegro, as well as by the representative of the other stakeholders group for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons.

(f) Discussion on the topic “Messages from the region”

158. At the thirteenth informal meeting, held on 15 July, the forum held a discussion on the topic “Messages from the region”, chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Morocco) and moderated by the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa and coordinator of the regional commissions, Vera Songwe, who both made statements.

159. Presentations were made by the following panellists: the Minister of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare of Zimbabwe and Chair of the sixth Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development, Paul Mavima; the Minister for Foreign Trade and Foreign Investment of Cuba and Chair of the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, Rodrigo Malmierca; the Assistant Foreign Minister and Spokesperson for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Qatar, Lolwah Al-Khater; the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations Office at Geneva and Chair of the fourth session of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the region of the Economic Commission for Europe, Vagif Sadigov; and the Permanent Representative of Sri Lanka to the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific and Chair of the seventh session of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development, Samantha K. Jayasuriya.

160. A statement was also made by the respondent, the Minister Delegate to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates of Morocco, in charge of Moroccan expatriates, Nezha El Ouafi.

161. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the panellists responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the Congo and Ethiopia.

162. A statement was also made by the representative of the women major group.

163. The moderator made concluding remarks.

(g) Voluntary national reviews: Estonia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Austria, Seychelles and the Syrian Arab Republic

164. At the fourteenth informal meeting, held on 15 July, presentations on voluntary national reviews by Estonia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Austria and Seychelles were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Armenia).

165. A presentation on behalf of Estonia was made by the Prime Minister, Jüri Ratas, in a pre-recorded video message, and by the Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Sven Jürgenson.

166. During the ensuing discussion, the Permanent Representative of Estonia to the United Nations responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Austria, Finland, Slovenia and Ecuador, as well as by the representative of the children and youth major group.

167. A presentation on behalf of Ukraine was made by the Vice-Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration, Olha Stefanishyna, in a pre-recorded video message, and by the Director General of the Directorate for Policy Coordination and Strategic Planning of the Secretariat of the Cabinet Ministers, Dmytro Shevchuk.

168. During the ensuing discussion, the Director General of the Directorate for Policy Coordination and Strategic Planning of the Secretariat of the Cabinet Ministers responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Estonia, Lithuania, Georgia, Finland, Latvia and the Russian Federation, as well as by the representative of the women major group.

169. A presentation on behalf of Uzbekistan was made by the Chairperson of the Senate, Tanzila Kamalovna Narbaeva, and by the First Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction, Ortikov Akmalhon.

170. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, Belarus and Kyrgyzstan.

171. A presentation on behalf of Austria was made by the Federal Minister for the European Union and Constitution, Karoline Edtstadler.

172. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Estonia, Bhutan, Switzerland and Costa Rica, as well as by the representative of the other stakeholders group for education and academia.

173. A presentation on behalf of Seychelles was made by the Minister of Finance, Trade, Investment and Economic Planning, Maurice Loustau-Lalanne.

174. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representative of the United Kingdom and by the United Nations Resident Coordinator for Seychelles, as well as by the representative of the task group on voluntary national reviews of the major groups and other stakeholders.

175. A presentation on behalf of the Syrian Arab Republic was made by the Minister and Head of the Planning and International Cooperation Commission, Imad Sabouni, in a pre-recorded video message.

176. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of China and the Russian Federation, as well as by the representative of the non-governmental organizations major group.

177. The Vice-President of the Council (Morocco) made a statement.

(h) Voluntary national reviews: Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Mozambique and Papua New Guinea

178. At the fifteenth informal meeting, held on 15 July, presentations on voluntary national reviews by Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Mozambique and Papua New Guinea were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Mexico).

179. A presentation on behalf of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines was made by the Minister of Finance, Economic Planning, Sustainable Development and Information Technology, Camillo Gonsalves.

180. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments and questions posed by the representatives of Saint Lucia, Jamaica and the Netherlands, as well as by the representative of the children and youth major group.

181. A pre-recorded presentation on behalf of Trinidad and Tobago was made by the Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Penelope Beckles, and by the Executive Director of the Caribbean Natural Resources Institute, Nicole Leotaud.

182. During the ensuing discussion, the Permanent Representative of Trinidad and Tobago to the United Nations responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Jamaica and Belize.

183. A presentation on behalf of Mozambique was made by the Permanent Representative to the United Nations, António Gumende, in a pre-recorded video message.

184. During the ensuing discussion, the Director General of the Secretariat of the African Peer Review Mechanism of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of Mozambique, Momade Saide, responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Finland, Zimbabwe and Portugal, as well as by the representative of the non-governmental organizations major group.

185. A presentation on behalf of Papua New Guinea was made by the Prime Minister, James Marape, in a pre-recorded video message.

186. During the ensuing discussion, the Minister for National Planning and Monitoring of Papua New Guinea, Sam Basil, responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of India, New Zealand and Australia, as well as by the representative of the other stakeholders group for the Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism.

187. A statement was also made by the representative of China.

(i) Voluntary national reviews: Comoros, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kyrgyzstan and Libya

188. At the sixteenth informal meeting, held on 16 July, presentations on voluntary national reviews by the Comoros, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kyrgyzstan and Libya were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Morocco).

189. A presentation on behalf of the Comoros was made by the Secretary of State in charge of Cooperation, Takiddine Youssouf, and the United Nations Resident Coordinator for the Comoros, Matthias Naab.

190. During the ensuing discussion, the Governor of the island of Ngazidja, Sitti Farouatta Mhoudine, and the General Planning Commissioner, Fouady Goulame, responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Mauritius and France, as well as by the representative of the children and youth major group.

191. A presentation on behalf of the Democratic Republic of the Congo was made by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Planning, Elysée Munembwe Tamukumwe.

192. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representative of the indigenous peoples major group.

193. A presentation on behalf of Kyrgyzstan was made by the Minister of Economy, Sanjar Mukanbetov, in a pre-recorded video message.

194. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Armenia, Nepal, the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan, as well as by the representative of the other stakeholders group for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons.

195. A presentation on behalf of Libya was made by the Minister of Planning, Taher Jehaimi, and by the Head of the Sustainable Development Committee, Taher Belhassan.

196. During the ensuing discussion, the Minister of Planning responded to comments made and questions posed by the representative of Morocco.

197. The Vice-President of the Council (Morocco) made concluding remarks.

(j) Voluntary national reviews: Malawi, Zambia and the Republic of Moldova

198. At the seventeenth informal meeting, on 16 July, presentations on voluntary national reviews by Malawi, Zambia and the Republic of Moldova were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Armenia).

199. A presentation on behalf of Malawi was made by the Director General of the National Planning Commission, Thomas Munthali, in a pre-recorded video message.

200. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the United Kingdom, Zimbabwe and Norway, as well as by the United Nations Resident Coordinator for Malawi and the representative of the non-governmental organizations major group.

201. A presentation on behalf of Zambia was made by the Minister of National Development Planning and Member of Parliament, Alexander Chiteme; the Permanent Secretary for Development Planning and Administration at the Ministry of National Development Planning, Chola J. Chabala; and the representative of youth and civil society organizations, Precious Mulenga.

202. During the ensuing discussion, the Minister of National Development Planning and the Permanent Secretary for Development Planning and Administration responded to comments made and questions posed by the representative of Ireland and by the representative of the workers and trade unions major group.

203. A pre-recorded presentation on behalf of the Republic of Moldova was made by the Deputy Secretary-General of the Government, Adrian Ermurachi, followed by responses to questions and comments received in advance of the presentation.

(k) Voluntary national reviews: Liberia, Barbados and Solomon Islands

204. At the eighteenth informal meeting, held on 16 July, presentations on voluntary national reviews by Liberia, Barbados and Solomon Islands were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Mexico).

205. A presentation on behalf of Liberia was made by the Deputy Minister for Economic Management at the Ministry of Finance and Development Planning, Augustus Flomo.

206. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representative of the children and youth major group.

207. A presentation on behalf of Barbados was made by the Minister of Economic Affairs and Investment, Marsha Caddle.

208. During the ensuing discussion, comments were made and questions were posed by the representatives of Trinidad and Tobago and Costa Rica, as well as by the representative of the other stakeholders group on ageing.

209. A pre-recorded presentation on behalf of Solomon Islands was made by the Prime Minister, Manasseh Damukana Sogavare, and the Minister of National Planning and Development Coordination, Rexon Ramofafia.

210. During the ensuing discussion, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of National Planning and Development Coordination, Susan Sulu, and the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and External Trade, Collin Beck, responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of New Zealand and Australia.

Annex II

Documentation

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
E/2020/56	Note by the Secretary-General on the progress report on the 10-Year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns
E/2020/57	Report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals
E/2020/58	World economic situation and prospects as of mid-2020
E/2020/59	Report of the Secretary-General on the accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development
E/2020/60	Report of the Secretary-General on the long-term future scenarios and the impact of current trends on the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals
A/75/93-E/2020/64	Summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the forum on financing for development follow-up (New York, 23 April 2020 and 2 June 2020)
E/FFDF/2020/3	Report of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up
E/HLPF/2020/1	Provisional agenda and documentation
E/HLPF/2020/2	Note by the Secretariat on the discussion papers on the theme of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, submitted by major groups and other stakeholders
E/HLPF/2020/3	Note by the Secretariat on the reports of the regional forums on sustainable development
E/HLPF/2020/3/Add.1	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the input from the sixth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development
E/HLPF/2020/3/Add.2	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the input from the fourth session of the Regional Forum on Sustainable Development for the Economic Commission for Europe Region
E/HLPF/2020/3/Add.3	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the input from the seventh session of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
E/HLPF/2020/3/Add.4	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the input on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Latin America and the Caribbean
E/HLPF/2020/3/Add.5	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the input on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in the Arab region
E/HLPF/2020/4	Note by the Secretariat on the synthesis of voluntary submissions by functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and other intergovernmental bodies and forums
E/HLPF/2020/5	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the compilation of main messages for the 2020 voluntary national reviews
E/2020/L.20-E/HLPF/2020/L.1	Ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the 2020 session of the Economic and Social Council and the 2020 high-level political forum on sustainable development, convened under the auspices of the Council, on the theme “Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development”
E/HLPF/2020/INF/1	List of participants
E/HLPF/2020/INF/2	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the list of presenters at the voluntary national reviews held during the 2020 session of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council