

**Economic and Social Council**

Distr.: General
9 August 2019

Original: English

High-level political forum on sustainable development

Convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council
9–18 July 2019

Report of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council at its 2019 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 2019 session ([E/HLPF/2019/8](#)), 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, the world is not on track to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. While the 2030 Agenda and the Goals remain the best road map for overcoming the challenges to ending poverty and achieving sustainable development, a deeper, more ambitious, transformative and integrated response is urgently needed. The international community must move out of its comfort zones to pursue new ways of collective action at a much swifter pace.

Inclusive and equitable quality education for all is critical and demands new platforms for cooperation, new partnerships, more support for teachers and increased investment in universal quality education and lifelong learning.

Decent work and economic growth are dynamically interlinked in the Goals and are a means for achieving the 2030 Agenda. New technologies including artificial intelligence, automation and robotics offer both new challenges and opportunities in this area. Special efforts are needed to integrate youth, women and vulnerable groups into the labour market.

Inequality between and within countries remains a major obstacle to the achievement of the Goals, and inaction in that area risks derailing progress on the 2030 Agenda. Effective policies to reduce inequalities require partnerships and political will.

Progress on combating climate change and its effects is falling far short of what is needed. Achieving Goal 13 is still within reach, but implementation of existing commitments needs to be accelerated and the level of ambition raised substantially.



Peace, justice, and transparent, effective, inclusive and accountable institutions, as well as safe civic spaces, are critical to advancing all Goals. This demands responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making at all levels. Efforts are also needed to improve data in this area.

Substantial gaps remain for financing the Goals. National resource mobilization is needed, including through an enabling environment for private investment, strengthening tax administrations and addressing illicit financial flows. Integrated national financing frameworks can support countries in addressing financing challenges. Significant resources can also be mobilized at the regional level.

Overall, the Goals must be more systematically incorporated in plans and policies, with a focus on prioritization and acceleration of progress through interventions that have potential multiplier effects. An ambitious decade of action will ensure a new trajectory for achievement of the Goals.

Partnerships and international cooperation are fundamental in supporting small island developing States to achieve their sustainable development goals, particularly in the areas of health and education. Development strategies in least developed countries and landlocked developing countries must target goals beyond economic growth and encompass aspects related to inclusiveness, equality, universal social services, resilience to climate change, and adequate financing.

In particular, investment in data and capacity is needed for adequate measurements to inform policies that ensure no one is left behind.

Strengthening the role of non-State actors is also vital, and meaningful stakeholder engagement should include broad, inclusive consultations and the establishment of formal mechanisms for sustained stakeholder engagement in implementation of the Goals, in preparations for and discussions of voluntary national reviews at the high-level political forum.

Science can guide Governments in shaping policies that address the interactions among the Goals – the co-benefits and the difficult trade-offs – in a way that will spur positive systemic transformations. The *Global Sustainable Development Report* is an important tool in that regard.

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 [2019/1](#), decided that the forum would be held from 9 to 12 and 15 July 2019 and the high-level segment of its 2019 session from 16 to 19 July, including the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum from 16 to 18 July.
3. In its resolution [70/299](#), the General Assembly decided that the theme of the 2019 session of the forum would be “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality” and that the forum, without prejudice to the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the Sustainable Development Goals and with a view to facilitating an in-depth review of progress made on all Goals over the course of a four-year cycle, would review Goals 4, 8, 10, 13 and 16 in depth, in addition to its annual review of Goal 17.
4. The present report reflects the proceedings of the forum convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council at its 2019 session.

II. Proceedings of and action taken at the forum

5. From 9 to 18 July 2019, the forum held 23 meetings, composed of opening, wrap-up and closing meetings, discussions on the review of Sustainable Development Goals 4, 8, 10, 13, 16 and 17 and on the thematic review, as well as 47 voluntary national reviews. The forum also held a general debate on its theme within the framework of its three-day ministerial meeting during the high-level segment of the Council (see paras. 190 and 191 below).
6. A total of 253 side events, 10 sustainable development learning courses and 5 special events, as well as other related activities, were held on the margins of the formal meetings of the forum and were sponsored by a diverse group of stakeholders, including Governments; agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system; international and intergovernmental organizations; and major groups and other relevant stakeholders.¹ Information on the events is available on the website of the forum (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2019>).

Opening of the forum

7. At the 1st meeting, on 9 July, the President of the Economic and Social Council, Inga Rhonda King (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines), declared open the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council at its 2019 session and made opening remarks.

¹ The major groups, as defined in Agenda 21: Programme of Action for Sustainable Development, are: women; children and youth; 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.

8. At the same meeting, the Vice-President of the Council, Valentin Rybakov (Belarus), presented messages from the Integration Segment of the Council held on 8 July, and the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, Liu Zhenmin, made opening statements.

9. Also at the same meeting, keynote addresses were made by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Violence against Children, Najat Maalla M'jid; author and commentator from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Chris Skinner; and the founder and Executive Director of Island PRIDE and One Young World Ambassador from the Federated States of Micronesia, Yolanda Joab.

Wrap-up session of the first week and conclusion of the forum

10. At the 15th meeting, on 15 July, a wrap-up session was held to reflect the discussions of the first five days, during which the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Maria-Francesca Spatolisano, made a statement.

11. At the same meeting, the President of the Council presented her observations and highlighted key messages from the first five days of the forum.

12. At the 23rd meeting, on 18 July, at the conclusion of the forum, the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, Amina Mohammed, made a statement.

13. At the same meeting, the President of the Council made a statement and declared closed the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council at its 2019 session.

Adoption of the draft report

14. At its 23rd meeting, the forum adopted its draft report ([E/HLPF/2019/L.1](#)) under agenda item 3 (Adoption of the report) and agreed to entrust the President of the Council with finalizing the report to reflect the proceedings of the forum.

III. Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality

15. The proceedings of the forum under agenda item 2, Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality, are set out below.

Interactive discussions on the topic “Progress, gaps and obstacles: are we on track for leaving no one behind?”

16. At its 2nd meeting, on 9 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the topic “Progress, gaps and obstacles: are we on track for leaving no one behind?”, in two parts, chaired by the President of the Council.

Part I: Where do we stand?

17. During the discussion, the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs presented the report of the Secretary-General entitled “Special edition: progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals” ([E/2019/68](#)).

18. The discussion was moderated by the Executive Director for Policy at the United Nations Foundation, Minh-Thu Pham, who made a statement.

19. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: President, National Institute of Statistics and Geography, Mexico, Julio Santaella; Auditor General of Costa Rica, Marta Acosta; Special Representative and Permanent Observer,

Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Robin Ogilvy; and Chief Scientist, International Union for Conservation of Nature, Thomas Brooks.

20. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the European Union, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Indonesia, Sweden, Botswana, Finland, Turkey, Costa Rica, the major group for women and the other stakeholders groups for volunteers and the Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism.

Part II: Who is at risk of being left behind?

21. During the discussion, a keynote address was made by the Professor and Co-Director of the World Inequality Lab and of the World Inequality Database at the Paris School of Economics, Lucas Chancel.

22. The discussion was moderated by the Executive Director of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, Nikhil Seth, who made a statement.

23. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and Coordinator of the Regional Commissions, Alicia Bárcena; Mission Chief to Cambodia, Asia and Pacific Department, International Monetary Fund, Jarkko Turunen; co-founder, Tanzania Data Lab and Africa Philanthropic Foundation, Stephen Chacha; and Senior Director for Humanitarian Policy and Advocacy, International Rescue Committee, Sara Charles.

24. The lead discussant, the Vice-Chair of the National Association for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Lebanon, George Khoury, made a statement.

25. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the European Union, Finland, Haiti, Ethiopia, Nigeria, the Bahamas, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the major groups for workers and trade unions, indigenous people, and children and youth.

Interactive discussion on the topic “What are regions telling us about the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals?”

26. At the 17th (A) meeting, held in parallel with its 17th (B) meeting, on 16 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the topic “What are regions telling us about the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals?”, which was chaired by the President of the Council and moderated by the Executive Secretary of ECLAC. The forum heard the reports by the ministerial chairs on the outcomes of the regional forums on sustainable development.

27. Presentations were made by the Minister for Foreign Trade and Foreign Investment of Cuba, Rodrigo Malmierca Díaz, on behalf of the regional forum convened by ECLAC; the Minister for Legislative Reform and Parliamentary Affairs of Timor-Leste, Fidelis Leite Magalhães, on behalf of the regional forum convened by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP); the Secretary of State responsible for Sustainable Development of Morocco, Nezha El Ouafi, on behalf of the regional forum convened by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA); the Minister for Health and Social Protection of Albania, Ogerta Manastirliu, on behalf of the regional forum convened by the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE); and the Minister for Planning of Iraq, Noori Al-Dulaimi, on behalf of the regional forum convened by the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA).

28. A statement was made by the lead discussant, a representative of civil society and member of the Women's Action Forum, Sarah Zaman.

29. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the presenters responded to the comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Uganda, Chad and Guinea.

Messages to the high-level political forum on sustainable development

30. At the 17th (A) meeting, on 16 July, messages to the forum were made by the President of the United Nations Environment Assembly and Minister for Climate and Environment of Norway, Ola Elvestuen; the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet Jeria; the Chair of the fourteenth session of the United Nations Forum on Forests and Chief State Counsellor at the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development of Slovakia, Boris Greguška; the Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, Jayathma Wickramanayake; and the Director-General of the International Labour Organization, Guy Ryder.

A. Review of Sustainable Development Goals 4, 8, 10, 13, 16 and 17

31. At its 3rd, 6th, 9th, 10th, 12th and 13th meetings, from 9 to 12 and on 15 July, the forum considered agenda item 2 (a), Review of Sustainable Development Goals 4, 8, 10, 13, 16 and 17.

Review of implementation of Goal 4

32. At its 3rd meeting, on 9 July, the forum held a review of Goal 4 (Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all), chaired by the President of the Council and moderated by the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund, Henrietta Fore, who both made statements.

33. The forum viewed a video presentation on children and youth in schools.

34. The representative of the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs made a presentation on the statistical data related to Goal 4.

35. The forum viewed a video presentation on young students at Le Lobby de Poissy, a group of young environmental activists.

36. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: Deputy Minister of Education and Early Childhood Development, Government of New Brunswick, Canada, John McLaughlin; Assistant Director-General for Education, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Stefania Giannini; Vice-Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer, Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, Sheikha Hind bint Hamad Al Thani; and Co-Chair of the Sustainable Development Goal Education 2030 Steering Committee, Kazuhiro Yoshida.

37. The forum viewed a video message from the Special Rapporteur on the right to education, Koumbou Boly Barry.

38. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: President, Education International, Susan Hopgood; President, Fundación Monge, Costa Rica, María José Monge; and Vice-President, Global Campaign for Education, Madeleine Zúñiga.

39. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Algeria, the European Union, Israel, Finland, France, Argentina (on behalf of the Group of Friends for Education and Lifelong Learning), the United States of America, the Philippines,

the Russian Federation, Switzerland, Thailand, Norway, Sweden, Turkey, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Republic of Korea, Belize (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), Belgium, Ethiopia, Spain, Mexico, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Indonesia, China, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Timor-Leste, the United Arab Emirates, the Netherlands, Morocco, the United Nations Environment Programme, the World Intellectual Property Organization, the major groups for non-governmental organizations (also on behalf of the other stakeholder groups for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and volunteers), the scientific and technological community, children and youth, and indigenous people, and the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

Review of implementation of Goal 8

40. At its 6th meeting, on 10 July, the forum held a review of Goal 8 (Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all), chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Belarus) and moderated by the Deputy Director-General for Field Operations and Partnerships of the International Labour Organization, Moussa Oumarou, who both made statements.

41. The representative of the Statistics Division made a presentation on the statistical data related to Goal 8.

42. The moderator conducted a live polling in preparation for the interactive discussion.

43. Statements were made by the following resource persons: Professor and founding Director, Technology and Management Centre for Development, and Professor, Technology and International Development and Fellow, Green Templeton College, Oxford University, Xiaolan Fu; Deputy General Secretary, International Trade Union Confederation, Mamadou Diallo; President, United States Council for International Business and Regional Vice-President for North America, International Organization of Employers, Peter Robinson; and Director-General, Vinnova Swedish Innovation Agency, Darja Isaksson.

44. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Executive Secretary, ECE, Olga Algayerova; and Deputy Secretary-General, International Organization of Employers, Matthias Thorns.

45. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the European Union, Costa Rica, Switzerland, Israel, Kenya, Thailand, Norway, Mexico, Sweden, Turkey, France, the Russian Federation, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Finland, Spain, Czechia, Guatemala, Belize (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), the Niger, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Algeria, South Africa, Poland, Zimbabwe, the Dominican Republic, Azerbaijan, the observers for the Islamic Development Bank Group and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), and the representatives of the International Telecommunication Union, the major groups for farmers, and children and youth, and the other stakeholders groups for financing for development, civil society, Together 2030 and persons with disabilities.

Review of implementation of Goal 10

46. At its 9th meeting, on 11 July, the forum held a review of Sustainable Development Goal 10 (Reduce inequality within and among countries), chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Belarus) and moderated by the Director of the Center on International Cooperation at New York University, Sarah Cliffe, who both made statements.

47. The representative of the Statistics Division made a presentation on the statistical data related to Sustainable Development Goal 10.
48. The moderator conducted a live polling in preparation for the interactive discussion.
49. Statements were made by the following resource persons: Justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa, Edwin Cameron; Lecturer in Public Policy, at the Harvard Kennedy School, Affiliated Professor at the Harvard Graduate School of Design and Senior Advisor for Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing Network, Martha Chen; Assistant Director-General, Economic and Social Development Department, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, Máximo Torero Cullen; and Dean, Graduate School of International Studies, Ewha Woman's University, Republic of Korea, Eun Mee Kim.
50. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Secretary General, International Federation on Ageing, Jane Barratt; Executive Director, Fiji Women's Rights Movement, Nalini Singh; and Director, Development Finance International, Matthew Martin.
51. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the Republic of Korea (on behalf of the Group of Friends of Sustainable Development Goal 10, composed of Argentina, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Czechia, El Salvador, France, Guatemala, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, Peru, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Switzerland, Tunisia and Viet Nam), Israel, Finland, Zambia, France, Norway, El Salvador, Poland, Thailand, the Netherlands, Indonesia, Sweden, Bangladesh, Nepal, Czechia, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Azerbaijan, Mexico, Switzerland, the European Union, the Niger, Guatemala, Spain, Morocco, Viet Nam, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, China, Germany, the Philippines, the observer for INTERPOL, the representatives of the major groups for non-governmental organizations, and workers and trade unions, and the other stakeholders groups for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons, Together 2030, and education and academia.

Review of implementation of Goal 13

52. At its 10th meeting, on 12 July, the forum held a review of Sustainable Development Goal 13 (Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts), chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Omar Hilale (Morocco), and moderated by the Deputy Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Ovais Sarmad, who both made statements.
53. A keynote statement was made by the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the 2019 Climate Action Summit, Luis Alfonso de Alba.
54. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: Minister for Environment of Chile and President of the twenty-fifth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Carolina Schmidt; Co-Chair of the Secretary-General's Climate Science Advisory Group, Leena Srivastava; Deputy Executive Director, Green Climate Fund, Javier Manzanares; Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, Mami Mizutori; Executive Secretary, ESCWA, Rola Dashti; Commissioner for International Affairs, New York City Mayor's Office, Penny Abeywardena; Chairman, Xiamen Airlines of China, Zhao Dong; and a young farmer from the World Farmers' Organization and representative of the major group for farmers, Dimakatso (Nono) Sekhoto.

55. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Jamaica, Israel, Germany, China, the Marshall Islands (on behalf of the Pacific small island developing States), Sweden, Poland, Viet Nam, Malawi (on behalf of the Group of Least Developed Countries), Switzerland, Mexico, the Russian Federation, Indonesia, Nepal, Norway, Portugal, France, Côte d'Ivoire, the Niger, Finland, Spain, Thailand, the European Union, South Africa, Morocco, the Republic of Korea, Maldives, Belize (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), Ghana, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Netherlands, the United Republic of Tanzania, Romania, Turkey, Ethiopia, Zimbabwe, New Zealand, Guyana, the United Arab Emirates, Canada, the observers for the Islamic Development Bank Group and the International Renewable Energy Agency and the representatives of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the major groups for indigenous people, local authorities, the scientific and technological community, and non-governmental organizations, and the other stakeholders group for the Sendai Stakeholder Engagement Mechanism.

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

Review of implementation of Goal 16

57. At its 12th meeting, on 12 July, the forum held a review of Goal 16 (Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels), chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Morocco), who made a statement, and moderated by the Director-General of the International Development Law Organization, Irene Khan.

58. The representative of the Statistics Division made a presentation on the statistical data related to Sustainable Development Goal 16.

59. A keynote statement was made by former President of Costa Rica and Vice-President of Club de Madrid, Laura Chinchilla.

60. Statements were also made by youth and children representatives on ending violence against children, Charles Young and Ahona Paul.

61. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Italy, Emanuela del Re; Deputy Minister for Justice, Argentina, María Fernanda Rodríguez; Executive Director for Liaison with Governments and Institutions in Africa, Mo Ibrahim Foundation, Abdoulie Janneh; and President, Inter-Parliamentary Union, Gabriela Cuevas Barron.

62. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: President of the State Audit Institution, United Arab Emirates, and Chairman, International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions, Harib Al Amimi; Coordinator for Economic and Environmental Activities, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Vuk Žugić; and Executive Director, Pastoralists Indigenous Non-governmental Organizations' Forum, Edward Thomas Porokwa.

63. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of France, Finland, the European Union, Bangladesh, the Republic of Korea, Israel, Switzerland, Qatar, the Netherlands, Sweden, Canada, Poland, Nepal, Mali, Czechia, Thailand, Morocco, the Niger, Spain, Mexico, Indonesia, Iraq, Belgium, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Guatemala, Norway, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, the United Arab Emirates, the Dominican Republic, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, the observer for INTERPOL, and the representatives of the major groups for non-governmental organizations and local authorities, and the other stakeholders group for financing for development civil society.

Review of implementation of Goal 17

64. At its 13th meeting, on 15 July, the forum held a round-table discussion on the topic “Financing the Sustainable Development Goals: moving from words into action”, chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Belarus) and moderated by the Permanent Representative of Jamaica to the United Nations, Courtenay Rattray, who both made statements.

65. The representative of the Statistics Division made a presentation on the statistical data related to Goal 17 (Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development).

66. A keynote statement was delivered by the Interim Vice-President and Director of the Global Economy and Development Programme of the Brookings Institution, Homi Kharas.

67. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: Minister for International Development of Norway, Dag-Inge Ulstein; Executive Secretary, ECA, Vera Songwe; Head, South Cooperation Department, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation, Thomas Gass; President, General Committee for Sectoral and Regional Development, Ministry of Development, Investment and International Cooperation, Tunisia, Belgacem Ayed; and Senior Vice-President for the 2030 Development Agenda, United Nations Relations and Partnerships, World Bank Group, Mahmoud Mohieldin.

68. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Lehendakari (President) of the Basque Government, Spain, Iñigo Urkullu Renteria; and Chief Representative Officer, Industrial and Commercial Bank of China in Africa, and Non-Executive Director, Standard Bank Group, Lubin Wang.

69. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons responded to comments made and questions posed by the lead discussants and the representatives of Burkina Faso, Germany, Portugal, Morocco, South Africa, Canada, Denmark, Ethiopia, the Russian Federation, the Philippines, Ghana, Spain, the European Union, Nigeria, New Zealand, Kenya, Pakistan, Sweden, the World Trade Organization, the major groups for women, and workers and trade unions, and the other stakeholders groups for financing for development civil society and persons with disabilities.

B. Thematic review

70. At its 4th, 5th, 7th, 8th and 11th meetings, from 10 to 12 July 2019, the forum held discussions under agenda item 2 (b), Thematic review.

Interactive discussion on the topic “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality: perspectives of small-island developing States, including the main findings from the mid-term review of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action Pathway”

71. At its 4th meeting, on 10 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the topic “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality: perspectives of small island developing States including the main findings from the mid-term review of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway”, chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Mona Juul (Norway), and moderated by the former Executive Director of the Pacific Islands Association of Non-governmental Organizations, Emele Duituturaga, who made a statement.

72. A keynote statement was delivered by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment of Samoa, Fiame Naomi Mataafa.

73. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: Minister of State for Trade, Employment, Business, European Union Digital Single Market and Data Protection of Ireland, Pat Breen; Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Economic Development and Petroleum, Belize, Yvonne Hyde; Minister Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, Mauritius, Rakesh Bhuckory; and Assistant Secretary-General for Human and Social Development, Caribbean Community Secretariat, Douglas Slater.

74. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Director, Office of Development, University of the West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago, Stacy Richards-Kennedy; and Project Manager, Pacific Climate Change Collaboration, Influencing and Learning and the Vanuatu Climate Action Network and Humanitarian Team Coordinator, Oxfam, Vanuatu, Willy Missack.

75. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Belize (on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States), Norway, Tonga, Jamaica, the Dominican Republic, Haiti (on behalf of the Caribbean Community), Fiji, Palau, the Bahamas, the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, the major group for women, and the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

76. The Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs made concluding remarks.

Round-table discussion on the topic “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality: perspectives of least developed countries and landlocked developing countries”

77. At its 5th meeting, on 10 July, the forum held a round-table discussion on the topic “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality: perspectives of least developed countries and landlocked developing countries”, chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Norway), who made a statement, and moderated by the Regional Project Manager at Hivos, Hope Muli.

78. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: Congressman representing Pétion-Ville in Haiti, Jerry Tardieu; Special Rapporteur on the right to development, Saad Alfarargi; High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, Fekitamoeloa Katoa ‘Utoikamanu; and Executive Director, Oxfam, Mexico, Ricardo Fuentes-Nieva.

79. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Permanent Representative of Bhutan to the United Nations and co-facilitator of the political declaration of the midterm review of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024, Doma Tshering; and Co-Chair, CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness, and past Presiding Officer, African Union Economic and Social Cultural Council, Richard Ssewakiryanga.

80. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons and lead discussants responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Malawi (on behalf of the Group of Least Developed Countries), Paraguay (on behalf of the Group of Landlocked Developing Countries), the European Union, Nepal, Ethiopia, Zambia, Turkey, Morocco, Paraguay, Haiti, Mali, the Niger, the observer for the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and the representatives of the major groups for women and indigenous people, and

the other stakeholders group for the Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism.

Interactive discussion on the topic “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness: perspectives of society”

81. At its 7th meeting, on 11 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the topic “Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness: perspectives of society”, chaired by the Vice-President of the Council, Kira Christianne Danganan-Azucena (Philippines), who made a statement, and moderated by the Secretary-General of the International Council for Adult Education and representative of the other stakeholders group for education and academia, Katarina Popović, and the Deputy Director of the Economic and Social Policy Department at the International Trade Union Confederation and Co-Chair of the major groups and other stakeholders steering group, Paola Simonetti.

82. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: Chief Executive Officer, World Blind Union and co-lead, major groups and other stakeholders task group on high-level political forum reform, Jose Viera; Director, Policy and Advocacy and Financing for Development, Society for International Development, Pooja Rangaprasad; Co-Chair Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism, Warda Rina; and representative, major group for children and youth, Donovan Guttieres.

83. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the Philippines, Azerbaijan, Kenya, Morocco, France, the European Union, Belgium, Mexico, Norway, Sweden, Guatemala, Czechia, the major groups for children and youth, women, indigenous people, non-governmental organizations, and workers and trade unions, and the other stakeholders groups for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and the Asia-Pacific Regional Civil Society Engagement Mechanism.

Interactive discussion on the science-policy interface, including the briefing by the independent group of scientists on the *Global Sustainable Development Report*

84. At its 8th meeting, on 11 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the science-policy interface, including the briefing from the independent group of scientists on the *Global Sustainable Development Report*, chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Philippines) and moderated by the Executive Director of the World Academy of Sciences, Romain Murenzi.

85. Presentations were made by the following resource persons: Director, Centre for Development and Environment, University of Bern, and Co-Chair, independent group of scientists on the *Global Sustainable Development Report*, Peter Messerli; former Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Environment, Ministry of National Development Planning, Indonesia, and Co-Chair, independent group of scientists on the *Global Sustainable Development Report*, Endah Murniningtyas; Chief Executive Officer, International Science Council, Heide Hackmann; and visiting scholar, New York University Rudin Center for Transportation Policy and Management, and former Commissioner, New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission, Meera Joshi.

86. Statements were made by the following lead discussants: Head, Global Disaster Risk Reduction, Public Health England, and member, Integrated Research on Disaster Risk Scientific Committee, Virginia Murray; and Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany, Stephan Contius.

87. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of France, Norway, Switzerland, Jamaica, the Dominican Republic, the Republic of Korea, Ghana, South Africa, the European Union, Sweden, Rwanda, the Bahamas, Kenya, the International Atomic Energy Agency, the major group for women and the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

Interactive discussion on the report of the 2019 multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals

88. At its 11th meeting, on 12 July, the forum held an interactive discussion on the report of the 2019 multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals, chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Morocco), and moderated by the Co-Chair of the 2019 multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals and Permanent Representative of Czechia to the United Nations, Marie Chatardová.

89. The forum heard a presentation by the Co-Chair of the 2019 multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals and Permanent Representative of Barbados, H. Elizabeth Thompson.

90. Presentations were also made by the following resource persons: Co-Chair, 10-member advisory group to the multi-stakeholder forum, and Executive Director for Policy and Global Affairs, National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine, United States, Vaughan Turekian; member, 10-member advisory group to the multi-stakeholder forum and Coordinator of the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation Strategy for the 2030 Agenda, Brazil, Paulo Gadelha; and President, Institute for Global Environment Strategies, Japan, Kazuhiko Takeuchi.

91. A statement was made by the lead discussant, the President of the World Federation of Engineering Organizations, Marlene Kanga.

92. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the European Union, Mexico, Israel, the Dominican Republic, Belgium, South Africa, France, China, Ghana, the United Arab Emirates, the observer for the Islamic Development Bank Group and the representatives of the International Telecommunication Union, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, the major group for women and the other stakeholders group for financing for development civil society.

C. Voluntary national reviews

93. At its 14th and 16th to 23rd meetings, from 15 to 18 July 2019, the forum considered 47 voluntary national reviews under agenda item 2 (c), Voluntary national reviews.

94. At its 15th meeting, on 15 July, the forum held a discussion under the sub-item.

Voluntary national reviews: Azerbaijan, Philippines, Sierra Leone and Chile

95. At the 14th meeting, on 15 July, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Azerbaijan, the Philippines, Sierra Leone and Chile were chaired by the President of the Council.

96. Presentations were made on behalf of Azerbaijan by the Deputy Prime Minister and Chair of the National Coordination Council for Sustainable Development, Ali Ahmadov; on behalf of the Philippines by the Secretary of the National Economic and Development Planning Authority, Ernesto Pernia; on behalf of Sierra Leone by

the Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Francis M. Kai-Kai; and on behalf of Chile by the Deputy Minister for Social Development, Alejandra Candia.

97. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Norway, the Russian Federation, Armenia, Guatemala, Sweden, Canada, Thailand, Belarus, Indonesia, Germany, China, Morocco and the major groups for children and youth, indigenous people and women.

Voluntary national reviews: Guatemala, Indonesia and Turkey

98. Also at the 14th meeting, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Guatemala, Indonesia and Turkey were chaired by the President of the Council.

99. Presentations were made on behalf of Guatemala by the Secretary of Planning and Programming of the Presidency, Miguel Ángel Moir; on behalf of Indonesia by the Minister for National Development Planning, Bambang P. S. Brodjonegoro; and on behalf of Turkey by the Chief of Strategy and Budget of the Presidency, Naci Ağbal.

100. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the Philippines, Chile, Australia, the Russian Federation, Pakistan, Germany, Norway, the Dominican Republic, Denmark, the United Kingdom, China and the major groups for women and indigenous people.

Discussion on the topic “Four years of voluntary national reviews: what have we learned about implementing the Sustainable Development Goals?”

101. At its 15th meeting, on 15 July, the forum held a discussion on the topic “Four years of voluntary national reviews: what have we learned about implementing the Sustainable Development Goals?”, chaired by the President of the Council and moderated by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, Achim Steiner.

102. The representative of the Statistics Division made a presentation regarding online platforms on the progress of the Goals and on the visualization of the voluntary national reviews by the United Nations Development Programme and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat.

103. Presentations were also made by the following resource persons: Minister of State, Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment, Ireland, Seán Canney; Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety, Germany, Rita Schwarzelühr-Sutter; Deputy Chief, Office of the President for Economic Analysis and Innovation, Mexico, Abel Hibert; Executive Secretary, ESCAP, Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana; Professor of International Affairs, The New School, and Vice-Chair, Committee for Development Policy, Sakiko Fukuda-Parr; Director-General, Sustainable Development Council, Sri Lanka, Sugath Yalgama; Director of Research, Policy and Practice, Canadian Council for International Cooperation, Shannon Kindornay; Global Senior Director on Advocacy, Policy and External Relations, World Vision, Chris Derksen-Hiebert; and Executive Director, Global Compact Network Kenya, and Chair, Global Compact Africa Region Network Council, Judy Njino.

104. An interactive discussion ensued, during which the resource persons responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Denmark, the European Union, Spain, Norway, Tunisia, Viet Nam, Guatemala, Guyana, the observer for the Islamic Development Bank Group and the representatives of the major groups for indigenous people, workers and trade unions, and women, and the other stakeholders group for volunteers.

Voluntary national reviews: Iceland, Burkina Faso, Lesotho, Palau, Kazakhstan, Algeria, Pakistan and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

105. At the 16th meeting, on 16 July, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Iceland, Burkina Faso, Lesotho, Palau, Kazakhstan, Algeria, Pakistan and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Morocco).

106. A presentation on behalf of Iceland was made by the Prime Minister, Katrín Jakobsdóttir and other presenters.²

107. During the ensuing discussion, the Prime Minister of Iceland responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Canada, the United Kingdom, Sweden, Romania and the major groups for children and youth, and non-governmental organizations.

108. A presentation on behalf of Burkina Faso was made by the Minister for Economy, Finance and Development, Lassane Kabore.

109. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Chad, the Niger, the major group for workers and trade unions, and the other stakeholders group for education and academia.

110. A presentation on behalf of Lesotho was made by the Minister for Development Planning, Tlohelang Aumane and other presenters.²

111. During the ensuing discussion, the Minister for Development Planning responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Norway, the United Republic of Tanzania, Estonia, Zimbabwe and the major group for non-governmental organizations.

112. A presentation on behalf of Palau was made by the Minister for Education, Sinton Soalablai, and other presenters.²

113. During the ensuing discussion, the Minister for Education responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Andorra, Singapore, Tuvalu, Norway, Fiji and the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

114. A presentation on behalf of Kazakhstan was made by the Deputy Minister for the National Economy, Zhaslan Madiyev, and other presenters.²

115. During the ensuing discussion, the Deputy Minister for the National Economy responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the Russian Federation, Viet Nam, Belarus, Morocco, Bahrain, Tuvalu and the other stakeholder group for persons with disabilities.

116. A presentation on behalf of Algeria was made by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rachid Bladehane.

117. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the United Kingdom, Norway, South Africa, Ethiopia and the major group for children and youth.

118. A presentation on behalf of Pakistan was made by the Parliamentary Secretary for Planning, Development and Reform, Kanwal Shauzab.

² See [E/HLPF/2019/INF/3](#), which contains the complete list of presenters.

119. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Oman, Turkey, Iraq and the major groups for women and non-governmental organizations.

120. A presentation on behalf of the United Kingdom was made by the Secretary of State for International Development, Rory Stewart, and other presenters.²

121. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Australia, Algeria, Indonesia, Iceland, Croatia and the major groups for women and non-governmental organizations.

Voluntary national reviews: Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Mongolia, Cambodia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia

122. At the 17th (B) meeting, held in parallel to the 17th (A) meeting of the forum, on 16 July, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Mongolia, Cambodia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Norway).

123. A presentation on behalf of Côte d'Ivoire was made by the Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development, Joseph Seka Seka.

124. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of France, the Niger, Morocco and the major groups for workers and trade unions, and non-governmental organizations.

125. A presentation on behalf of Fiji was made by the Attorney-General and Minister for Economy, Aiyaz Sayed-Khaiyum, and other presenters.²

126. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Lebanon, Canada, Singapore, Tuvalu, Ghana and the major group for women.

127. A presentation on behalf of Mongolia was made by the Minister of Finance, Chimed Khurelbaatar.

128. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Norway, Japan, Sierra Leone and the major groups for women, and children and youth.

129. A presentation on behalf of Cambodia was made by the Minister attached to the Prime Minister and Secretary-General of the Cambodian Rehabilitation and Development Board at the Council for Development, Yanara Chhieng, and other presenters.²

130. During the ensuing discussion, the Secretary of State at the Ministry of Planning and the Minister attached to the Prime Minister and Secretary-General of the Cambodian Rehabilitation and Development Board at the Council for the Development of Cambodia responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the Philippines, Myanmar, Viet Nam, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and the major group for non-governmental organizations.

131. A presentation on behalf of Bosnia and Herzegovina was made by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Josip Brkić.

132. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Sweden, Czechia, North Macedonia, Switzerland and the major group for non-governmental organizations.

133. A presentation on behalf of Croatia was made by the State Secretary for Political Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Zdravka Bušić.

134. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Guyana, the United Kingdom, Sierra Leone and the major group for women.

Voluntary national reviews: Central African Republic and Eswatini

135. At the 18th meeting, on 17 July, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by the Central African Republic and Eswatini were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Norway).

136. Presentations were made on behalf of the Central African Republic by the Minister for Economy, Planning and Cooperation, Félix Moloua, and on behalf of Eswatini by the Minister for Economic Planning and Development, Tambo Gina.

137. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of India, Ghana, Timor-Leste, the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Eswatini and the representative of the major group for workers and trade unions.

Voluntary national reviews: Iraq, Saint Lucia, Serbia, Tonga, South Africa, Rwanda, Kuwait and New Zealand

138. At the 19th meeting of the forum, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Iraq, Saint Lucia, Serbia, Tonga, South Africa, Rwanda, Kuwait and New Zealand were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Norway).

139. A presentation was made on behalf of Iraq by the Minister of Planning, Noori Sabah Hameed Al-Dulaimi.

140. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Pakistan, Indonesia, Morocco and the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

141. A presentation was made on behalf of Saint Lucia by the Minister for Education, Gender Relations, Innovation and Sustainable Development, Gale Rigobert.

142. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Antigua and Barbuda, Trinidad and Tobago, Estonia, Norway and the major group for women.

143. A presentation was made on behalf of Serbia by the Minister in charge of Demography and Population Policy, Slavica Djukić Dejanović and other presenters.²

144. During the ensuing discussion, the Minister in charge of Demography and Population Policy responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of North Macedonia, Norway, Switzerland, Slovakia, the major group for women and the other stakeholders group for academia and education.

145. A presentation was made on behalf of Tonga by the Deputy Prime Minister, Semisi Lafu Kioa Sika and other presenters.²

146. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Belize, the Netherlands, India, Norway and the major group for non-governmental organizations.

147. A presentation was made on behalf of South Africa by the Minister of Tourism, Mmamoloko Kubayi-Ngubane.

148. During the ensuing discussion, the Minister of Tourism and the Deputy Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs, Parks Tau, responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Germany, India, Algeria, Brazil and the major groups for women and non-governmental organizations.

149. A presentation was made on behalf of Rwanda by the Minister of State in Charge of Economic Planning in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Claudine Uwera.

150. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Guyana, Botswana, China, Mauritius and the major group for women.

151. A presentation was made on behalf of Kuwait by the Secretary-General of the Supreme Council for Planning and Development Khaled Mahdi; and other presenters.²

152. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Canada, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Morocco, Norway and the major group for non-governmental organizations.

153. A presentation was made on behalf of New Zealand by the Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Craig Hawke and other presenters.²

154. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Canada, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, the major group for non-governmental organizations and the other stakeholders group for education and academia.

Voluntary national review: Chad, Ghana, Israel, Timor-Leste, United Republic of Tanzania and Vanuatu

155. At the 20th meeting, on 17 July, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Chad, Ghana, Israel, Timor-Leste, the United Republic of Tanzania and Vanuatu were chaired by the Vice-President of the Council (Philippines).

156. A presentation on behalf of Chad was made by the Minister for Economy and Development Planning, Issa Doubragne.

157. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Burkina Faso, Ireland, Singapore, Norway, the Niger, Morocco and the major group for women.

158. A presentation on behalf of Ghana was made by the Minister for Planning, George Gyan-Baffour, and other presenters.²

159. During the ensuing discussion, the Minister for Planning responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Norway, Germany, Cameroon, Denmark and the major groups for women and non-governmental organizations.

160. A presentation on behalf of Israel was made by the Minister for Environmental Protection and Minister for Jerusalem Affairs and Heritage, Zeev Elkin and other presenters.²

161. During the ensuing discussion, the Minister for Environmental Protection and Minister for Jerusalem Affairs and Heritage responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Austria, Argentina, the State of Palestine, Australia, Czechia and the major group for non-governmental organizations.

162. A presentation on behalf of Timor-Leste was made by the Minister for Legislative Reform and Parliamentary Affairs, Fidelis Leite Magalhães and other presenters.²

163. During the ensuing discussion, the Minister for Legislative Reform and Parliamentary Affairs responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Thailand, the Central African Republic, Australia, Canada, China and the major group for non-governmental organizations.

164. A presentation on behalf of the United Republic of Tanzania was made by the Minister for Finance and Planning, Philip Mpango.

165. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Finland, Lesotho, Denmark, Canada, Kenya and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

166. A presentation on behalf of Vanuatu was made by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and External Trade, Ralph Regenvanu.

167. During the ensuing discussion, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and External Trade; the Head of Monitoring and Evaluation of the Department of Strategic Planning, Policy, Aid and Coordination at the Ministry of the Prime Minister in Vanuatu, Juliette Hakwa; and the Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Odo Tevi, responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Tuvalu, Canada, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Belize, Fiji and the major group for non-governmental organizations.

Voluntary national reviews: Cameroon and Tunisia

168. At the 21st meeting, on 18 July, presentations on voluntary national reviews by Cameroon and Tunisia were chaired by the President of the Council.

169. Presentations were made on behalf of Cameroon by the Minister for the Economy, Planning and Regional Development, Alamine Ousmane Mey, and on behalf of Tunisia by the President of the General Committee for Sectoral and Regional Development at the Ministry of Development, Investment and International Cooperation, Belgacem Ayed.

170. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Norway, Mexico, Oman, the Congo, Morocco and Libya, the observer for the Islamic Development Bank Group, the Resident Coordinator for Cameroon, the Executive Secretary of ESCWA, the Resident Coordinator for Tunisia and the representatives of the major group for women and the other stakeholders group for education and academia.

Voluntary national reviews: Congo, Nauru, Oman, Mauritius, Guyana and Liechtenstein

171. At the 22nd meeting, on 18 July, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by the Congo, Nauru, Oman, Mauritius, Guyana and Liechtenstein were chaired by the President of the Council.

172. A presentation was made on behalf of the Congo by the Minister for Planning, Statistics and Regional Integration, Ingrid Olga Ghislaine Ebouka-Babackas.

173. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of the Niger and Cameroon.

174. A presentation was made on behalf of Nauru by the Minister for Finance and Sustainable Development, David Adeang, and other presenters.²

175. During the ensuing discussion, the Minister for Finance and Sustainable Development responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Australia, Norway, the Solomon Islands, Fiji and the major group for non-governmental organizations.

176. A presentation was made on behalf of Oman by the Minister for Commerce and Industry and Vice-Chairman for the Supreme Planning Council, Ali Masoud Ali Al Sunaidy, and other presenters.²

177. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Tunisia, Estonia, Pakistan, Norway, India, the observer for the Islamic Development Bank Group and the representative of the major group for workers and trade unions.

178. A presentation was made on behalf of Mauritius by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, Nandcoomar Bodha.

179. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Canada, the Federated States of Micronesia, Uruguay, India, Rwanda and the other stakeholders group for persons with disabilities.

180. A presentation was made on behalf of Guyana by the Minister of State, Dawn Hastings-Williams and other presenters.²

181. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters, as well as the Chairman of the Private Sector Commission, Gerald Gouveia, responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Norway, Belize, Jamaica, Canada, China, Cabo Verde, ECLAC, the United Nations Resident Coordinator in Guyana, and the representative for the other stakeholders group on ageing.

182. A presentation was made on behalf of Liechtenstein by the Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Christian Wenaweser and other presenters.²

183. During the ensuing discussion, the presenters responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Mexico, Argentina, Indonesia, Zambia and the other stakeholders group on education and academia.

Voluntary national reviews: Mauritania and Turkmenistan

184. During the 23rd meeting of the forum, on 18 July, presentations on the voluntary national reviews by Mauritania and Turkmenistan were chaired by the President of the Council.

185. A presentation on behalf of Mauritania was made by the Minister for Economy and Finance, El Moctar Ould Djay.

186. During the ensuing discussion, the presenter responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Canada, the Dominican Republic, Senegal, ESCWA and the major group for non-governmental organizations.

187. A presentation on behalf of Turkmenistan was made by the Minister for Finance and the Economy, Batyr Bazarov, and other presenters.²

188. During the ensuing discussion, the Minister for Finance and the Economy responded to comments made and questions posed by the representatives of Uzbekistan, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Norway, Kazakhstan, Romania and China.

D. General debate

189. The forum held its general debate from 16 to 19 July, within the framework of the ministerial meeting of the forum during the high-level segment of the 2019 session of the Council.³

³ An account of the proceedings of the general debate is contained in the report of the Economic and Social Council on its 2019 session ([A/74/3](#)) and in the relevant summary records ([E/2019/SR.30](#), [E/2019/SR.31](#), [E/2019/SR.32](#), [E/2019/SR.33](#) and [E/2019/SR.34](#)).

190. The general debate heard 196 statements, composed of 139 statements by representatives of States and the European Union (including 16 statements on behalf of groups of States), 15 statements by observers for intergovernmental organizations and representatives of specialized agencies and other entities of the United Nations system, and 42 statements by representatives of non-governmental organizations, major groups and other stakeholders.

IV. Organizational and other matters

A. Agenda

191. At its 1st meeting, on 9 July, the forum adopted its provisional agenda ([E/HLPF/2019/1](#)):

1. Adoption of the agenda.
2. Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality:⁴
 - (a) Review of Sustainable Development Goals 4, 8, 10, 13, 16 and 17;
 - (b) Thematic review;
 - (c) Voluntary national reviews.
3. Adoption of the report.

B. Attendance

192. The forum was attended by representatives of 167 States Members of the United Nations and States members of specialized agencies. Accredited observers for intergovernmental organizations, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and accredited representatives of non-governmental and other organizations also attended. The list of participants is contained in document [E/HLPF/2019/INF/1](#).

C. Documentation

193. The documents before the forum are listed in the annex to the present report. The informal papers considered by the forum are available on the website of the forum (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2019>).

⁴ General Assembly resolution [70/299](#).

Annex

Documentation

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
A/74/87–E/2019/71	Summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the forum on financing for development follow-up, including the special high-level meeting with the Bretton Woods institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
E/2019/64	Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the progress report on the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns
E/2019/65	Report of the Secretary-General on empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality
E/2019/66	Report of the Secretary-General on the long-term impact of current trends in the economic, social and environmental areas on the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals
E/2019/68	Report of the Secretary-General on progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (special edition)
E/FFDF/2019/3	Report of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up
E/HLPF/2019/1	Provisional agenda and documentation
E/HLPF/2019/2	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/2019/3	Note by the Secretariat on the reports of the regional forums on sustainable development
E/HLPF/2019/3/Add.1	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the report of the regional forum on sustainable development for the Economic Commission for Europe region on its third session
E/HLPF/2019/3/Add.2	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the input from the Sixth Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development
E/HLPF/2019/3/Add.3	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the report of the 2019 Arab Forum for Sustainable Development
E/HLPF/2019/3/Add.4	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the input from the fifth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development

<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
E/HLPF/2019/3/Add.5	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the input from the third meeting of the Forum of Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development
E/HLPF/2019/4	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/2019/5	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the compilation of main messages for the 2019 voluntary national reviews
E/HLPF/2019/6	Note by the Secretariat transmitting the Co-Chairs' summary of the multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals
E/HLPF/2019/L.1	Draft report
E/HLPF/2019/INF/1	List of participants
