



HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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Session on “Working towards the 2023 SDG Summit”

Thursday, 7 July 2022, 12:00 to 1 pm



Secretariat Background Note



The second “SDG Summit” - the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development under the auspices of the General Assembly - will be convened in September 2023 during the General Assembly high-level week in New York. The Summit will mark the mid-point in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals.



Preparations for the SDG Summit should aim to recreate the sense of ownership, hope and enthusiasm that characterized the elaboration and adoption of the SDGs. It should be characterized by realism and optimism. In conducting the mid-term review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the Summit will need to recognize setbacks inflicted to the SDGs by COVID-19 and the current geopolitical situation. But it should also convey that, despite headwinds, the 2030 Agenda remains our guiding framework to build a better world as part of our strategies to overcome crises. It should celebrate the advances that have been made in several areas, including during the pandemic. The Summit and its preparations are an intergovernmental process, but all stakeholders need to be engaged as was the case for the SDGs.



At the Summit, the Heads of State and Government will comprehensively review progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the achievement of the SDGs and provide political guidance for the way forward for accelerating the full implementation of the SDGs in the remaining years towards 2030.

This session will launch the preparations for the September 2023 SDG Summit. Speakers will discuss the focus and expected outcomes from the Summit, the comprehensive preparations for the Summit and the mid-term review of the implementation of the SDGs at the local, national, regional and global levels, and ways to strengthen actions and innovative solutions. The Summit of the Future will be in complementarity with the SDG Summit and build on other important processes during 2022 and 2023.



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Proposed guiding questions:

- What would be the main focus and expected outcomes of the September 2023 SDG Summit, for supporting the kind of recovery from COVID-19, climate and other crises in a way that advances the implementation of the 2030 Agenda?
- How can we best prepare the Summit at the national, regional and global levels with ownership by all Member States and engagement of all stakeholders? How can we best use the findings from the 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report?
- What kind of achievements can countries, international institutions and other stakeholders deliver by the time of the Summit? Which countries, network or organization can advocate for the delivery of new policies or initiatives and for new ambitious action pledges and commitments to be made at the Summit?
- How can we generate processes that further align the private sector with the SDGs and mobilizes engagement and action of all stakeholders, revealing the sense of ownership and enthusiasm that characterized the elaborations of the 2030 Agenda, despite the on-going crises?
- How to make the Summit unique and how to bring the voices of women, and people including the most vulnerable groups such as youth and children, and grass roots community representatives?
- How to better coordinate the SDG Summit with other relevant processes, including Our Common Agenda, the Transforming Education Summit, the Summit of the Future, the mid-term review of the Sendai Framework, and the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development also planned for September 2023?