Information Note on the arrangements for the 2023 High-level Political Forum and the High-level Segment of the Economic and Social Council (10-20 July 2023, New York)

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1. Overview

The 2023 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) will be convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) from Monday, 10 July 2023 to Friday, 14 July 2023 in New York. The High-Level Segment of the Economic and Social
Council, including the Ministerial Segment of the HLPF will be held from Monday, 17 July, to Thursday, 20 July 2023. The theme will be “Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels”. The HLPF in 2023 will review in-depth SDGs 6, 7, 9, 11 and 17. It will be a pre-summit preparation for the SDG Summit – the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development under the auspices of the General Assembly to be held on 18-19 September 2023.

Format:

All official meetings of the 2023 HLPF and the High-level Segment of ECOSOC will be held in-person at the UN Headquarters in New York.

Venue:

The opening of the HLPF and the townhall meeting in the morning of Monday, 10 July 2023, the opening of the Ministerial Segment of HLPF and the High-level Segment of ECOSOC, the Fireside Chat featuring GSDR scientists, and the general debate in the morning and afternoon of Monday, 17 July 2023, will be held in the General Assembly Hall.

Other official meetings of the HLPF will be held in Conference Room 4 (accessible via the first basement or the visitors’ lobby on the ground floor of the Conference Building) and the Trusteeship Council Chamber.

The last day of the High-Level Segment of ECOSOC on 20 July will be held in the ECOSOC Chamber.

Conference Room 4 will serve as an overflow room on the morning of 10 July and the morning of 17 July to accommodate participants who may not be able to access the General Assembly Hall.

It is recommended to consult the UN Journal for the most up-to-date information on the HLPF meeting venues: https://journal.un.org/.

Participation:

Ministerial or higher-level participation is encouraged throughout the HLPF and the High-Level Segment of ECOSOC. Countries are encouraged to present their Voluntary National
Reviews (VNRs) at a ministerial or higher-level and to include representatives of various ministries and sectors in their delegations. All delegations are encouraged to ensure diverse and inclusive compositions of their delegations to bring a variety of voices and viewpoints to the forum.

Further information on inscribing in the list of speakers for the general debate of the ministerial days of the HLPF and the High-level Segment of ECOSOC to be held from Monday, 17 July to Thursday, 20 July, and to express interest in speaking at the ECOSOC High-level segment panel discussion on “Strengthening UN system institutions for resilient sustainable development” to be held on Thursday, 20 July 2023 is provided below.

**Voluntary National Reviews:**

From 14 to 19 July, the HLPF will hear presentations from 39 VNR countries. The European Union will also present a voluntary review. Two presenters will present for the first time, 37 for the second time, and 1 for the third time ([VNRs | High-Level Political Forum 2023 (un.org)]). A schedule of the presentations will be available on the HLPF website as part of the updated HLPF programme. All VNR reports will be posted online at [Countries | High-Level Political Forum](Countries | High-Level Political Forum), as they are received.

In an effort to maximize the value of the VNR process and allow for more time for meaningful and interactive discussions with the presenting countries, additional time has been allocated for Q&A. First time presenters will have 15 minutes for their presentation and around 20 minutes for Q&A. The second and third timers will have 10 minutes for their presentation and around 15 minutes for Q&A and will present in a panel format.

During the allotted time for questions and answers, there will be an opportunity for a limited number of questions and comments by participating States and stakeholders. At the end of the session, the VNR countries will be given a few minutes to respond to the interventions made. In case of lack of time, written responses can also be provided, if decided by the VNR country.

**2. Provisional agenda, schedule of meetings and documentation**

The provisional agenda, programme, annotated programme with speakers, the Secretariat’s concept note, background notes for each thematic session and all other information for the forum are available on the HLPF website at [High-Level Political Forum 2023 (un.org)](High-Level Political Forum 2023 (un.org)). The website is being updated frequently, and participants are invited to check for updates
regularly.

All official documentation for the HLPF is available at the HLPF website

Documentation | High-Level Political Forum 2023 (un.org)

Documentation includes notably:

- Provisional agenda and documentation (E/HLPF/2023/1)
- Report of the Secretary-General (special edition) on “Progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals: Towards a Rescue Plan for People and Planet”
- Report of the Secretary-General on “Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels” (for ECOSOC high-level segment)
- Report of the Secretary-General on “long-term future trends and scenarios - impacts on the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals” (for ECOSOC high-level segment)
- Synthesis of submissions by functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and other intergovernmental bodies and forums
- Reports of the regional forums on sustainable development
- Discussion papers on the theme of the high-level political forum on sustainable development submitted by major groups and other stakeholders
- Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the progress report on the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production patterns
- Report of the Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development follow-up on its 2023 session, including the intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations of the forum
- Summary by the President of the Economic and Social Council of the 2023 session of the Economic and Social Council forum on Financing for development follow-up
- Co-Chairs’ summary of the 2023 Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals
- Summary of the eighth high-level meeting of the Development Cooperation Forum
Voluntary inputs from governments, inputs from ECOSOC functional commissions and other intergovernmental bodies and forums, inputs from major groups and other stakeholders, as well contributions from multi-stakeholder partnerships and voluntary commitments can be found at Inputs to the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development | High-Level Political Forum (un.org)

Information on side events, special events, VNR Labs and exhibitions is available on the meeting website: High-Level Political Forum 2023 (un.org)

3. General debate

The general debate will be held in person during the ministerial days of the HLPF and the high-level segment of ECOSOC from 17 to 20 July. It will focus on the theme “Building momentum towards the 2023 SDG Summit: Transformation for accelerating implementation of the SDGs”. It will allow Ministers and high-level representatives of participating States, as well as IGOs, UN system, and major groups and other stakeholders to exchange experiences, lessons learned, policy guidance, transformative actions and initiatives for the SDG Summit.

The list of speakers for the general debate of the high-level segment of ECOSOC, including the ministerial segment of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council, will open on 5 June 2023 at 10 a.m. (EDT) and close by 17:00, on 12 July 2023. Requests for inscription on the list of speakers by Member States, Observers and UN entities should be submitted through the e-Speakers module in e-deleGATE. Observers and United Nations system entities that do not have access to the e-deleGATE portal should send their request, in writing, to the ECOSOC Affairs Branch (constablem@un.org). An announcement in this regard was circulated through “ECOSOC Announcements” in the e-deleGATE portal on 31 May 2023.

To ensure proper interpretation into the UN official languages, written copies of all statements delivered in the HLPF and the High-level Segment of ECOSOC should be sent to statements@un.org at least two hours in advance of delivery. Interpretation for statements not sent in advance may be impacted or suspended.
Delegations of States should inscribe to the general debate through the e-Speakers module of the e-delegate portal (edelegate.un.int). An automated email acknowledgement will be sent within one hour of receipt of request for inscription. The list of speakers will be maintained in accordance with customary protocol and on a first-come, first-served basis. Statements in the general debate should not exceed four minutes when speaking in a national capacity, and six minutes when speaking on behalf of a group. Statements other than those delivered by or on behalf of States should be limited to three minutes. In the interests of time management, automatic microphone cut-off may be implemented, as necessary.

Intergovernmental organizations and entities that have observer status with the General Assembly or the Economic and Social Council; and United Nations system entities, wishing to inscribe in the list of speakers and that have access to the e-delegate portal should submit their requests through the e-Speakers system. Those entities that do not have access to the e-delegate portal are asked to send their request, in writing, to the ECOSOC Affairs Branch (constablem@un.org). Statements in the general debate should not exceed three minutes.

4. Interventions in interactive discussions

For the ECOSOC High-level segment panel discussion on “Strengthening UN system institutions for resilient sustainable development” to be held on Thursday, 20 July 2023, States, Observers/IGOs and UN system entities should submit their expressions of interest using the espeakers module of the edelegate portal. Those entities that do not have access to the e-delegate portal are asked to send their request, in writing, to the ECOSOC Affairs Branch (leonc@un.org). Statements will be heard, time permitting.

For all other interactive discussions, meeting participants are invited to request the floor during discussions of the HLPF and the High-level Segment of ECOSOC by pressing the microphone button on the console.

Given the limited time available and in order to allow the maximum number of participants to intervene, interventions in interactive discussions should be limited to no more than three minutes. The time limit will be strictly implemented, including through the use of a
timing device and/or microphone cutoff, as necessary. Participants are discouraged from reading prepared statements. Instead, they are invited to make informal remarks and engage in an interactive discussion. The Chair or moderator may intersperse the interventions of participating States with interventions by intergovernmental organizations/observers, representatives of the UN system and major groups and other stakeholders (HLPF)/ accredited NGOs (ECOSOC HLS).

5. Interpretation

Interpretation in the six UN official languages will be available for all formal plenary meetings. To ensure proper interpretation into the UN official languages, written copies of all statements delivered in the HLPF and the High-level Segment of ECOSOC should be sent to statements@un.org at least two hours in advance of delivery. Interpretation for statements not sent in advance may be impacted or suspended. Statements need to be submitted in advance to statements@un.org in order to be shared with interpreters. Statements will be available in the entry for the relevant meeting in the UN Journal (https://journal.un.org). The subject line of the email should clearly identify the date and time of the meeting at which the intervention will be delivered.

Remarks that are in the form of talking points or drafts may be submitted to IS-UNHQ is-unhq@un.org for the use by the interpreters only. Remarks sent to the IS email address will not be published or shared.

To enable accurate interpretation, speakers should speak clearly and at a moderate pace.

Delegations seeking to provide their own interpreters for non-official languages for official meetings of the HLPF/High-level segment are requested to inform the Meetings Management Section of the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management well in advance by filling out the form at the following link: https://forms.office.com/e/L2Dp4c3um5

The Meetings Management Section will provide further instructions. Member States will be provided a spare interpretation booth for their interpreters to translate their statements from their languages into one of the UN official languages in one direction only. Please submit requests as far as possible in advance of the relevant meeting.
### 6. Registration and List of Participants

**Registration**

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 67/290, the HLPF is open to all States Members of the United Nations and States members of specialized agencies, entities and organizations having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the General Assembly, UN entities, major groups and other relevant stakeholders.

Registration is only required for the purpose of requesting a UN grounds pass. In addition, delegations will need to submit the composition of their delegations in the ‘e-list of participants’ module on e-deleGATE for inclusion in the list of participants.

All participants should be registered for the HLPF accordingly:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Delegations of States and Observers</th>
<th>Meeting Registration (Request for UN Grounds Pass)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Observers</td>
<td>Registration (request of UN grounds pass) of official delegations of Member States, observers and intergovernmental organizations, as well as specialized agencies and related organizations will be carried out by the Protocol and Liaison Service of the United Nations. To obtain UN grounds passes for delegations participating in the meeting in-person, permanent missions/offices are required to submit their registration requests by using the online eRegistration system, available through the e-deleGATE portal at <a href="https://edelegate.un.int">https://edelegate.un.int</a>, preferably by 27 June 2023.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intergovernmental Organizations</td>
<td>Delegations wishing to obtain information on the system may refer to the updated “Guidelines on eRegistration” and “Frequently asked questions” sections posted on the Protocol and Liaison Service website (<a href="http://www.un.org/dgacm/en/content/protocol/meetings">www.un.org/dgacm/en/content/protocol/meetings</a>).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialized Agencies</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Related Organizations</td>
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| UN Secretariat Entities            | Registration of UN system entities (other than specialized agencies and related organizations) requires a formal communication signed by the entity’s Principal or designated official listing the member(s) of the delegation to be sent to DESA at desa-iisb@un.org. Please indicate the name of your entity in the subject line of the message. Deadline for registration of UN system entities is 23 June 2023. |
| Funds and Programmes               |                                               |
| Regional Commissions               |                                               |

Registration of Resident Coordinators (RC) and staff of RC Offices requires a formal request sent by the Resident Coordinator to the UN Development
Coordination Office (Ms. Ana-Maria Lebada ana-maria.lebada@un.org).

| Major groups and other stakeholders | Representatives of accredited entities (those NGOs having consultative status with ECOSOC and those on the Commission for Sustainable Development roster) are requested to register using the Indico online events registration system 2023 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council (10-19 July 2023): Overview · Indico by 25 June 2023. |
| Invited speakers, panelists, and lead discussants | Invited speakers representing sectors of government should coordinate registration through their national delegations. Those representing non-governmental sectors will be registered by the HLPF secretariat. |
| Side Event Participants | Organizers of side events should request special events passes from the UN Department for Safety and Security (UNDSS) for those participants in their events who are not in possession of a UN Grounds Pass (request to: Captain Dorcus Lourien security_service_coordinator@un.org) 3 business days prior to the holding of the event to allow processing of the request. Kindly title your communication “HLPF Side Event [COUNTRY/ORGANIZATION]” |

List of participants

Please note that registration of participants through the online registration system is distinct from providing a delegation list for inclusion in the list of participants of the HLPF. For inclusion in the list of participants, the following steps should be followed:

| Delegations of States Observers Intergovernmental Organizations Specialized Agencies Related Organizations | List of Participants For inclusion in the formal list of participants, delegations from States, Observers including Intergovernmental Organizations, Specialized Agencies and Related Organizations should register the names of representatives, alternate representatives and advisers through the e-List of Participants module on the e-deleGATE portal (https://edelegate.un.int/), no later than 18:00 on Thursday, 20 July 2023. The List of participants will be issued at the end of the 2023 session as document E/HLPF/2023/INF/1. (Please note that submitting a delegation list through the e-List of Participants module on e-delegate is not the same as meeting registration for the purpose of requesting a UN grounds pass and does not grant access to the premises for those without a valid UN grounds pass. In order to receive grounds passes, a separate registration step needs to be |
completed, as explained above under the heading “Meeting Registration (Request for UN Grounds Pass)”.

Representatives of Observers/Intergovernmental organizations and the United Nations system, including funds, programmes, specialized agencies and regional commissions, that do not have access to the e-List of Participants module on the e-delegGATE platform should send their delegation lists in both Word and PDF format to ecosocplace@un.org, no later than 18:00 on Thursday, 20 July 2023.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UN Secretariat Entities</th>
<th>Funds and Programmes</th>
<th>Regional Commissions</th>
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</thead>
</table>

For inclusion in the list of participants, registered UN entities should provide the names of participants through the e-List of Participants module on the e-delegGATE portal [https://edelegate.un.int/](https://edelegate.un.int/), or by sending the delegation list in both Word and PDF format to ecosocplace@un.org, no later than 18:00 on Thursday, 20 July 2023.

7. **Arrival and check-in**

To facilitate participation in the meetings, the business hours of the **UN Pass and ID Unit** located at 320 East 45th Street have been extended as follows: Sunday, 9 July, from 10:00 AM -4:00 PM; Monday, 10 July from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM; and Monday, 17 July from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM.

On all other days, the Unit will maintain normal office hours from Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM (Tel: 1-212-963-7533).

In addition, the **Visitor Entrance** located at 46th Street and First Avenue will be open as follows:

- **Monday, 10 July:** 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM
- **Tuesday, 11 July:** 7:30 AM – 7:00 PM
- **Wednesday, 12 July:** 7:30 AM – 7:00 PM
- **Thursday, 13 July:** 7:30 AM – 7:00 PM
- **Friday, 14 July:** 7:30 AM – 7:00 PM
- **Monday, 17 July:** 7:00 AM – 7:00 PM
- **Tuesday, 18 July:** 7:30 AM – 7:00 PM
- **Wednesday, 19 July:** 7:30 AM – 7:00 PM
- **Thursday, 20 July:** 8:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Participants may access UN Headquarters at the following points:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Staff entrance</th>
<th>Visitors’ entrance</th>
<th>Delegations</th>
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<tr>
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<td>✔</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Observers, incl. IGOs, and UN system entities</td>
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<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Major groups and other stakeholders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Speakers, Panellists, Invited Guests</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **UN Delegations, Observers and UN System entities** may check in and collect their passes at the UN Pass and ID Unit, located at 320 East 45th Street, between 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. Monday through Friday.

- **Major groups and other stakeholders** Representatives of major groups and other stakeholders must be in possession of a valid (blue) UN Grounds Pass to attend the HLPF. Individuals already in possession of a valid UN Grounds Pass can enter UN premises but are requested to register for the HLPF using the Indico online events registration system [2023 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council (10-19 July 2023): Overview - Indico](https://2023.hlpf.un.org) by [25 June 2023](https://2023.hlpf.un.org).

- Once registered, representatives ECOSOC-accredited NGOs who require a new UN Grounds Pass are requested to follow the instructions and steps outlined on the CSO Net for obtaining a Pass: [http://csonet.org/index.php?menu=86](http://csonet.org/index.php?menu=86)

Keynote speakers, moderators, panelists, and lead discussants will be contacted individually by the HLPF Secretariat with instructions pertaining to their arrival and check-in.

The grounds pass should be worn at all times on UN premises. Please ensure that you have a government issued valid photo ID on you. Please allow at least 15 minutes for mandatory security screening.

8. HLPF Seating Arrangements

The seating of delegations in Conference Room 4, the General Assembly Hall and the Trusteeship Council Chamber will be according to the “all States formula”, followed by observers/intergovernmental organizations, UN system entities, major groups and other stakeholders. The seating of delegations in the ECOSOC Chamber on 20 July will be according to the “ECOSOC protocol” with ECOSOC members followed by States not members of the Council, observers/intergovernmental organizations, UN system entities and accredited NGOs.

The capacity of the conference rooms does not allow for all registered observers/intergovernmental organizations and United Nations entities to have a seat with a microphone. Additional seating is available in the public gallery, subject to limitations on room capacity.

Gallery seating will be available on a first come first served basis, while special arrangements will be made for major groups and other stakeholders.

The seating arrangements for the delegations presenting their Voluntary National Reviews have been discussed separately with the concerned delegations.

Delegations, Observers and UN System representatives may access Conference Room 4 via the first basement or the visitor’s lobby on the ground floor of the Conference Building and the Trusteeship Council Chamber and ECOSOC Chamber through the 2nd floor of the Conference Building.

Representatives of major groups and other stakeholder may access Conference Room 4 via the visitors’ entrance and may access the Trusteeship Council Chamber and ECOSOC
Chamber via the 3rd floor of the Conference Building.

9. **Keynote speakers, moderators, panelists and lead discussants**

Detailed guidance, including a full scenario of the meeting, will be shared with keynote speakers, moderators, panelists and lead discussants in advance of the meeting to which they are invited.

On the day of their presentations, seating will be reserved for keynote speakers, moderators and panelists in Conference Room 4. Lead discussants from States, intergovernmental organizations and UN system entities will intervene from their national or assigned seats, respectively. Other lead discussants will be seated on the left side (facing the podium) of Conference Room 4.

10. **Side events, special events, VNR Labs, exhibitions**

Information regarding side events, special events, VNR Labs, exhibitions can be found on the HLPF website [High-Level Political Forum 2023 (un.org)](https://www.un.org). Organizers of side events, special events, VNR Labs and exhibitions are responsible for registering all participants, according to the arrangements outlined in sections 6 and 7 above.

11. **Webcast**

The official meetings of the HLPF and the High-level Segment of ECOSOC will be available (and archived) on live UN TV: [http://webtv.un.org](http://webtv.un.org).

12. **Accessibility**

The United Nations Accessibility Centre offers assistive information and communications technology to support those with auditory, visual or physical impairments. The assistive devices are available on-site and as a loan to participants with disabilities. The [Accessibility Centre](https://www.un.org/accessibilitycentre/) is located in the Conference Building (Room S-1B-032 on Level 1B, near the Secretariat Building escalators). For more information, please visit [https://www.un.org/accessibilitycentre/](https://www.un.org/accessibilitycentre/)
The Meetings Support Section offers print-on-demand service for meeting participants requiring braille copies of official documents. Please send braille requests to accessibilitycentre@un.org at least 24hrs in advance of the meeting date for processing. The printouts can be collected at the Accessibility Centre located on the first basement of the Secretariat building (S-1B-032). For further enquiries please contact +1 212 963 7348 / 9 or by email accessibilitycentre@un.org.

For accessible seating in the meeting rooms for formal meetings of the HLPF/ECOSOC high-level segment, delegations and other participants should address their requests to the ECOSOC Affairs Branch (chihiro.mitsuda@un.org), or, for side events, to the organizers of the side event, in advance of the meeting.

Communication Access Real Time Translation (CART) will be available via captions on the screen in the meeting room and via webcast for all official meetings of the HLPF.

International Sign Interpretation will be made available for the HLPF meetings on 10 July morning, the Ministerial Opening and other meetings on 17 July morning and the VNRs sessions via webcast.

On all accessibility needs not referred to in the above, please reach out to the Secretariats of meetings and organizers of the events. Every effort will be made to assist with reasonable accommodation, should it be available.

13. Code of Conduct to Prevent Sexual Harassment

The UN system is committed to upholding an inclusive, respectful and safe environment where participation in any event is guided by the highest ethical and professional standards, and all participants are expected to behave with integrity and respect. There is no tolerance for harassment, including sexual harassment at UN events. The Code of Conduct to Prevent Harassment, Including Sexual Harassment, at UN System Events applies to the meetings of the HLPF and ECOSOC, including side events. A copy of the Code of Conduct can be found here https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/Code%20of%20Conduct.pdf.

14. Environmental Sustainability

The UN Secretary-General’s priority is to integrate sustainable development in all aspects
of the work of the United Nations and to promote efforts to reduce the UN’s carbon footprint with the ambitious goal to make the United Nations a climate neutral organization. Participants in the HLPF session are encouraged to contribute to those sustainability efforts. An easy-to-use and practical guidance note (https://hlpf.un.org/sites/default/files/2022-06/Sustainability%20Infographic.pdf) has been prepared to help participants conserve resources, minimize environmental impact and offset emissions through reduction measures.

Since travel is the most significant source of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions when attending the meeting in person, meeting delegates are encouraged to limit the number of in person delegates to reduce the need for travel and to consider other recommended efforts to reduce emissions from air travel are found in the guidance note linked above.

Other recommended efforts to reduce emissions from air travel are found in the guidance note linked above.

Please help to make the HLPF climate neutral by supporting UNFCCC’s certified projects: https://offset.climateneutralnow.org/

Since June 2019, UN Headquarters has been implementing measures to eliminate single-use plastics to reduce the impact of plastic pollution. Event organizers are encouraged to bring reusable items in order to reduce waste. Please ensure that any vendor providing catering services at UN Headquarters adhere to the requirements outlined in the Guidelines for Event Organizers at United Nations Headquarters on the Elimination of Single-use Plastics which can be accessed here.

15. Visa

Each participant is personally responsible for obtaining necessary entry visa(s) for travel to and from the United States. Please ensure that the necessary arrangements are made in a timely fashion to obtain a US visa, as appropriate. Information regarding US visa can be found on this website: http://usembassy.state.gov/.

16. Hotel accommodation

Participants will need to secure hotel accommodation in New York City. All participants are expected to make their own accommodation arrangements. Finding a reasonably priced hotel in New York City can be a challenge, therefore it is recommended that you start as early
as possible. A credit card will normally be required for reservation.

17. Local transportation

All participants are expected to make their own local transportation arrangements. Transportation information for the three major airports serving New York City can be found online at [http://www.panynj.gov/airports/](http://www.panynj.gov/airports/) or by calling Air-Ride phone: 1-800-247-7433 (toll free number within the U.S.). Yellow New York taxis and airport buses are readily available from the airports to Grand Central Station, which is in walking distance to the United Nations and can be booked online in advance. Local transportation options, including subway, buses, and MetroCard related information can be found at [http://www.mta.info/](http://www.mta.info/).

18. Facilities

Dining facilities, ATMs, and the UN emergency medical service (fifth floor) are all located in the UN Secretariat building.

19. Time

For the time difference between New York and your country, please refer to: [http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock](http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock)

20. Currency

US Dollar

21. Weather

To check for current weather conditions in New York, please refer to [https://www.cnn.com/weather](https://www.cnn.com/weather)

22. Tipping:

Most restaurant prices do not include a service charge. It is customary to leave a 15-20% tip.
Contact information:

**Office for Intergovernmental Support and Coordination/DESA**

For questions relating to the HLPF programme: please contact Ms. Ling Wang (wang24@un.org)

For the ECOSOC High-Level Segment: Ms. Patricia Chaves (chavesp@un.org) and Mr. Eric Olson (olsone@un.org)

For Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs): Ms. Maame Agyeben (agyeben@un.org)

For VNR Labs: Mr. Joop Theunissen (theunissen@un.org)

For special events: Ms. Naiara Costa (naiara.costa@un.org)

For side events: Ms. Winta Abay Beyene (winta.abay@un.org)

For exhibitions: Ms. Emnet Bekele (bekelee@un.org)

For UN System participation: Ms. Melody Cruz (cruz@un.org)

For Major Group and Other Stakeholder participation: Ms. Aleksandra Pyra (aleksandra.pyra@un.org), Ms. Tonya Vaturi (vaturi@un.org)

For Media and Communication: Mr. Paul Simon (simonp@un.org)

**ECOSOC Secretariat (DGACM)**

For questions relating to the conduct of the formal meetings of the HLPF/ECOSOC high-level segment and the general debate, please contact the Secretary of ECOSOC, Ms. Emer Herity (herity@un.org)

**Protocol and Liaison Service**

For questions relating to the registration and UN Grounds Passes for Member States, Observers, Inter-governmental Organizations and Specialized Agencies, please contact: Ms. Wai-Tak Chua (chuaw@un.org).