

17 July 2025

Excellency,

I wish to express my sincere appreciation for your active and constructive engagement in the negotiations on the ministerial declaration of the 2025 high-level segment of the Economic and Social Council and high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF), convened under the auspices of the Council.

I am very grateful to the Co-facilitators, H.E. Mr. Jakub Kulhánek of Czechia and H.E. Ms. Inga Rhonda King of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines for their steadfast and professional stewardship of this process. I have been informed that the Co-facilitators placed the text under silence procedure twice, and that silence was broken first on 14 July 2025 and again on 16 July 2025.

After careful consideration, they have submitted to me the attached text, which I hereby have the honour to transmit to you as the final draft ministerial declaration. I believe the text strikes a balance in representing a range of views and am submitting the attached text for processing and subsequent action at the closing meeting of the HLPF on 23 July 2025 and at the closing meeting of the high-level segment of ECOSOC on 24 July 2025.

This is a significant moment for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, ten years after its adoption and with five years remaining until the target year of 2030. The final draft ministerial declaration demonstrates the political will to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals for the benefit of all.

The final draft builds on the 2023 SDG Summit, the Summit of the Future, the 2025 United Nations Ocean Conference, the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, and looks towards the Second World Summit for Social Development, the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the overall review of the implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society and the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on the 30th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women. It promotes a common understanding among Member States to accelerate implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals.

All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations New York I encourage all delegations to carefully consider the balance that is found in this text, which I understand enjoys broad support among delegations, and to show maximum flexibility. The adoption of the declaration will send a strong positive signal on SDG achievement.

Any questions about the procedure to be followed on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of July should be addressed to the Secretariat.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Bob Rae

President of ECOSOC