

ECOSOC High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development General Debate

UN HQ, New York

19 July

Mr. President,

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

Our collective future will depend on our combined efforts to redouble our commitments to achieving the SDGs.

These Goals provide us with a comprehensive blueprint for a better world as they encompass a wide range of ambitious and interconnected objectives necessary to create a prosperous and equitable world for all.

However, as we near the midway point towards 2030, progress continues to be uneven and, in many parts of the world, has come to a halt due to the confluence of ongoing crises. While some commendable advancements have been made, inequality, poverty, hunger, and environmental degradation persist in the most vulnerable countries, undermining the global agenda for sustainable development.

Therefore, it is imperative that we use the upcoming SDG Summit as a catalyst for change, to take stock of our progress, identify gaps, and devise innovative strategies to accelerate our collective efforts. This Summit provides us with an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to the SDGs and galvanize political will at the highest levels.

To build momentum towards the SDG Summit, we must focus on several key areas:

First, improving access to effective sustainable financing for developing countries. Commitments should transform into concrete facilities that will allow vulnerable states to access innovative financing mechanisms, including impact investing, public-private partnerships, and debt relief.

Second, enhancing global cooperation and partnerships to leverage the power of multilateralism to drive progress. Attaining the SDGs can only be done through solidarity and collaboration between governments, civil society, the private sector, and international organizations.

Third, addressing the triple planetary crisis that is undermining the health of our planet. Increased commitments must be made, and actionable measures taken, to mitigate the impacts of climate change, reduce pollution and prevent further biodiversity loss.

Lastly, promoting data and evidence-based decision-making by investing in data collection, analysis, and dissemination systems to track our progress more effectively and make informed decisions that lead to tangible outcomes.

Mr. President, building momentum towards the SDG Summit is a collective responsibility that demands our immediate concerted action. Let us seize this opportunity to bolster our efforts to create a sustainable, equitable, and prosperous world for present and future generations. Seychelles is committed to this endeavour.

I thank you.