Global Media Forum
“Leveraging the power of the media in meeting member state targets on the SDGs.”
15 July 2022, 8 AM EDT
Register via Zoom

Humanity faces a stark and urgent choice: breakdown or breakthrough.* There is a 5-alarm global fire that requires the full mobilization of all countries: on COVID-19, global finance, climate action, lawlessness in cyber space, and peace and security.**

And yet, the message expected from this year’s High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) and the release of the Sustainable Development Progress Report 2022 is that member states will fall far short of accomplishing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by the target date of 2030.

The choices we make — or fail to make — today could result in further breakdown and a future of perpetual crises.* Our multilateral system requires a robust multi-stakeholder approach that promotes global solidarity, stronger international cooperation and partnerships to support national, regional and global efforts for ensuring inclusive and sustainable growth and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. *** Global impacts on energy, food supplies and fertilizer resulting from the war in Ukraine and the subsequent setback on the global economy have further compounded the urgency of strengthening these partnerships and cooperation. The media industries are a vital stakeholder in the plight to ensure that inclusive and sustainable growth is met.

The Association for International Broadcasting (AIB), a member of the UN SDG Media Compact, is organizing a virtual forum as a side event to the ECOSOC HLPF to engage media sectors in a global dialogue on the urgency of member states to ensure the global goals are met.

Journalists in all countries must hold power to account on progress made (or delays encountered) on the implementation of the SDGs and Member States’ short- and medium-term plans to meet the crucial 2030 deadline as part of recovery efforts.

The dialogue will explore the power, role and responsibility of global media in accurately and transparently reporting the progress of members states on the 2030

*Key messages from the SG’s ‘Our Common Agenda’ Report
**From the speech of the Secretary-General on 21 January 2022 (see here)
***From the remarks of the ECOSOC President on 31 May 2022 (see here)
goals, advocating for transformative policies to be adopted as part of the recovery from COVID-19 as well as an upsurge of international solidarity.

AIB and the ECOSOC President invite all SDG Media Compact members, as well as all global, regional and in-country media-industry associations and their members to participate in this dialogue.

The event will be held as an online, ‘virtual’ event on an electronic or web platform and will be 1-2 hours in duration at 8 am (EDT – UTC-4) on Friday, 15 July 2022.

The key output and action points from the proposed event will include, but not be limited to, a strong call to action to journalists in every country from the UN and Member States to engage in story telling around the vital importance of the SDGs to citizens in all countries.

The event will also provide the endorsement of the UN, the HLPF and Member States for journalists in all countries to hold power to account on progress made (or delays encountered) on the implementation of the SDGs and Member States’ short- and medium-term plans to meet the crucial 2030 deadline as part of recovery efforts.

These calls to action are vital in explaining the crucial importance of mobilizing the entire world to secure humanity’s survival.

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The global impacts of the war in the Ukraine and the COVID pandemic have compounded the urgency and complicated efforts to meet the Sustainable Development Goals.

Recognizing that media partners are vital stakeholders in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Association for International Broadcasting (AIB), a member of the SDG Media Compact, and the President of ECOSOC, are convening a dialogue on the role of media partners in ensuring the global goals are met.

The dialogue will be held as a side-event on the margins of the 2022 HLPF (under the auspices of ECOSOC) and is open to all media partners including SDG Media Compact members, as well as all global, regional and in-country media-industry associations and their members.

The current draft agenda below is awaiting additional speaker names and confirmation:

8:00-8:15 Welcome
• H.E. Mr. Collen Vixen Kelapile, President of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)
• Mr. Simon Spanswick, Chief Executive, Association for International Broadcasting – AIB

8:15-9:00 The Opportunities and Challenges of Reporting on Sustainability
• Adelheid Feilcke, Director of Programmes, Europe, DW, Germany
• John Micklthwait, Editor-in-Chief, Bloomberg, UK
• CNBC (tbc)

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- **Steve Herman**, Chief National Correspondent, VOA News, USA

9:00-9:20  **Making Media and Journalism Companies Sustainable**
- **Carys Taylor**, Director, Albert Project, UK
- **Tim Scoones**, former Executive Producer, BBC Natural History Unit, UK

9:20-9:45  **Media Companies – developing a sustainable CSR environment**
- **Georgia Arnold**, Executive Director, **MTV Staying Alive Foundation** and SVP/Head of **VIS: Social Impact, Paramount Global**
- **ABS-CBN Foundation**, Philippines

9:45-9:50  **Closing**
- **H.E. Mr. Collen Vixen Kelapile**, President of UN ECOSOC

For more information, please contact:
UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Paul Simon, T: +1 (917) 367-5027 | E: simonp@un.org
R. Craig Hobbs, T: +1 (914) 374-8100 | E: roy.hobbs@un.org

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