



VNR LABS

HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM

LAB 1: ACHIEVING POLICY INTEGRATION

TUESDAY, 9 JULY, 1:15 – 2:45pm
CR 11, UN Headquarters, New York

The Economic Analysis and Policy Division of UN/DESA, in collaboration with UN-OHRLLS, is organizing a **Voluntary National Review (VNR) LAB** on 9 July 2019, 1:15-1:45pm in Conference Room 11 of the General Assembly Building at the UN Headquarters in New York.

VNR LABS aim to provide **an informal platform** for exchanges between countries that have presented a VNR at the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) and those that have not, as well as with the UN system and other stakeholders. After a **High-Level Opening Session**, participants will break off into small groups for an **informal hands-on discussion** facilitated by staff members from UN/DESA.

The practical hands-on discussion will follow *Chatham House Rules**, with the aim of encouraging honest and free-flowing discussions on issues related to policy integration, the VNR and HLPF process, and any other pertinent issue.

ACHIEVING POLICY INTEGRATION. Integrated approaches, strengthening coordination and coherence among fiscal, monetary, trade and development policy objectives, will remain critical for accelerating progress towards the SDGs. The interactive discussions at this VNR LAB will reflect on practical approaches to optimizing sustainable development outcomes, considering cross-sectional and inter-generational trade-offs.

** The Chatham House Rule: When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.*

Agenda

- 1:15-1:20: Opening Statement by **Mr. LIU**, USG of DESA
- 1:20-1:25 Statement by **Ms. 'Utoikamanu**, USG of UN-OHRLLS
- 1:25-1:30 Statement by **H.E. Mr. Perks Clemency Ligoya**, PR of Malawi and Chair of the LDC Group
- 1:30-2:15 Participants will be encouraged to break off into **small groups** of 3-5 people, depending on the number of attendees at the event. The discussion will be facilitated by staff members from UN/DESA.
- 2:15-2:45 **Interactive discussion**, moderated by **Mr. Hamid Rashid**, Chief of the Development Research Branch of the Economic Analysis and Policy Division.

Suggested questions to launch the conversation in small groups:

- ❖ What examples of policy integration, looking into the synergies among SDGs, would you like to share with fellow VNR presenters?
- ❖ How does your country adapt public spending to foster sustainable development, while ensuring low inflation and financial stability?
- ❖ How does the budgeting process in your country support a national innovation system to promote sustainable development?
- ❖ How does your country ensure continuity in the provision of social services in times of financial distress?
- ❖ How does your country's exchange rate policy take into account that when participating in global value chains, it is necessary to import to be able to export?