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MR. LI JUNHUA

UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL  
AFFAIRS

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Closing Remarks  
2024 ECOSOC High-Level Segment

Thursday 18 July, 5:30 PM, ECOSOC Chamber

**H.E. Ms. Paula Narvaez, President of ECOSOC,  
Honourable Ministers and Heads of Delegations,  
Excellencies,  
Distinguished Delegates,**

**I am pleased to address the closing of the  
ECOSOC High-Level Segment. Allow me to  
congratulate you, Madam President, and the members  
of the ECOSOC Bureau, on the successful  
deliberations.**

**As we conclude our discussions, it's clear that our  
world continues to be surrounded by challenges and**

**crises. Countries are being pounded by unpredictable change and building resilience is becoming increasingly difficult.**

**Geopolitical tensions, climate change, tight financing constraints, debt vulnerabilities and environmental challenges have hindered progress, particularly for countries in special situations, such as LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDS.**

**We are currently not on track to deliver on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs. But we have the roadmap to correct course. Excellencies,**

**This session concludes the Council's substantive programme of work for this cycle.**

**Member States and other stakeholders can look back with satisfaction at the work accomplished throughout the cycle.**

**The Council has remained the bedrock for deliberations, policy review and policy dialogue on issues of economic and social development.**

**The comprehensive guidance and recommendations provided by ECOSOC have continued to be informed by the excellent technical and intergovernmental work arising from the Council's subsidiary bodies.**

**Through its various segments, forums and special meetings, ECOSOC has stepped up to tackle pressing development issues as well as new and emerging challenges.**

**This year, the Operational Activities Segment has paved the way for a quadrennial comprehensive policy review of United Nations development activities, to be negotiated in the General Assembly in October.**

**Special mention should be made of the ECOSOC Youth Forum, which injected a dose of energy, enthusiasm, and new ideas illustrating the inclusiveness, adaptability and diverse appeal of the Council. Through its flexible and inclusive format, youth have a dedicated space at the United Nations.**

**Similarly, the ECOSOC Financing for Development Forum has made an important contribution to preparations for the fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, with its in-depth consideration of key issues on financing.**

**The Council's Coordination Segment and Partnerships Forum offered rich discussions on the contribution of different stakeholders, including the ECOSOC subsidiary bodies.**

**These are just some examples of the multifaceted, inclusive and pragmatic work of the Council. DESA is pleased to have accompanied you in this journey. Excellencies,**

**In the last two weeks, you have highlighted the need for multilateral cooperation, solidarity and building trust among nations to address emerging challenges. These are fundamental for advancing progress towards the SDGs.**

**It is through multilateralism that we can effectively address today's global challenges and ensure that no country is left behind.**

**The upcoming Summit of the Future is a critical opportunity to reinvigorate multilateralism.**

**The Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development and the Second World Summit for Social Development in 2025, will also serve as crucial milestones toward an enhanced multilateralism.**

**And we must build on the outcome of the SDG Summit to provide the impetus needed to meet our 2030 objectives.**

**My Department stands ready to support your valuable work in all of these areas.**

**Thank you.**

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