

24 December 2024

Dear Prof. Shepherd,

I am writing to invite the **Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination** to contribute to the 2025 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), taking place under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council from 14 to 23 July 2025 at United Nations Headquarters in New York, with a Ministerial Segment from 21 to 23 July 2025, as part of the High-level Segment of the Council.

The HLPF is the central platform for the global follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Its outcome is a negotiated ministerial declaration. As per General Assembly resolution 70/1, the HLPF carries out thematic reviews of SDG progress, including cross-cutting issues. These reviews are supported by inputs from ECOSOC functional commissions and other inter-governmental bodies and forums, reflecting the integrated nature of the Goals and their interlinkages.

The General Assembly reiterated in its resolution 75/290 B, that the HLPF should consider inputs from intergovernmental bodies and forums, including relevant multi-stakeholder forums, and incorporate findings, research, data and recommendations from the United Nations system. These inputs are summarized in a document titled "Synthesis of submissions by functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and other intergovernmental bodies and forums".

I extend my gratitude to all contributors to the 2024 HLPF Synthesis Report (<u>E/HLPF/2024/4</u>) which received 69 inputs from ECOSOC functional commissions, other intergovernmental bodies and forums and UN system organizations. These inputs are available on the <u>HLPF inputs database</u>.

The theme of the 2025 HLPF is "Advancing sustainable, inclusive, science-and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for leaving no one behind". The 2025 HLPF will review in-depth the following SDGs, without prejudice to their integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature:

- Goal 3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages;
- Goal 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls;
- **Goal 8.** Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all;
- **Goal 14.** Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development; and
- Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

The 2025 HLPF will also support the implementation of the <u>Political Declaration</u> of the 2023 SDG Summit and follow up to the outcomes of the Summit of the Future.

Professor. Verene Shepherd Chairperson Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination I invite you to provide substantive inputs to the 2025 HLPF theme and review of the above SDGs, as well as for the ministerial declaration.

Please consider the following template for your inputs, aligned with your entity's mandate and perspectives:

- (a) Your **assessment** of the impacts of the multiple and interconnected crises on the implementation of SDGs 3, 5, 8, 14 and 17.
- (b) **Three key areas** where sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for achieving the SDGs and leaving no one behind are being effectively delivered, especially related to the cluster of SDGs under review in 2025, also bearing in mind the three dimensions of sustainable development and the interlinkages across the Goals and targets.
- (c) **Three examples** of measures to accelerate progress towards SDGs through well-coordinated actions in key transitions to bring progress to scale (food security, energy access and affordability, digital connectivity, education, jobs and social protection, climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution), building on interlinkages between SDGs to ensure cohesive progress.
- (d) **Follow-up actions and measures** being undertaken by your intergovernmental body or forum to support implementation of the 2023 SDG Summit Political Declaration and the outcomes of the 2024 Summit of the Future, to advance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- (e) **Recommendations and key messages** to be considered for inclusion in the Ministerial Declaration of the 2025 HLPF.

Inputs to the synthesis report should be as focused and concise as possible. They should be submitted in line with the above template in either a bulleted or narrative format. Kindly submit your contribution **no later than 3 March 2025** using the inputs to the 2025 HLPF form.

Any supplementary documents and reports can be sent to the HLPF Secretariat (e-mail: wang24@un.org, evelyn.wonosaputra@un.org, cc: ikechukwu.balogu@un.org, winta.abay@un.org).

Inputs received by the deadline will be included in the official synthesis report of the HLPF. All inputs will be posted on the HLPF inputs database.

I look forward to your valuable contributions to the 2025 HLPF.

Yours sincerely,

Bob Rae President of ECOSOC