
**High-level political forum on sustainable development**

In accordance with General Assembly resolution 67/290 [YUN 2013, p. 782] and Economic and Social Council decision 2014/202 (see p. 1603), the first meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development was convened (New York, 30 June–9 July) under the auspices of the Council [E/HLPF/2014/2]. The theme for the high-level forum for 2014, as decided by the Council in decision 2014/208, was “Achieving the Millennium Development Goals and charting the way for an ambitious post-2015 development agenda, including the sustainable development goals.” The high-level forum held 11 moderated dialogues on the following themes: From the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development to the post-2015 period: towards an integrated and universal sustainable development agenda; means of implementation for sustainable development; how sustainable consumption and production could contribute to the SDGs; scope and methodology for a global sustainable development report; ideas and trends; promoting genuine and durable partnerships; countries in special situations: building resilience; from silos to integrated policymaking; reviewing progress and implementation: making the most of the forum’s reviews after 2015; unlocking and reshaping development and enhancing implementation: the regional context; and shaping the forum for the post-2015 period. The forum also held a dialogue with the Chair of the Board of the 10-year framework of programmes on sustainable consumption and production. It also held six ministerial dialogues on the following: A universal integrated policy agenda to implement the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development [YUN 2012, p. 780] and realize the future we want; weaving regional realities and regional priorities into the post-2015 development agenda; long-term measures to make poverty eradication irreversible and reduce inequalities; international cooperation for sustainable development; multi-stakeholder partnerships and voluntary commitments for sustainable development; ensuring accountability for all; preparing the high-level political forum for the post-2015 period: steering implementation of the development agenda and reviewing progress; and charting pathways to the future we want.

The forum had before it reports of the Secretary-General on options for the scope and methodology for a global sustainable development [E/2014/87] and on mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the UN system [A/69/79-E/2014/66] (see p. 947). It also considered inputs from the Economic Commission for Europe [E/2014/CRP.1], the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean [E/2014/CRP.2], the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia [E/2014/CRP.3], and the Economic Commission for Asia and the Pacific [E/2014/CRP.4].

On 9 July, the forum adopted the ministerial declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development [E/HLPF/2014/1] at its first meeting (below), and the theme for its 2015 session: “Strengthening integration, implementation and review: the high-level political forum after 2015”.

**Ministerial declaration.** Ministers welcomed what had been achieved through implementation of the MDGs, and expressed their determination to address the remaining unevenness and gaps in achievement and the challenges that remained, in particular, for the most off-track MDGs, and those where progress had stalled. They declared their commitment to establish a strong, ambitious, inclusive and people-centred post-2015 development agenda that would build on the foundations laid and experiences gained during the MDGs process, and complete the unfinished business and respond to new challenges. They reaffirmed that poverty eradication should be central to the post-2015 development agenda.

Ministers acknowledged the processes mandated in the outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development [YUN 2012, p. 782] being undertaken, in particular, the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals (see p. 945); the Intergovernmental Committee of Experts on Sustainable Development Financing; and the process to develop options for a technology facilitation mechanism, as well as the preparations for the third International Conference on Financing for Development, to be held in July 2015. The Ministers looked forward to the submission of the Secretary-General’s report before the end of 2014 synthesizing the full range of available inputs to the intergovernmental negotiations that would culminate in a high-level summit in September 2015. The Ministers reiterated that, starting in 2016, the high-level political forum on sustainable development should conduct regular reviews on the follow-up to, and implementation of sustainable development commitments and objectives, including those related to implementation within the context of the post-2015 development agenda. The reviews should be voluntary, while encourag-