

Urgent Call to Action: New ECOSOC President Emphasizes Stronger Support for Countries to Tackle Global Challenges and Boost SDGs



Charting a New Course: The Council's Workplan

Her Excellency Paula Narváez of Chile was elected as President of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on 27 July 2023. She emphasized the significance of the upcoming SDG Summit in September and referred to it as a pivotal moment in our journey towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

“It will be critical for the Economic and Social Council to build on the momentum from the SDG Summit to support countries in their efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals,” said Ms. Narváez. “Half-way through the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, much remains to be done.”

Recognizing ECOSOC, its forums, and segments as the frontrunners in the process, she stressed that they will need to take the lead in translating the political guidance and commitments from the SDG Summit into tangible policy guidance and practical actions. These efforts are important in supporting countries to advance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

 **UN ECOSOC President** @UNECOSOC · Jul 27
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In this context, ECOSOC President Ms. Narváez also announced the theme for ECOSOC and the 2024 HLPF as *“Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions”*. The 2024 Forum will also conduct an in-depth review of SDG1 on no poverty, SDG2 on zero hunger, SDG13 on climate action, SDG16 on peace, justice, and strong institutions and SDG17 on partnerships for the goals.

The new ECOSOC President has outlined eight key priorities for her term, including leveraging ECOSOC’s

policy guidance during multiple global crises, strengthening food security and humanitarian aid, addressing gaps in the international financial architecture, advancing solutions to the climate crisis, promoting gender equality, harnessing technological advancements, fostering civil society engagement, and contributing to the Summit of the Future.

ECOSOC President Ms. Narváez will chair the new Bureau of the 2023-2024 session, which will include, as Vice-Presidents of the Council, H.E. Mr. Akan Rakhmetullin, Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations, H.E. Mr. Ivan Šimonović, Permanent Representative of Croatia to the United Nations, and H.E. Mr. Bob Rae, Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations. The election of the Vice-President from the African Region will be held at a later date.

ECOSOC’s Resilience and Progress



The Outgoing ECOSOC President, Her Excellency Lachezara Stoeva, highlighted the Council's resilience throughout the 2022-2023 session. She praised its evolution into a more inclusive platform for addressing challenges, ensuring that all segments, forums, and meetings, including the recently concluded HLPF and the ECOSOC High Level Segment, could contribute significantly to the upcoming SDG Summit in September.

Ambassador Stoeva underscored the significance of the 2030 Agenda as the roadmap for transforming the world. She urged for more investments in resilience, universal health coverage, quality education, and social protection to combat inequality and address the human impacts of social and economic hardship, climate change and environmental degradation.

The outgoing ECOSOC President expressed her satisfaction with the successful fulfillment of her presidency's commitments and priorities. Notably, she highlighted the close consultation with Major Groups and other Stakeholders, and the engagement of numerous young leaders, including as speakers and moderators, during the HLPF.