

Note to Mr. Kituyi, Mr. Liu, Mr. Ryder, Mr. Steiner and Ms. Songwe

“The Way Forward”: Initiative on Financing for Development in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond

1. As a follow-up to our meeting on 22 October 2020 on the Initiative on Financing for Development in the Era of COVID-19 and Beyond, I would like to thank you for the interest and recommendations regarding the clusters and possible co-leaderships in the process going forward.
2. Given the cross-cutting nature of the work and the clusters, and the rich contributions that other entities can make, I strongly encourage close coordination among your entities and active collaboration with the rest of the System, in the same spirit as during deliberations in the Discussion Groups.
3. For the sake of efficiency, I am also requesting a lead agency per cluster to move the process, as follows:
 - a) Sustainability and climate action, to be led by the **United Nations Development Programme**;
 - b) Socioeconomic response: social protection, gender, youth, health, education and human rights, to be led by **International Labour Organization**;
 - c) Finance and technology, to be led by the **United Nations Conference on Trade and Development**;
 - d) Liquidity and debt vulnerability, to be led by the **Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA)**;
 - e) Illicit financial flows, to be led by the **Regional Economic Commissions**;
 - f) Addressing special country needs, to be led by **DESA**.
4. I invite you to work together within your mandates to ensure overall coherence and maximize the synergies deriving from the knowledge and expertise of all United Nations entities that conduct work relevant to the clusters.
5. In the context of the strategy set out in the document “The way forward” attached, your leadership role in the respective clusters will focus on guiding and optimizing continued technical and policy advisory support as needed in the discussion of the policy options at global, regional and country level.

6. In this vein we invite you to share with us your workplan to take forward the various policy options.

7. You will be invited to debrief quarterly the co-conveners of the Initiative. The reporting will take the form of a presentation at a meeting, to reflect on the successes and challenges in taking the menu of policy options forward to support countries in their response and recovery process. The co-conveners will make use of this debrief to share with the Group of Friends of Financing the SDGs.

8. I look forward to your active support in taking these important next steps forward and providing support to ECOSOC as required.



Amina J. Mohammed
9 November 2020

CC:

Ms. Algayerova
Ms. Alisjahbana
Ms. Bárcena
Ms. Dashti
Mr. Nour