

Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Development: regional experiences to promote youth employment and address inequality



**High-Level Roundtable co-hosted by the Chairmanship of the G77 and the
Regional Commissions during the High Level Political Forum**

17th July 2018, 18.30 – 20.00 hrs

Conference Room 4, UNHQs Conference Building

I. Format and objectives:

The side-event will be organized as a High-Level roundtable discussion chaired by the H.E. Ms. Hala Al Saeed, Minister of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform, Egypt, Chair of the G77, and with the participation of Ministers from different regions and the Executive Secretaries of the Regional Commissions. Building on the outcomes of the Regional Fora for Sustainable Development and latest data and research from the Regional Commissions, the High-Level roundtable will provide a platform for sharing a diversity of national experiences and ongoing regional efforts that aim to harness technology and innovation in support of inclusive economic growth and sustainable development, with a focus on addressing inequalities and generating employment opportunities, especially for youth.

II. Focus areas:

Panelists will explore and discuss:

- How can the international community and the regions steer technology and innovation towards advancing the 2030 Agenda;
- How can the international community bridge the technology divide and overcome challenges and barriers to technology transfer and its adaptation? How can regional cooperation assist these efforts;
- How are countries addressing the impact of rapid technological change, in particular on youth and employment;
- What means of implementation, policy approaches and regulatory frameworks are being developed at the national, regional and global levels to leverage the potential of rapid technological change in support of inclusive economic growth and sustainable development, i.a. in the areas of education and infrastructure development;
- What measures are being taken to incentivize responsible technology development in the private sector;
- How can international, regional, sub-regional and South-South cooperation support efforts at the national level? What best practices are emerging from experiences at the regional level.

III. Expected outcomes:

The side-event aims to provide Member States and other stakeholders with a better understanding of the existing landscape of national and regional initiatives, best practices and solutions that aim to leverage the ongoing technological revolution in support of inclusive economic growth, employment generation, sustainable development and youth engagement, while safeguarding society from potential negative impacts. The side-event will also offer an overview of opportunities for transformative policy action. Special emphasis will be placed on how can the Regional Commissions effectively support countries in this domain to ensure accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

IV. Panelists:

- **H.E. Mrs. Hala Al Saeed, Minister of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform, Egypt, Chair of G77.**
- **H.E. Mr. Rodrigo Malmierca, Minister of Foreign Trade and Foreign Investment, Cuba.**
- **H.E. Mr. Mame Thierno Dieng, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development, Senegal.**
- **Dr. Rami Ahmad, Special Envoy on Sustainable Development Goals, Islamic Development Bank.**
- **Dr. Michiharu Nakamura, Senior Advisor and former President, Japan Science and Technology Agency.**
- **Mr. Dejan Bojanic, Vice-President European Youth Forum**

Executive Secretaries of the Regional Commissions:

- **Ms. Alicia Barcena, ECLAC.**
- **Ms. Vera Songwe, ECA.**
- **Mr. Mohamed Al-Hakim, ESCWA.**
- **Ms. Olga Algayerova, UNECE.**
- **Mr. Kaveh Zahedi, ESCAP (Deputy).**

Other stakeholders and youth representatives



Programme:

Time	Programme
2-3 mins	Opening remarks, H.E. Mr. Mohamed Fathi Ahmed Edrees, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations, Chair of G77 (to act as Moderator)
1-2 mins	Welcome remarks, Ms. Alicia Barcena, Executive Secretary ECLAC on behalf of the Regional Commissions
6 mins	Keynote remarks by H.E. Mrs. Hala Al Saeed, Minister of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform, Egypt, Chair of G77
40 mins	<p>Presentation of challenges and good practices on focus areas above, in an interactive session featuring interventions from Ministers and other stakeholders representing different regions, including VNR countries representatives and Regional Commissions' Executive Secretaries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - H.E. Mr. Rodrigo Malmierca, Minister of Foreign Trade and Foreign Investment, Cuba (5 mins) - Ms. Alicia Barcena, ECLAC (3 mins) - H.E. Mr. Mame Thierno Dieng, Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development, Senegal (5 mins) - Ms. Vera Songwe, ECA (3 mins) - Dr. Rami Ahmad, Special Envoy on Sustainable Development Goals, Islamic Development Bank (5 mins) - Mr. Mohamed Al-Hakim, ESCWA (3 mins) - Dr. Michiharu Nakamura, Senior Advisor and Former President, Japan Science and Technology Agency (5 mins) - Mr. Kaveh Zahedi, ESCAP (Deputy) (3 mins) - Mr. Dejan Bojanic, Vice-President European Youth Forum (5 mins) - Ms. Olga Algayerova, UNECE (3 mins)
25 mins	Interactive discussion with audience
3 mins	Concluding remarks by H.E. Mr. Mohamed Fathi Ahmed Edrees, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations, Chair of G77
2 mins	Closing remarks by Ms. Alicia Barcena, Executive Secretary ECLAC on behalf of the Regional Commissions

For more information, please contact:

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 EGYPT
G77 Chairmanship
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