



**The President  
of the  
Economic and Social Council**

12 October 2022

Excellency,

Following our recent conversations, I would like to thank you for your willingness to co-Chair the eighth STI Forum together with the Permanent Representative of the Republic of South Africa to the United Nations, Her Excellency Mathu Joyini. Please accept my sincere appreciation for your leadership and support by the United Kingdom in ensuring the success of the STI Forum in 2023.

Next year marks the mid-point of the 2030 Agenda. There is widespread acceptance of the vital role of science, technology and innovation in finding solutions for many global challenges to achieve the SDGs. At this critical time, I firmly believe that STI, when properly harnessed, can bring about the transformative change needed for the success of the 2030 Agenda.

I am looking forward to your continuing support towards the STI Forum, and I am confident that with your and the South African further engagement, we will continue to enhance the impact of STI on the SDGs. I also look forward to a successful Forum, as an important input to the high-level political forum (HLPF) and the SDGs Summit 2023, under your able leadership and to working with you on these and other important ECOSOC initiatives.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Lachezara Stoeva  
President of ECOSOC

His Excellency  
Mr. Thomas Woodroffe  
United Kingdom Ambassador to the  
Economic and Social Council  
New York