
Speech by Liberato Bautista, CoNGO President
ECOSOC PARTNERSHIP FORUM 2024
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Excellencies, friends, ladies and gentlemen:

1. Madam ECOSOC President, Ambassador Paula Narvaez, thank you for having the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations, also called CoNGO, address this 2024 ECOSOC Partnership Forum.
2. This Forum's focus is timely if urgent. Any talk of eradicating poverty, eliminating hunger, acting on climate, achieving peace and justice, and growing partnerships for the goals must involve collaboration and partnerships among all people, nations, and institutions. Nothing less will work if we are to make progress with Agenda 2030 and the SDGs.
3. The values of consultation, collaboration, and cooperation that we emphasize at CoNGO undergird our advocacy for meaningful access to the physical premises of the UN offices and access to the substantive promises of sustainable development, peace and security, human dignity and human rights, under the rule of law, that comprise the pillars of the UN System.
4. Over the years, I have advocated for NGOs to be assured of time and space to address UN bodies, especially ECOSOC. Today, Madam President, you made it possible in a more meaningful way by interspersing our interventions between speakers of member states and UN entities, ensuring time no longer runs out on us. This is part of a true partnership that I hope grows and continues. Congratulations, Madam President.

Excellencies and colleagues,

5. Even as we address the Agenda 2030 and the SDGs, it is critical to recognize the poly-crises and intersecting pandemics- not just health but social pandemics—we face today under conditions of uneven economic development. Partnerships and solidarity are meaningful ways to face the present and the future together. Let's all muster the courage and resources to make them happen.

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