2024 ECOSOC Partnership Forum

Plenary session

Statement by H.E. Mr. Krzysztof Szczerski
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Poland
to the United Nations in New York

New York, 30 January 2024
Madam Deputy Secretary-General,

Madam President,

Excellencies,

At the outset, let me thank the speakers, prof. Mariana Mazzucato and Ms. Charitie Ropati, for their thoughtful reflections.

Rethinking the relationship between government policy, innovation, and the private sector, as well as the overall direction of economic development is a crucial task for policymakers. We have talked about this last week in Chile during the Special Meeting of the ECOSOC focused on the future of work, during which prof. Mazuccato presented her interesting ideas.

The ECOSOC is precisely the forum to reflect how various partnerships can accelerate sustainable development. Thanks to ECOSOC’s wide system of subsidiary and expert bodies, as well as close cooperation with various stakeholders, it allows us to see the bigger picture, and better coordinate our efforts.

The Goals under revision this year – fighting poverty, eliminating hunger, stopping the climate change, and strengthening institutions – are at the very heart of international development. We are aware that these challenges are immense and they require fundamental transformations in our development paths and ways of thinking.

Poland is fully committed to the implementation of all SDGs – and it is very clear that they can only be achieved by means of global, regional, and local partnerships.

In our view, the following topics deserve particular attention as we prepare for the HLPF in July and the Summit of the Future in September:

First, building resilience. We believe that resilience - the capacity to adapt and transform in the face of change - is a fundamental prerequisite for sustainable development. Faced with current multiple challenges, analysing their root causes and better preparing for crises is fundamental. We are glad that the topic of resilience will be the focus of the Sustainability Week organized by the President of the General Assembly in April 2024.

Secondly, we cannot hope for sustainable development without effective governance. Effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions are necessary preconditions for governments and markets to work effectively in the long run. Institutions are also crucial in ensuring the respect, protection and fulfilment of
human rights. For this reason, this is one of the main priorities of Poland’s Development Cooperation by 2030.

Finally, local action. Although the vision of the SDGs is global and the goals are universal, the action is always local. As the Co-Chair of the UN Group of Friends of UN-Habitat, sustainable urbanization and the New Urban Agenda, which consists of more than 50 UN Members, we are convinced that the localization agenda is of paramount importance for achieving all SDGs.

I think we are all in agreement on where the world needs to go. Fulfilling the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda will take an unprecedented effort by all sectors and the importance of partnerships cannot be overestimated.

Thank you.