

9TH MULTI-STAKEHOLDER FORUM ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FOR THE SDGs (STI FORUM 2024)

BRIEFING TO MEMBER STATES AND STAKEHOLDERS

5 March 2024, 3:00pm-4:00pm, ECOSOC Chamber, UN Headquarters, New York

Scientific and Technological Community Major Group Statement

Good afternoon

Thank you, your excellencies, President of ECOSOC, Co Facilitators of STI Forum.

As the Co-Chair of the Scientific and Technological Community Major Group (STC MG) thank you for the opportunity to provide our thoughts on the upcoming STI Forum. The STC MG co-led by the International Science Council (ISC) and the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO), brings together more than 250 national science academies and international scientific organisations across the natural and social sciences, as well as more than 100 national engineering institutions representing more than 30 million engineers worldwide.

The STI Forum is our primary platform, and as every year, we stand ready to mobilize the expertise, knowledge, and resources that our community possesses to advance the complex issues on the multilateral agenda and under discussion at the STI Forum. The STC MG, with the support of H.E. Lachezara Stoeva, President of ECOSOC, and Co-Facilitators Amb. Mathu Joyini and Amb. Thomas Woodroffe, took significant strides last year. We organized a special event as part of the Forum, chaired a session during the Africa Day event and organized the Global Solutions Summit on the last day. These efforts aimed to showcase the global impact of our S&T communities, raising awareness, engaging various groups and contributing to the acceleration of SDG achievements.

This year the STI Forum will address SDGs 1, 2, 13, 16 & 17 coupled with the topics of "opportunities and challenges of AI and Climate Change ". Beyond data collection and expanding the knowledge base, we aspire to share actionable insights and solutions with Member States and other stakeholders, including on ways to accelerate actions on eliminating poverty and hunger particularly during times of crisis and actionable knowledge and solutions for tackling the climate crisis.

Given the recent launch of the International Decade on Sciences for Sustainable Development, we have a great opportunity ahead of us to leverage the critical contribution of science and engineering to sustainable development. We are therefore requesting that the STC MG again be given the opportunity to organize a formal, Special Event as part of the 2024 Forum. The

event would seek to provide a platform for discussions with other Major Groups and Other Stakeholders on solutions for advancing the SDG agenda.

Thank you.

K. N. Gunalan, Ph.D., P.E., Pres.20 ASCE, NAC

Co Chair STC MG

Chair WFEO UN Relations Committee