



## **Expert Group Meeting of the Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Group to the 2025 ECOSOC Partnership Forum**

**25 November 2024, 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM (EST) (virtual meeting)**

### **Summary**

## **Introduction**

The [2025 Partnership Forum on the Economic and Social Council \(ECOSOC\)](#) will be held on 5 February 2025 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York under the theme, *“Advancing sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for leaving no one behind”*. It will place a special emphasis on implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that will be reviewed at the [2025 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development \(HLPF\)](#), namely Goal 3 (Good Health and Well-being); Goal 5 (Gender Equality); Goal 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth); Goal 14 (Life Below Water); and Goal 17 (Partnerships for the Goals).

The Forum will serve as a vital platform to galvanize Member States and stakeholders early in the ECOSOC cycle, fostering sustained engagement and dialogue across sectors. It will also explore innovative approaches to advancing accountable and results-driven partnerships.

To ensure inclusive preparations, the President of ECOSOC, H.E. Mr. Bob Rae, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations, has established an informal [Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Group](#) to assist in the preparations for the 2025 ECOSOC Partnership Forum.

On 25 November 2024, an Expert Group Meeting of the Multi-Stakeholder Advisory Group to the 2025 ECOSOC Partnership Forum was convened virtually. This consultation marked a critical step in preparing for the 2025 ECOSOC Partnership Forum, and aimed to:

- Generate ideas for innovative approaches to organizing the Forum, including identifying impactful speakers for the SDG Action Segments.
- Highlight examples of partnerships driving progress on SDGs, with potential for scaling and replication.
- Share new research, tools, and strategies to strengthen partnerships aligned with the Forum’s theme and focus areas.
- Support outreach and promotion efforts for the Forum, including the organization of side events.
- Explore ways the Forum can create momentum, foster engagement, and excite stakeholders for the broader ECOSOC cycle and related processes.

# Members

The virtual meeting brought together members of the Advisory Group, including representatives from UN Member States, civil society, foundations, academia, and various UN entities. Through a collaborative exchange of ideas, the meeting set a strong foundation for ensuring that the 2025 ECOSOC Partnership Forum becomes a dynamic, inclusive, and action-oriented platform for advancing partnerships toward achieving the 2030 Agenda.

[Link to biographies of members.](#)

**MULTI-STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY GROUP 2025** ECOSOC Partnership Forum

<b>H.E. Ms. Alya Ahmed Saif Al-Thani</b> , Permanent Representative of Qatar to the UN	<b>H.E. Mr. Héctor José Gómez Hernández</b> , Permanent Representative of Spain to the UN	<b>Ms. Asha DeSuza</b> , Team Leader, Sustainable Development and Financing for Development	<b>Mr. Chikezie Anyanwu</b> , Chief, Partnerships Section, UN Development Coordination Office	<b>Mr. Richard Howard Jr.</b> , UN Resident Coordinator Papua New Guinea	<b>Mr. Peter Grohmann</b> , UN Resident Coordinator Mexico	<b>Mr. Alejandro Cedeno</b> , Director, Multilateral & International Affairs, External & Corporate Affairs, World Bank	<b>Mr. Robert Powell</b> , Special Representative to the UN, International Monetary Fund
<b>Ms. Margarita Ducci</b> , Executive Director, UN Global Compact Local Network Chile	<b>Ms. Thilmeeza Hussain</b> , Director, UN Regional Commissions NY Office	<b>Ms. Sofia Borges</b> , Senior Vice President and Head of New York Office, UN Foundation	<b>Mr. Elizeu Chaves Jr.</b> , Chief of Staff, UN Youth Office	<b>Mr. Milan Bhatt</b> , Deputy Director of Economic Inclusion, Clinton Global Initiative	<b>Ms. Heather Grady</b> , Vice President, Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors	<b>Ms. Ivy Koek</b> , Co-Chair, NGO Committee on the Status of Women	<b>Ms. Paola Simonetti</b> , Director, Equality Department, Worker and Trade Union Major Group
<b>Mr. Mustafa B. Shehu</b> , President, World Federation of Engineering Organizations	<b>Dr. Ahmed Owda</b> , Youth Representative, Children and Youth	<b>Mr. Joel Lance, SALGA</b> , Chief of Operations, Local Authorities Major Group	<b>Ms. Shea Gopaul</b> , Permanent Representative to the UN, International Organisation of Employers	<b>Mr. Darian Stibbe</b> , Executive Director, The Partnering Initiative	<b>Ms. Lucie Brigham</b> , Chief of Office, United Nations Office for Partnerships	<b>Ms. Veronica E. Brown</b> , Coordinator, Major Groups and Other Stakeholders Coordination Mechanism	

#Partnership4SDGs

*Informally advising the President of ECOSOC on the preparations for the 2025 ECOSOC Partnership Forum.*

Figure 1 - Members of the Advisory Group

## Opening segment



*Figure 2 - President of ECOSOC addresses the meeting.*

The session began with remarks by **H.E. Mr. Bob Rae**, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations and President of ECOSOC. The President of ECOSOC welcomed participants and emphasized the importance of the Partnership Forum as the first major ECOSOC event of the year, describing it as a pivotal platform for advancing sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions to accelerate progress on the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs.

The President highlighted the critical juncture and that progress on the SDGs is falling short of what is needed. The Forum, he stated, presents an opportunity to assess the current situation, identify gaps, and map out actionable steps to accelerate progress. To maximize impact, the Forum would benefit from a dynamic and engaging format, moving away from routine speeches toward meaningful discussions.

The President further underscored the inclusive nature of the Forum, aiming to bring together a wide range of stakeholders, including civil society and Member States, to foster collaboration and dialogue. He also placed the event in the broader context of 2025's major global initiatives, including the [Second World Summit for Social Development](#), [the Financing for Development Conference](#), and [the UN Ocean Conference](#). Together, these events form a critical part of the global development agenda, and the Forum offers a chance to align efforts and set a positive tone for the year.

In conclusion, the President assured that contributions would be carefully considered and expressed hope that the discussion would chart a path forward for a successful and meaningful event.

Following this, **Mr. Navid Hanif**, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, UN DESA, began by emphasizing the two primary objectives of partnerships: to harness the relative strengths of both the public and private sectors for greater impact and to address persistent market failures, especially in the context of advancing the 2030 Agenda and climate action. He highlighted the need for partnerships to help transform production and consumption patterns and support adaptation efforts in developing countries, which often face significant investment challenges.

He introduced his framework of "The 3 S's," beginning with **standardization**. Mr. Hanif underscored the need for standardized models for blended finance partnerships, particularly for low- and middle-income countries, to simplify the process and reduce duplication of efforts. He cited the World Bank's guarantee schemes as a promising example of how public financing can be effectively structured to support partnerships.

Moving to **socialization**, ASG Hanif emphasized the need for a balanced approach to sharing losses and rewards in partnerships. He noted that governments often bear the brunt of the losses, while the private sector disproportionately benefits from the rewards. To address this imbalance, he proposed developing analytical frameworks to standardize the distribution of rewards, losses, and reinvestments, adapted to the specific contexts of different countries and regions. ASG Hanif suggested that the Partnership Forum could play a key role in initiating this conversation, offering a valuable contribution to Financing for Development (FFD) discussions.

ASG Hanif then addressed the importance of **sharing evidence**. He stressed the value of a bottom-up approach where successful partnership models, backed by empirical evidence, could be brought to the Forum. These examples would enable stakeholders to learn from practical experiences and replicate effective strategies.

ASG Hanif suggested incorporating a "Shark Tank"-style segment into the Partnership Forum where successful partnerships at the national or regional level that are ready to scale but face barriers in connecting with global investors could be spotlighted and engage directly with potential investors, foundations, and private sector entities such as the Global Investors for Sustainable Development Alliance.

To implement this idea, ASG Hanif proposed two modalities: first, an invitation from the ECOSOC President to potential partners, encouraging them to present their scale-up plans; and second, proactive research by the Secretariat to identify promising partnerships and invite them to participate. Both approaches, he noted, could work in tandem.

He concluded by posing three key questions for the expert group:

1. How can standardization models for blended finance be developed and contextualized?
2. What frameworks can help countries equitably manage loss and reward distribution in partnerships?
3. How can a "Shark Tank"-style segment be effectively incorporated into the Forum to connect partnerships with investors?

ASG Hanif closed by expressing gratitude to the UN DESA team and the experts for their contributions and reaffirmed his commitment to making the Partnership Forum more impactful and engaging.

## **Presentation on ECOSOC Partnership Forum preparations**

In a presentation, Ms. Naiara Costa and Mr. Ola Goransson, from UN DESA, provided updates on the preparations for the upcoming 2025 ECOSOC Partnership Forum. Key highlights included:

- The Forum will take place on 5 February 2025 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York under the theme "*Advancing sustainable, inclusive, science- and evidence-based solutions*"

for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". It will focus on SDGs under review at the 2025 High-level Political Forum (SDG 3, 5, 8, 14, and 17).

- The Forum's multi-stakeholder approach, integrating inputs from a global consultation which gathered over 300 responses highlighting challenges like climate change, poverty, and inequality.
- The Forum is structured around plenary sessions, four SDG Action Segments, and side events, with opportunities for both in-person and virtual participation.
- The 2024 [ECOSOC Partnership Forum](#) engaged over 2,200 stakeholders, with 450 attending in person, complemented by 30 side events. Stakeholder statements were integrated into the plenary alongside Member States and other entities. More information in the [2024 ECOSOC Partnership Forum Impact Report](#).
- The Multi-stakeholder [Advisory Group](#) comprises representatives from diverse sectors, fostering a balanced and inclusive approach to advancing SDGs.

The figure displays nine presentation slides from the 2024 ECOSOC Partnership Forum. The slides are arranged in a 3x3 grid. The top row includes 'When and Where', 'A Collaborative Approach', and 'Format'. The middle row includes 'Programme', 'Global Online Stakeholder Consultation', and 'Global Online Stakeholder Consultation: Responses at a Glance'. The bottom row includes 'Global Online Stakeholder Consultation (Ctd.)', 'SDG Action Segments', and 'A look back at the 2024 ECOSOC Partnership Forum'. The 'Responses at a Glance' slide features a pie chart showing regional participation: Africa (27%), Asia and the Pacific (21%), Latin America and the Caribbean (18%), Europe (15%), and North America (10%). The 'SDG Action Segments' slide lists 17 segments across seven SDGs. The 'A look back at the 2024 ECOSOC Partnership Forum' slide highlights 2200+ representatives, 11 stakeholder statements, 4 SDG Action Segments, and 30 side events.

Figure 3 - Presentation slides

## Dialogue with members

The open dialogue session was moderated by **H.E. Ms. Alya Ahmed Saif Al-Thani**, Permanent Representative of the State of Qatar to the United Nations in New York. In her introductory remarks, H.E. Ms. Al-Thani emphasized the critical role of inclusive and innovative partnerships in achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. She highlighted Qatar's commitment to advancing multilateral cooperation and fostering a results-driven dialogue among diverse stakeholders.

Ambassador Al Thani highlighted the critical contributions of regional and local actors, civil society, private sector leaders, academics, and community leaders in advancing the SDGs under review at the 2025 High-level Political Forum. Drawing on Qatar's experience, she shared examples of successful partnerships, such as:

- **SDG 3 (Good Health and Well-being):** Public-private partnerships have enhanced Qatar's healthcare sector through investment tracking, preventive care, and innovative technologies like personalized treatment plans.
- **SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth):** Labor reforms, partnerships fostering job creation, and education initiatives have supported economic diversification, resilience, and a future-ready workforce.

Ambassador Al Thani also highlighted the upcoming Second World Social Summit, that will be held in Doha in November 2025, as a key opportunity to renew global commitments to the 2030 Agenda, with a focus on social inclusion and justice. Additionally, she underscored the importance of the [Pact for the Future](#), encouraging the Partnership Forum to play a central role in generating innovative ideas and connecting stakeholders to advance its implementation.

In conclusion, Ambassador Al Thani invited members of the advisory group to share their perspectives, ensuring an inclusive and dynamic discussion. She encouraged participants to share actionable insights and practical recommendations, stressing the importance of leveraging collective expertise to address emerging challenges and opportunities in sustainable development.

### **Overview of recommendations**

This summary of recommendations encapsulates the key messages from the dialogue, presented collectively and without attribution to any individual member. The recommendations are structured around seven main themes aligned with the dialogue's guiding questions: (1) Momentum and Engagement, (2) Partnerships for Impact, (3) Barriers and Enablers, (4) Concrete Actions, (5) Format, (6) Resources, Tools, and Analysis, and (7) Additional Insights.

These insights highlight the Forum's potential to serve as a catalyst for inclusive and innovative partnerships, laying a strong foundation for a more impactful ECOSOC Partnership Forum in 2025.

The recommendations emphasize partnerships to advance the SDGs in a broad context, proposing year-round, multi-level activities. The ECOSOC Partnership Forum is envisioned as the central platform to coordinate these efforts and promote best practices.



- **Enhanced Communication:** Increase visibility and engagement through strategic media coverage, multimedia communication products, and targeted outreach. Showcase successful partnerships, tools, and analyses to inspire replication and scaling up. Use innovative approaches like hashtags and videos to amplify impact and ensure broad stakeholder engagement.
- **Catalytic Partnerships:** Utilize the UN system to drive transformative action and scale up successful initiatives. Highlight examples that demonstrate how partnerships can address structural issues and create enabling environments. Promote partnerships with academia for technical expertise and international NGOs for best practices and resource-sharing.
- **Overcoming Barriers:** Address barriers such as limited knowledge of partnership potential, resource constraints, and lack of enabling environments. Recommendations included hosting global dialogues on impactful partnerships, providing technical expertise through webinars, and increasing financial support for stakeholders.
- **Cross-Border Collaborations:** Facilitate cross-border partnerships, including North-South, South-South, and intra-regional collaborations, to share successful models and foster innovation. Examples included Pacific SIDS collaborating with Japan or Australia, and African nations benefiting from partnerships with European counterparts.
- **Follow-Up Webinar or Digest:** As a follow-up to the Forum, organize a webinar or produce a brief digest summarizing key outcomes and actionable recommendations. This will help disseminate insights and ensure their integration at the national and regional levels through mechanisms like UN Country Teams (UNCTs) and Regional Collaborative Platforms (RCPs).

### **Partnerships for Impact**

Discussions emphasized the critical role of partnerships in driving transformative action and scaling up initiatives for SDGs 3, 5, 8, and 14:

- **Health Inequities (SDG 3):**
  - Partnerships should address pandemic preparedness, strengthen universal health coverage, and advance digital health innovations, including AI for diagnostics and personalized treatments.
  - Successful models include the Global Public Finance Partnership and collaborations with grassroots organizations to enhance health access and equity.
- **Gender Equality (SDG 5):**
  - Gender considerations should be mainstreamed across all Forum segments, focusing on eliminating gender-based violence, improving social protection programs, promoting living wages, and leveraging AI to bridge gender gaps in employment and technology access.
- **Decent Work (SDG 8):**
  - Partnerships must support just transitions, address informality in labor markets, and harness AI-driven solutions to create equitable employment opportunities.



- Trade unions and collaborations with national ministries of labor were recognized as key enablers for fair labor practices, collective bargaining, and policy advancements like equal pay and workplace safety.
- **Oceans and Seas (SDG 14):**
  - Partnerships like the High Seas Alliance and Ocean Climate Alliance were noted for their focus on restoring marine ecosystems, combating pollution, and promoting sustainable fisheries.
  - The Great Blue Wall Initiative was noted as an example of transboundary collaboration for marine conservation and blue economy opportunities.
- **Scaling and Sustainability:**
  - Collaborations with academia and research institutions were emphasized for providing expertise and innovation. Partnerships with development partners and international NGOs were recommended for sharing best practices and enabling financial and technical support.
  - Multi-stakeholder platforms, including public-private collaborations, were recognized as essential for mobilizing resources, building capacity, and fostering local engagement to ensure the long-term impact of initiatives.
  - Collaborations with academia and research institutions were emphasized for providing expertise and innovation. Participants mentioned the ESCAP "Leaving No One Behind" (LNOB) Platform as an innovative tool addressing inequality across 19 SDG indicators, promoting synergies with Voluntary National Reviews and subnational reviews.

## **Barriers & Enablers**

Participants identified key barriers to impactful partnerships and proposed solutions to address these challenges:

- **Barriers:**
  - Shrinking civic space for civil society participation, limiting diverse voices in decision-making.
  - Uneven access to resources, including financial and technical support, particularly for grassroots organizations and marginalized communities.
  - Insufficient stakeholder diversity in partnerships, often excluding underrepresented groups such as youth, persons with disabilities, and indigenous communities.
  - Challenges in collaboration between stakeholders and Member States, including bureaucratic hurdles and lack of engagement opportunities.
  - Limited access to standardized tools for equitable financing and sharing risks/rewards in partnerships.
  - Low awareness of partnership opportunities at the UN level, hindering stakeholder involvement and potential collaborations.
- **Enablers:**

- Strengthened accountability mechanisms and transparent processes to foster trust and inclusivity in partnerships.
- Enhanced capacity-building initiatives, leveraging the Resident Coordinator Offices (RCOs) and UN Development Coordination Office (DCO) to provide technical assistance and connect stakeholders.
- Strategic use of digitalization and AI to improve collaboration, streamline processes, and address resource gaps.
- Systematically incorporating experience sharing on overcoming barriers into concept notes for the SDG Action Segments. This would provide a structured opportunity for stakeholders to learn from challenges and replicable solutions.
- Knowledge-sharing platforms to disseminate best practices, replicable models, and lessons learned from successful partnerships.
- Advocacy and communication strategies to raise awareness of partnership opportunities and highlight pathways for diverse stakeholder engagement.
- Promote cross-border and regional partnerships, such as North-South and South-South collaborations, to share successful models and address global challenges.
- Participants noted the importance of a compelling UN value proposition to attract private sector engagement, including showcasing partnerships with strong business cases.

Participants emphasized that the Forum should prioritize dialogue on overcoming these barriers while promoting an enabling environment for partnerships focused on advancing the SDGs. By addressing systemic challenges and leveraging enablers, the Forum can catalyze impactful and inclusive partnerships.

### **Concrete Actions**

Proposed actions to strengthen partnerships and accelerate SDG progress over the next five years included:

- **Standardized Tools:** Develop and deploy tools to facilitate partnerships, streamline processes, and enable knowledge-sharing at both local and global levels.
- **Blended Financing Models:** Expand the use of blended finance mechanisms and impact investing to mobilize resources, reduce risks, and support scalable SDG-focused initiatives.
- **Localized Capacity Building:** Invest in community-driven capacity-building programs, such as the [2030 Agenda Partnership Accelerator](#), to empower local actors and ensure grassroots engagement.
- **Youth Representation:** Promote meaningful youth engagement by including youth representatives across all SDG action segments and ensuring intergenerational dialogue in partnerships.
- **Philanthropic Engagement:** Actively engage philanthropic organizations to catalyze partnerships, provide financial resources, and drive innovation for scalable solutions.
- **Regional and Cross-Border Initiatives:** Strengthen regional and cross-border partnerships, including North-South and South-South collaborations, to share replicable solutions and address common challenges. Provide space for the RC system and [Regional Collaborative Platforms \(RCPs\)](#) to showcase tested and scalable partnerships during the SDG Action Segments, considering the importance of country and regional perspectives in global discussions. Also owing to the RCs' role of convening the right actors for impact at the country level and the role of RCPs in bringing the regional UN together for joint delivery.

- **Enhanced Digital Collaboration:** Leverage digital platforms and AI to improve stakeholder engagement, track progress, and facilitate real-time collaboration and problem-solving.
- **Accountability and Monitoring:** Establish mechanisms to monitor the outcomes of partnerships and provide transparent reporting to ensure progress is tracked and commitments are met.

## **Format**

Innovative session formats were proposed to enhance the Forum’s interactivity, inclusivity, and overall impact:

- **Interactive Discussions:** Replace prepared scripted speeches with dynamic dialogues, Q&A sessions, and discussions to foster engagement and active participation.
- **Visual Tools:** Incorporate real-time mapping of partnership impacts, visualizing progress across SDGs, and use social media to amplify discussions and highlight key outcomes.
- **Creative Sessions:** Introduce “Shark Tank”-style segments where successful partnerships can pitch their initiatives to investors and stakeholders, encouraging scaling and replication of impactful models.
- **Fireside Chats:** Feature informal, conversational-style sessions to facilitate authentic and open exchanges of ideas and experiences among stakeholders.
- **Thematic Breakouts:** Organize thematic breakout groups or workshops to allow participants to deep dive into specific challenges and collaboratively develop solutions.
- **Hybrid Accessibility:** Leverage hybrid formats with robust virtual participation options to ensure inclusivity and engagement from diverse global stakeholders, particularly from underrepresented regions.
- **Regional Perspectives in Discussions:** It was noted that providing dedicated space for regional commissions and perspectives during Forum discussions would ensure inclusivity and reflect diverse challenges and needs.

## **Resources, Tools, Analysis**

Proposed resources and tools to support partnerships and enhance the Forum’s impact included:

- **Platforms for Localization:** Strengthen collaboration with Resident Coordinator Offices (RCOs) and UN Global Compact local networks to bridge global strategies with grassroots implementation, ensuring localization of SDG initiatives.
- **Standardization:** Develop standardized mechanisms for financing, accountability, and impact measurement to streamline partnership processes and improve transparency.
- **Digital Tools:** Utilize AI-driven analytics and visualization tools to monitor SDG progress, showcase partnership outcomes, and provide actionable insights in real time.
- **Knowledge Sharing Systems:** Create and distribute practical tools, best practices, and replicable models for stakeholders at local, national, and global levels, fostering capacity-building and innovation.
- **Partnership Portals:** Establish digital platforms to connect stakeholders, highlight available resources, and promote cross-sector collaboration for impactful SDG-focused initiatives.
- **Region-Specific Tools:** Participants noted the importance of resources like RICCAR (Regional Initiative for the Assessment of Climate Change Impacts on Water) and ISPAR (Indices Simulator for Policy Makers) in providing evidence-based insights to inform SDG policymaking.

## **Other Insights**

Participants underscored additional considerations to enhance the inclusivity, alignment, and impact of the ECOSOC Partnership Forum:

- **Unusual Partnerships:** Highlight and engage “unusual partners,” such as grassroots organizations, informal economy actors, and nontraditional stakeholders, to introduce fresh perspectives and avoid echo chambers of traditional participants.
- **Focus on Marginalized Groups:** Prioritize the voices and needs of marginalized communities, including refugees, migrants, persons with disabilities, and indigenous populations, ensuring actionable solutions address their unique challenges.
- **Intergenerational Dialogue:** Emphasize the importance of intergenerational collaboration, providing platforms for youth and older generations to share insights and co-create innovative solutions.
- **Dynamic Engagement:** Leverage the Forum as a platform to connect diverse stakeholders, foster dialogue, and inspire transformative action toward achieving the SDGs.

## **Closing**

The President of ECOSOC expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the participants for their meaningful and dynamic engagement, noting that the discussions provided a valuable foundation for the upcoming ECOSOC Partnership Forum. The President emphasized the importance of fostering interactive and impactful dialogue, moving away from traditional, static formats. Describing the Forum as just the beginning of the ECOSOC cycle, the President urged participants to view it as a pivotal moment to set the tone for the year’s discussions and outcomes.

The President further highlighted the importance of balancing the narrative by showcasing both successes and challenges in the journey toward achieving the SDGs. The critical need for increased resources to ensure broader, more inclusive participation was emphasized, particularly to allow diverse voices—such as those of marginalized groups, refugees, and grassroots communities—to shape discussions and solutions.

Recognizing the unique role of the United Nations as a platform for amplifying civil society’s voice, the President reaffirmed its centrality in advancing the 2030 Agenda. The President stressed that partnerships are not just a concept but a necessity for achieving progress, underscoring the transformative potential of collaboration and innovation. The President reiterated a personal commitment to fostering a culture of partnership, emphasizing that success depends on engaging with others, learning collaboratively, and establishing connections that inspire progress.

In closing, the President encouraged participants to carry forward the momentum from this meeting, working together to build impactful partnerships and strengthen collective efforts. While acknowledging the progress made so far, the President reminded attendees that substantial work remains ahead, underscoring the importance of partnership as the foundation for achieving meaningful and measurable progress.