

**Intervention by Council of Palm Oil Producing Countries at the
ECOSOC Partnership Forum
5 February 2025, UN Headquarters, New York**

Excellencies and distinguished delegates,

1. It is an honor to address this forum focusing on SDG 17: “Partnerships for the Goals.”
2. CPOPC unites countries across Asia-Pacific, Latin America, and Africa in pursuit of sustainable development. Indonesia and Malaysia, its founding members, with Honduras, Papua New Guinea, and observers like Colombia, Ghana, Nigeria, and Democratic Republic of the Congo, form a coalition leveraging regional strengths to address global challenges.
3. Palm oil, a vital commodity for economic growth and food security, serves as a cornerstone of collaboration. The sector has driven transformative initiatives that underscore the power of partnerships in five key areas:
4. First, **international trade**: palm oil boosts economic growth, forges trade partnerships, and helps reduce poverty through job creation.
5. Second, **multi-stakeholder initiatives** unite governments, businesses, CSOs, and international bodies to address environmental sustainability, responsible consumption, and rural development.

6. Third, **technology transfer and capacity building** modernize agriculture and strengthen climate resilience, empowering smallholders to boost productivity and enhance food security.
7. Fourth, CPOPC fosters **policy dialogue** to align economic, environmental, and social considerations in palm oil trade and sustainability, ensuring regulatory coherence and shared best practices.
8. Fifth, **development financing** in this sector attracts domestic and foreign investment, as well as development assistance, channeling resources into tackling deforestation, improving rural livelihoods, and mitigating climate change.
9. Despite these achievements, challenges persist. CPOPC calls for strategic priorities to secure a more resilient, inclusive, and ecologically responsible future, namely **digital traceability** across supply chains, robust **support for smallholders**, **inclusive knowledge-sharing**, **policy coherence** aligning sustainability with climate goals, and **innovative funding** models tied to progress on deforestation-free supply chains.
10. We urge governments, international agencies, businesses, and civil society to embrace these measures and ensure that our progress toward the 2030 Agenda truly leaves no one behind. Thank you.