



The President
of the
Economic and Social Council

8 December 2025

Excellency,

I have the pleasure of inviting you to the eleventh annual Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (STI Forum) which will be held on 6 and 7 May 2026. It marks the 11th anniversary of the STI Forum and its first iteration since the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4).

The STI Forum is co-chaired by H.E. Mr. Chola Milambo, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Zambia to the United Nations, and H.E. Mr. Gregor W. Koessler, Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations. The Co-Chairs will hold a briefing about the Forum for Member States and stakeholders with details forthcoming.

The STI Forum - a key component of the UN Technology Facilitation Mechanism established by the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and launched by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - focuses on strengthening the contributions of science, technology and innovation to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It will provide inputs to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) to be held from 6 July to 15 July 2026.

Against this background and as in previous years, the theme of the STI Forum will be aligned with that of the HLPF and will thus be: "*Transformative, equitable and coordinated science, technology and innovation for the 2030 Agenda and a sustainable future for all*". The STI Forum will also consider the five SDGs under review at the 2026 HLPF: SDG 6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all; SDG 7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all; SDG 9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation; SDG 11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable; and SDG 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

All Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

Every year, the STI Forum brings together high-level policy makers and senior government officials with scientists, engineers, young innovators, entrepreneurs, representatives of organized science and technology communities, the UN system and international organizations. The Forum is a venue for facilitating the establishment of networks and the development, transfer, and dissemination of relevant technologies for the SDGs.

In particular, I encourage the participation of Ministers and senior officials, not only in science and technology, but also in planning, industrial development, education, energy, food and agriculture, water and sanitation, urban development, environment and others. Eminent experts including chief scientists and technology advisers, heads of research institutions and academies of sciences and engineering in all relevant areas in the public and private sectors are likewise encouraged to participate.

For further information, please contact Mr. Wei Liu (liuw@un.org) in the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs and Mr. Juan Jose Martinez Badillo (unctadnyo@un.org) at UN Trade and Development's New York Office, or visit the Forum's website:
<https://sdgs.un.org/tfm/STIForum2026>.

I look forward to your support and the active participation of your Government and stakeholders in the STI Forum.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.



Lok Bahadur Thapa
President of ECOSOC