



**The President  
of the  
Economic and Social Council**

21 February 2019

Excellency,

Further to my letter of 17 January 2019 on the appointment of the co-Chairs to the STI Forum, I invite you to the fourth multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (STI Forum), which I have been mandated to convene in my capacity as President of the Economic and Social Council.

The STI Forum is scheduled to take place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 14-15 May 2019. Building upon previous years' events, I expect this year's STI Forum, as a key component of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, will continue to facilitate the discussion of science, technology and innovation cooperation around thematic areas for the implementation of the SDGs.

This year's STI Forum will discuss science, technology and innovation cooperation around SDGs 4, 8, 10, 13, and 16, in addition to a number of cross-cutting areas, and I envision it to be a creative and interactive event that will bring together scientists, innovators, entrepreneurs, high-level policy makers and representatives from civil society and international organizations. A number of cross-cutting themes such as the impacts of rapid technological change, STI roadmaps, gender and STI, indigenous knowledge and others will also feature in the programme.

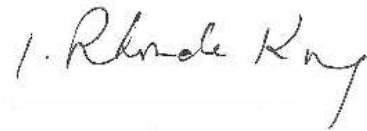
I would therefore like to encourage the participation of Ministers from relevant fields such as innovation, education, energy, economics, environment, rural development, governance and equality advancement; as well as chief scientists, chief technology advisers or heads of national research institutions of your Government, to strengthen the discussions and interactions at the STI Forum.

You can find more information with regard to the 2019 STI Forum at its website at <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/TFM/STIForum2019> . In order to maintain the interactive nature of the Forum, I would request you kindly upload national statements, if any, at the website so that there is no need to have them read out in the sessions.

Please contact the co-focal points of the STI Forum Mr. Wei Liu at the Division for Sustainable Development in the Department of Economic and Social Affairs at [liuw@un.org](mailto:liuw@un.org) and Mr. Olivier Combe at the UNCTAD New York Office at [olivier.combe@un.org](mailto:olivier.combe@un.org) in case you need any further details.

I am looking forward to your support and the active participation of your Government experts and other stakeholders in this Forum.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Inga Rhonda King". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "I".

Inga Rhonda King  
President of ECOSOC

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