



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

21<sup>st</sup> January 2020

Excellency,

I have the pleasure to invite you to the fifth multi-stakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals (STI Forum), which I am to convene in my capacity as President of the Economic and Social Council, at the United Nations Headquarters in New York on 12-13 May 2020

As in past years, I expect this year's STI Forum, as a key component of the Technology Facilitation Mechanism, to continue to facilitate the discussion of science, technology and innovation cooperation to speed up progress towards the SDGs. The theme of the Forum will be "Using science, technology and innovation for accelerating action and transformative pathways", aligning with the theme of the 2020 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF).

I envision this event 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. This year's STI Forum will discuss science, technology and innovation cooperation around the "entry points" and "levers" put forward in the Global Sustainable Development Report 2019. In addition, several cross-cutting themes including the impacts of rapid technological change on the SDGs, STI for SDG roadmaps, empowering under-represented groups such as women and youth, and several others will also feature in the programme.

I would therefore like to encourage the participation of Ministers from relevant fields such as innovation, education, 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 2020 STI Forum at its website at <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/TFM>. 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 Goals 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 blue ink, reading "Mona Juul". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mona Juul  
President of ECOSOC

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