

**General Assembly  
Economic and Social Council**Distr.: General  
30 April 2018

Original: English

**Advanced Unedited Version****General Assembly  
Seventy-third session  
Item 21 of the preliminary list  
Sustainable development****Economic and Social Council  
2018 session  
Agenda item 11  
Implementation of and follow-up to major  
United Nations conferences and summits****Mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable  
development throughout the United Nations system****Report of the Secretary-General***Summary*

Since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the United Nations system has further intensified its effort to mainstream the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development throughout its work. In a survey conducted by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, 36 UN entities provided updates on their efforts to advance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the sustainable development goals (SDGs), which capture also their efforts to mainstream the three dimensions of sustainable development. The information thus generated demonstrates the response of the UN system to the vision and aspirations of the 2030 Agenda.

This report presents an overview of those actions and initiatives taken by the UN entities as reflected in the survey. The report notes a continuing effort by UN entities to align their new strategic work programmes with the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, under the guidance of their respective intergovernmental bodies. A number of them also initiated organizational innovations to be better positioned to respond to the transformative nature of the SDGs, setting up dedicated coordination units. A new institutional mind-set is gradually taking shape, with a growing emphasis on moving away from silo to inter-linkages, to working in partnership, and to seeking synergies across the organization's work plan. The support to member States is likewise geared toward an integrated approach, focusing on linkages and nexuses among the SDGs and there is a clear willingness to enhance collaboration within the UN system and with

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## **I. Introduction**

1. In General Assembly resolution 72/216, Member States took note of the report of the Secretary-General on the mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable development throughout the United Nations system (A/72/75-E/2017/56) and reiterated the call of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development and in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for the further mainstreaming of the three dimensions throughout the United Nations system. In this regard, it invited the Secretary-General to continue to report to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, on progress made, including for the consideration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF).
2. In response to this request, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) invited UN system entities, including UN Conventions secretariats and research institutions, to undertake a survey on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. The information thus generated serves as essential input to this report. The findings of the survey will also be used for analytical purposes of the UN system response to the implementation requirements of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs.
3. The present report presents an overview of the actions and initiatives taken by the UN entities as reflected in the survey. The report notes a continuing effort by UN entities to align their new strategic work programmes with the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, under the guidance of their respective intergovernmental bodies. A number of them also initiated organizational innovations to be better positioned to respond to the transformative nature of the SDGs, setting up dedicated coordination units. A new institutional mind-set is also gradually taking shape, with a growing emphasis on moving away from silo to inter-linkages, to working in partnership, and to seeking synergies across the organization's work plan. The UN system support to member States is likewise geared toward an integrated approach, focusing on linkages and nexuses among the SDGs; and there is a clear willingness to enhance collaboration within UN system and business and civil society stakeholders. The aim is to build on comparative advantages and focus on adding value to countries.
4. Clearly, the overview will never do full justice to the wealth of information contained in the findings of the survey. To ensure that such a repertoire of information adds value to the analysis and coordination of UN system actions on the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, DESA has consolidated the survey findings into a user-friendly, searchable online database, to be updated by responding entities regularly:

*<-<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/unsystem/index.html>>.*

## **II. An integrated strategy for implementation**

5. Since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, the various governing bodies of UN entities have taken forward-looking strategic decisions to guide concrete actions aimed at expediting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. For example, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) has mainstreamed the 2030 Agenda and its follow-up in its governing bodies, particularly in the context of its Session of the Commission in which the Commission's programme of work is presented and submitted to its Member States. As an example, at the 36<sup>th</sup> Session

of the Commission in 2016, the 2030 Agenda was at the heart of both the programme and discussions of the meeting. Moreover, the Position Document presented to governments in this occasion entitled “Horizons 2030: Equality at the Centre of Sustainable Development” explicitly intertwined ECLAC's analysis and policy recommendations with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

6. In the case of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), the "2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: An ESCWA Strategy and Plan of Action" (The Strategy) was approved by the Executive Committee of ESCWA in December 2015. The Strategy is a multi-faceted approach to support Member States through adaptation, priority setting, policy making, and follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda. This response is at once conceptual and organizational: it refines the functions as well as the structure of the organization to allow for optimal responsiveness to the needs of Member States within the context of the 2030 Agenda. The implementation of the Strategy started in January 2016, with the establishment of a dedicated Unit on 2030 Agenda, whose key mandate is to coordinate and complement the ongoing work of all ESCWA divisions to ensure a coherent ESCWA response to Member States' needs, an enhanced ability to lead regional-level processes, foster intra-regional dialogue, advocate for common regional prioritization within the new global agenda, produce knowledge on thematic issues of the agenda that are relevant to the region, and fulfil the regional commissions' follow-up and review mandates.
7. To advance its commitment to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) adopted resolution 72/6 on “committing to the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific”. The Commission requested the Executive Secretary (a) to promote the balanced integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development and provide annual updates and recommendations to Member States, including through the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development; (b) to support the process to define a regional road map for implementing the 2030 Agenda and to address challenges to its achievement in Asia and the Pacific, pursuant to the recommendations of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development, as contained in its report; (c) to strengthen support to Member States in their efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda in an integrated approach, inter alia, with analytical products, technical services and capacity-building initiatives through knowledge-sharing products and platforms, and to enhance data and statistical capacities.
8. Furthermore, the Commission requested the Executive Secretary to continue to provide capacity-building opportunities to Member States, leveraging existing expertise and its intergovernmental forum to contribute to the strengthening of their capacity. Such support covers such issues as financing for development, including domestic resource mobilization, as well as developing integrated approaches, models and tools in enhancing regional cooperation on the SDGs with a special emphasis on the least developed countries (LDCs), landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) and small island developing States (SIDS).
9. The technical and governing bodies of the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) have played a key role in providing guidance and identifying priorities of FAO contribution to the SDGs. The FAO Conference, the main decision-making body, was informed by Technical (thematic) bodies (Committees on Fishery, Forest, Agriculture, Trade and Commodity), The Committee on World Food Security, the

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FAO Regional Conferences, and other intergovernmental platforms of/hosted by FAO such as the Commission on Genetic Resources for food and agriculture, the Codex Alimentarius, the International Treaty of plant and genetic resources. These bodies all discussed policy, programmatic and financial priorities of FAO work on SDGs in specific agenda items during 2016/2017 sessions. Technical and regional bodies, as well as the programme and finance committees also discussed ways to fully integrate SDGs into the programme of work and the results framework of FAO..

10. The International Labour Organization (ILO) action on the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs is based on three platforms discussed and adopted by ILO tripartite constituents (government, workers and employers) at its governing organs: (i) The Director-General's Report to the 105th International Labour Conference (ILC) (ii) The End to Poverty Initiative: The ILO and the 2030 Agenda; (iii) The Resolution on "Advancing Social Justice through Decent Work", adopted at the 105th International Labour Conference (ILC). The ILC Resolution requests the ILO to play a convening role around the UN follow-up and review of the decent work dimension of the 2030 Agenda; and The ILO SDG Implementation Plan sets out ILO-wide activities and coordination requirements. As requested by the Governing Body (GB), the Office of the Director-General subsequently prepared a roll-out strategy operationalizing the Implementation Plan. The Roll-out Strategy proposes six action categories: (1) capacity building; (2) guidance development; (3) outreach; (4) research and policy; (5) communication; and (6) partnerships.
11. Reflecting the scope of investment needed as well as the need to ensure impact of every dollar invested, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), through its Strategic Framework 2016-2025, is stepping up its efforts in the context of the SDGs. Underpinned by an overarching vision of "enabling inclusive and sustainable rural transformation", IFAD's Strategic Framework is based around enabling the organization to play a larger role in helping countries fulfil their priorities relative to Agenda 2030 by: (i) mobilizing substantially more funds and resources for investment in rural areas; (ii) strengthening the impact of IFAD's country programmes through innovation, knowledge-sharing, partnerships and policy engagement; and (iii) delivering development results in a cost effective way that responds to member countries evolving needs. In addition, IFAD has revamped its Results Management Framework around its contribution to the 2030 Agenda.
12. The United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) is fully committed to contributing to the achievement of the SDGs, while delivering on its mandate to support Member States in achieving inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID). The UNIDO medium-term programme framework (MTPF) 2018-2021, adopted by its governing body, the Industrial Development Board (IDB), provides strategic guidance for the programmatic activities of the Organization to realize its mandate of supporting countries in achieving inclusive and sustainable industrial development (ISID). The MTPF 2018-2021 integrates for the first time all levels of the Organization's performance and its development results, from the management of its internal operations to the achievement of industry-related SDGs.
13. Adopted by the World Food Programme's (WFP) Executive Board just over a year after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, WFP's Strategic Plan for 2017-2021 aligns the organization's work to the 2030 Agenda's global call to action, which prioritizes efforts to end poverty, hunger and inequality, encompassing humanitarian as

well as development efforts. The Strategic Plan is guided by the SDGs, in particular SDG 2 on ending hunger and SDG 17 on revitalizing global partnerships for implementation of the SDGs. It ushers in a new planning and operational structure, including the implementation of results-based country portfolios that will maximize WFP's contribution to governments' efforts towards achieving the SDGs.

### **III. SDG-specific work programmes**

14. Many UN entities have followed up the strategic decisions of their respective intergovernmental bodies by formulating SDG-specific work programmes. For example, the ILO Programme and Budget for 2018-19 links budget outcomes to the respective SDGs and selected priority targets.
  
15. The International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) recognizes that achieving the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs will rely on advances and innovations in sustainable transport, including aviation. Although sustainable transport and aviation are not represented by a standalone SDG, they are both mainstreamed across the SDGs. In 2016, ICAO's 39th General Assembly unanimously adopted Resolution A39-25 on "Aviation's Contribution towards the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development". In doing so, all 192 Member States of ICAO recognized the essential role of aviation in achieving the 2030 Agenda and the fundamental interlinkages between the SDGs, ICAO's Business Plan and its 5 Strategic Objectives and the No Country Left Behind (NCLB) initiative. As a result, the SDGs are now guiding the implementation of ICAO's 2017-2019 Business Plan. A reporting tool is being rolled out to capture progress on the implementation of ICAO's Business Plan as it contributes to the achievement of the SDGs by 2030.
  
16. The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has integrated SDGs implementation into its medium-term strategy for 2018-22 and its programme of work 2018-19. Over 86 SDG targets are related to environmental sustainability, including at least one in each of the 17 Goals. Thus, UN Environment, with its global environmental mandate, takes the lead in facilitating the monitoring and reporting for 26 environment-related SDG indicators for which it is the custodian and also has a key role in promoting a coherent delivery on the environmental dimension of all 17 SDGs.

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17. Within the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), dedicated sections of the Office focus on sustainable development and on the right to development, while the work of the whole Office, including its strategic planning, is closely linked with promoting human rights-based SDG implementation, which features prominently in OHCHR work at headquarters and in the field. OHCHR contributes to follow-up to the 2030 Agenda through its mainstreaming work at the UN inter-agency level, as well as through preparing substantive inputs to the HLPF discussions, strengthening capacity of Member States and other stakeholders (including UN Country Teams) on the voluntary national reviews, and raising awareness on linkages between SDGs and human rights (including at the HLPF)..
  18. UN-Women's Annual Report on the implementation of the Strategic Plan (SP) 2014-2017 for the year 2016 for the first time reported how implementation of the SP contributed to the implementation of the SDGs. The tracking, monitoring and reporting of this support will be further enhanced in the context of the implementation of the 2018-2021 SP. Through the implementation of its Strategic Plan 2018-2021, UN-Women provides support to Member States, at their request, including on integrated policy advice, comprehensive and disaggregated data and capacity development. Given the overall orientation of the Strategic Plan 2018-2021, UN-Women's support consistently includes support for the gender-responsive implementation of the 2030 Agenda and achievement of the SDGs.
  19. United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) has articulated its new Strategic Framework covering 2018-2021, aligned with the 2030 Agenda, primarily focusing on SDGs 1, on poverty eradication, and 17, on the means of implementation. UNCDF contributes to other goals by identifying targets where local finance solutions can overcome entrenched obstacles to progress. At the programme level, all new programmes will be aligned with at least one or more SDGs.
  20. United Nations Population Fund - UNFPA's - Strategic Plan (2018-2021) addresses transformative results that will contribute to the achievement of the SDGs. UNFPA is implementing its strategic plan to mobilize and align its institutional strategies to the 2030 Agenda and is monitoring the 17 UNFPA-prioritized SDG indicators. Furthermore, the Common Chapter of the 4 agencies, funds and programmes (UNDP, UNICEF, UN Women and UNFPA) focuses on poverty eradication, gender equality and women's empowerment, data, the humanitarian and development nexus, climate change, adolescent and maternal health and HIV. The Common Chapter roll-out will contribute jointly to the implementation of the SDGs in a collaborative manner, in accordance with the respective mandates, and in partnership with other members of the United Nations family, building on each other's transformative strength.

21. The five strategic priorities of United Nations Children’s Fund<sup>1</sup> (UNICEF) directly relate to 11 of the SDGs. Some sector-specific plans and strategies also take the SDGs into account. For example, UNICEF's “Strategy for Health” and “Strategy for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene” (WASH), were both completed in 2015 and are aligned to the SDGs' timeline (2016-2030). The health strategy is focused on two overarching goals, which are: (i) End preventable maternal, newborn and child deaths and (ii) Promote the health and development of all children. The WASH strategy focuses on the first two SDG 6 targets as the centrepiece of its programming work. In addition, UNICEF has been strongly focused on “Ending Violence against children” and was a key partner in launching the “Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children”. UNICEF, together with Save the Children and other key partners launched the “End Child Poverty Global Coalition”, released a guide to achieve that vision, which places achieving this goal explicitly within the context of the SDGs.
  
22. Given the cross-cutting nature of learning and training, United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) undertakes multiple programmatic activities under its strategic objectives that support specific SDGs. More than 50 per cent of the 75 result areas of the Programme Budget are aligned with SDGs 12, 13 and 16. The Institute also contributes to SDGs 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 14, 15 and 17, as well as towards SDG 11. The latter strategy also involves greater voice for cities in related inter-governmental deliberations.
  
23. UNIDO is in the process of elaborating a strategy to report on SDGs via its delivery of technical cooperation in its administrative system. The basic idea is that, by linking the Organization’s results-based management’s code to the respective SDGs, UNIDO project managers will also be reporting on SDGs implementation. When they are reporting on results-based management (RBM).
  
24. United Nations Office for Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) has undertaken a number of initiatives to mainstream the SDGs into UNODC's programming efforts and technical assistance delivery. Through its Strategic Planning and Inter-Agency Affairs Unit (SPIA), the Office continues to review and advise on new and already existing results frameworks of UNODC global, regional, and national projects to ensure alignment with the 2030 Agenda. In this regard, in the course of 2017, SPIA conducted five (5) training workshops on results-based management and the SDGs in UNODC Field offices in Central Asia, Pakistan, Eastern Africa, Colombia, Peru, and Thailand and mapped programme and project outcomes and indicators to the SDGs. Further workshops for UNODC's RBM quality assurance focal points are planned for 2018. Moreover, during 2017, SPIA has developed an RBM /SDG Manual, which will be published in 2018 and is meant as a guide for UNODC staff to incorporate, inter alia, the SDGs into UNODC's project planning, monitoring, and evaluation processes. The Office is currently undergoing a peer review on UNODC's RBM approach. It is expected that the findings of the peer review will help to strengthen the alignment of the Office's work with the SDGs.

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<sup>1</sup> Child protection and social inclusion, child survival, education, emergencies and humanitarian action, gender equality.



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25. The Office of the High Representative for least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing states (OHRLLS) has prepared an action plan to strengthen the complementarities between its programmes of action and the 2030 Agenda. The action plan provides an analysis of the commonalities and complementarities between the relevant programmes of actions and the SDGs and set the parameters of how to enhance synergies between the programmes of action and the SDGs in OHRLLS' work. Overall, the action plan offers a roadmap to enhance synergies between the 2030 Agenda and the programmes of action in every step of the office's planning, implementation, monitoring and reporting cycle. The Office has also integrated the 2030 Agenda in its 2018-19 biennium programme budget and included activities into annual work plans.
  26. The SDGs are an important feature in programmes and activities of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). SDG 9, notably its innovation component, is at the heart of WIPO's mission. SDG 9 is the most central to WIPO's mandate. Gender Equality (SDG 5) and Partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17) are cross-cutting issues, which are mainstreamed across all WIPO's Strategic Goals. Twenty out of a total of thirty-one programmes included in the Programme and Budget for 2018-2019 are linked to SDGs. WIPO's Strategic Goals and Programmes are aligned with the priorities set in the 2030 Agenda. WIPO's development cooperation, technical assistance and capacity building activities are strategically placed to deliver support to its Member States as they integrate the SDGs in their national sustainable development plans.
  27. In the World Trade Organisation (WTO), an in house, inter-divisional task force was created in 2016 to deal specifically with coordinating and responding efficiently and effectively to monitoring achievement of the trade-related targets in the 2030 Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development. The task force meets at least once every quarter and is chaired by WTO Deputy Director-General. The WTO has since done work on several of the SDG targets that pertain to trade. Beginning with SDG 2 on zero hunger, more specifically target 2 (b), which urges the reduction of distortions in agricultural markets. Similarly, with SDG 3 on good health, an amendment to the WTO TRIPS Agreement will make it easier for developing countries to have a secure legal pathway to access affordable medicines in line with SDG 3 target (b). Also, for SDG 8, the WTO continues to be successful in mobilizing resources under the Aid for Trade initiative in line with SDG 8 target (a).
  28. While not addressing specific SDGs, the UN Office for Project Support (UNOPS) Strategic Plan 2018-2021 is fully aligned to the 2030 Agenda and expresses the organization's ambition to become a known and recognized resource entity, providing collaborative advantages that expand implementation capacity for Governments, the United Nations, and other partners, in support of the Secretary-General and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In full recognition of the universality, mutual reinforcement and interdependence of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, UNOPS seeks to make direct and indirect contributions towards achievement of all the goals.

#### **IV. Supporting member States to accelerate implementation**

29. FAO has started collaborating with national governments on the alignment of SDGs with relevant regional development strategies and national sectoral strategies. In Africa, FAO advocated with countries for the inclusion of SDGs in the key regional strategies related to agriculture, such as the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods, as well as their inclusion in respective national strategic and investment plans.
30. As part of its Programming Directions for the 7th replenishment phase (GEF-7, 2018-22), the Global Environment Facility (GEF) has proposed to support countries on 'Integrated National Planning' to enhance coordinated planning and coordination of the five Rio Conventions and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. By facilitating convergence of national SDG plans with multilateral environmental agreements (MEA) priorities and objectives, GEF is assisting decision-makers with integrative formulation and implementation of policies and actions by taking into account SDGs in unison with MEAs rather than in a fragmented fashion.
31. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) Technical Cooperation Programme serves as the major vehicle for technology transfer and capacity building. It comprises national, regional and interregional projects formulated within areas where nuclear techniques can address development challenges, such as hunger, human health, energy, and climate change. IAEA is working closely with its Member States and supports them in their efforts to achieve the SDGs. IAEA has organized numerous outreach events during major conferences on how nuclear technology can help achieve the SDGs.
32. The Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and its partners provide analytical, technical assistance and/or capacity building support to countries in implementing their various work streams relating to the Convention. In so doing, the Secretariat also provides support for implementing the 2030 Agenda. The extent and specifics of the support provided vary depending on each work programme, country needs, strategic priorities, availability of funds, among others. The Short-term Action Plan (2017-2020) to Enhance and Support Capacity-Building for the Implementation of the Convention and its Protocols, which was adopted by the Parties in December 2016, includes more than 100 concrete activities relating to various Aichi Biodiversity Targets and will contribute to implementing SDGs 14, 15 and others.
33. UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) provides normative and technical support to countries to integrate disaster risk reduction into their national development plans and policies. This includes support to take a disaster-risk informed approach to their national SDG strategies; to implement the SDGs with disaster risk reduction specific indicators; and to promote integration between national and local disaster reduction strategies to be developed by 2020, as per Target E of the Sendai Framework.
34. UN-Women supports Member States in the development of national development strategies and national gender equality action plans. In 2016, UN Women supported 82 countries to strengthen gender equality priorities in their national, sectorial and local development plans and budgets. As a result, 28 countries reported increases in budget allocations for SDG 5 on gender equality and women's empowerment.
35. Through its multi-sectoral, multi-stakeholder approach, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) aims to advance country-level progress towards ending AIDS while contributing to broader health, development, gender and rights

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outcomes. The entire UNAIDS Strategy promotes the advancement of a rights-based, inclusive approach that ensures a people-centred response built on participation of civil society, women, young people, people living with HIV and key populations – leaving no one behind.

36. In regards to the implementation of specific programmes integrating technical assistance, analytical research and capacity-building activities, the UNIDO Programme for Country Partnership (PCP) is an innovative model for accelerating the achievement of inclusive and sustainable industrial development. It is becoming an instrument to operationalize the Organization's mandate and, by extension, SDG 9.
37. United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) is currently assisting six Western Balkan countries and UN system entities to strengthen SDG mainstreaming and implementation in the context of European Union accession.
38. The Scaling Up Nutrition Movement (SUN) member countries met in 2015, 2016 and 2017 to undertake budget analysis to ensure more and better spending to tackle the underlying causes of malnutrition. and to generate increased resources from both domestic and external sources. They do this by tracking budget allocations to nutrition against multi-sectoral nutrition plans regularly and in a transparent manner. By 2017, 47 countries conducted an analysis of their government budgets, with 22 countries having done it for the second time.

## **V. Working in partnership**

39. In their efforts to advance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, UN system entities are increasingly moving away from silos to seeking inter-linkages among the SDGs. There is also a clear willingness to enhance collaboration within UN system as well as with business and civil society stakeholders, building on comparative advantages and focusing on adding value to countries.
40. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has partnered with the World Bank Group (WBG) in a number of areas to support the implementation and achievement of the 2030 Agenda. Additionally, the Fund is part of the Platform for Collaboration on Tax with the UN and WBG and others, which aims to better support countries in the challenges they face in relation to their tax systems. The Fund also participates regularly in CEB meetings and ECESA Plus meetings.
41. Collaboration between IFAD and its Rome Based-Agency (RBA) partners FAO and WFP - has been elevated to a strategic level in response to growing impetus for the RBAs to enhance collaboration in the context of the 2030 Agenda. In 2016, FAO, IFAD and WFP developed a joint strategy: "Collaboration among the United Nations Rome - based Agencies: Delivering on the 2030 Agenda ". Collaboration is ongoing on joint servicing initiatives, on project design, supervision and implementation support.
42. As a United Nations Specialized Agency, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) collaborates, participates, and interacts within the United Nations system, its governance processes, subsidiary mechanisms, inter-agency coordination networks and through joint initiatives, to foster greater cooperation, information and knowledge sharing to achieve coherence and synergies in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda

and the SDGs. In this regard, ITU participates in the following coordination mechanisms: Chiefs Executive Board (CEB), including the High-level Committee on Programme (HLCP), the High-level Committee on Management (HLCM), UNDG, EC-ESA Plus, Regional Coordination Mechanism (RCM), Technology Facilitation Mechanism– Inter-agency Task Team (TFM-IATT), and Financing for Development – Inter-agency Task Force (IATF).

43. Partnership with all major stakeholder groups is considered a key to achieving food and nutrition security. FAO Member States adopted the Strategy for Partnerships with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and the Strategy for Partnerships with Private Sector to strengthen corporate and country-focused engagements with private sector, business enterprises, civil society and NGOs, farmer organizations especially those supporting women farmers, academia, and parliamentarians. The six main areas of collaboration are: Field programme; Knowledge sharing and capacity development; Policy dialogue; Joint use of resources; Normative activities; and Advocacy and communication and South–South Cooperation.
44. The IMF also engages on SDGs on a regular basis with (CSOs), including more recently in the context of the inequality and gender pilot initiatives. For example, the IMF team for the Republic of Congo had constructive discussions on governance in the oil sector with CSOs, which helped design governance measures to reduce poverty and inequality. In Zambia, the inclusion of water and sanitation as part of social spending in the IMF-supported program drew on a recent CSOs' position paper on gender and inequality issues.
45. While OHCHR routinely and at all levels engages with various stakeholders, some of the main stakeholders the office works with are national human rights institutions (NHRIs) and CSOs, including representatives of grass-roots organizations and marginalized groups. OHCHR supports the Global alliance of national human rights institutions, which through the Merida Declaration emphasizes the role of NHRIs in the implementation of SDGs.
46. United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) has worked through urban observatories, city leadership and local government ministries, to engage local stakeholder groups in various countries. At the regional and national levels, UN-HABITAT has worked with relevant regional bodies such as UN regional commissions, Regional Mapping agencies, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), etc. to engage blocks of countries/cities on supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs. At the global level, UN-HABITAT also works directly with UN agencies, other multilateral international agencies and organizations to support implementation of the SDGs.
47. The Universal Postal Union (UPU) has been engaging with private sector stakeholders. In the area of financial inclusion, the UPU has developed a technical assistance scheme with the support of external stakeholders (VISA and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation) for the implementation of financial inclusion projects through digital financial services at country level. In its engagement with private sector and other postal stakeholders groups, the UPU has, through its Consultative Committee which gathers the postal stakeholders at large (Clients, Workers Unions, industry groups, NGOs etc), is promoting the implementation of the relevant SDGs in line with the organization's strategy in the fields of trade facilitation and ecommerce in developing countries. In

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addition, a number of Posts and private operators have integrated the SDGs in their strategies as a part of their corporate social responsibility (CSR) policies.

48. The World Bank Group (WBG) recognizes that a central tenet of the SDGs is partnership at the global, regional, and country levels. Hence the World Bank Group is providing a platform for coordinated action. Partnership is one of WBG's key pillars of support for the SDGs. The WBG is involved in numerous global partnerships across different stakeholders: the private sector, local governments and mayors, civil society, foundations, academia, and youth.
49. The World Health Organisation (WHO) attaches great value to expanding engagement of Governments, UN agencies and CSO stakeholders in planning, monitoring, implementation of health-related SDGs at all levels. For example, WHO works closely with Member States and their implementing partners to support the development of national malaria strategic plans, malaria programme reviews, strengthening work on vector control, surveillance and elimination. Through its Stop Tuberculosis Department, WHO has been collaborating actively with UNICEF, UNAIDS, ILO, UNHCR, IOM on specific interventions and overall multi-sectoral collaboration towards ending epidemics, supporting vulnerable groups (including children, workers, refugees and migrants). Its Global Malaria Programme (GMP) is working with UNOPS on the implementation of two work streams funded by the Global Fund to support the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) to achieve malaria elimination: (i) Monitoring antimalarial drug efficacy and resistance in the GMS; and (ii) Malaria Elimination Database for the GMS. Its HIV Department collaborates and has launched joint country envelopes and planning with UNAIDS, UNICEF and across the United Nations.
50. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has worked together with other UN agencies, such as IOM, OCHA and the Special rapporteur of the Human Rights of IDPs (internally displaced persons), to ensure that all persons of concern to UNHCR are included in its guiding vision through the principle of leave no one behind that underpins the 2030 Agenda. As set out in the organisation's Strategic Directions 2017-2021, UNHCR will "build on the commitment of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to leave no-one behind, and on the Sustainable Development Goals to promote the inclusion of refugees, the internally displaced and stateless people in National Development Frameworks." UNHCR also has been engaging with States, host communities, civil society and key national service providers to promote the inclusion of refugees, internally displaced and stateless people in mainstream national systems, including health and education, pending durable solutions to their displacement. Additional UNHCR guidance has been developed relating to programming specifically for education and for prevention and response to statelessness to further support achievement of the relevant SDGs. Launch of the Solutions and Resilience Division in the UNHCR Headquarters in 2018 is further in the spirit of the 2030 Agenda, recognizing development-humanitarian nexus. The new division will foster and institutionalize more close partnership to ensure goals of the 2030 Agenda are achieved for displaced population.
51. The UN Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) is currently working on a global space partnership for the SDGs., Through the partnership, the Office for Outer Space Affairs would act as a "one-stop-shop", coordinating multiple providers of space-derived data, information, services and products. UNOOSA is currently developing a Space for Women project, which is expected to be launched in late 2018. It is strongly linked to Sustainable

Development Goal 5 – Empowerment of women and gender equality, and Sustainable Development Goal 4 – Quality education, and is an example of how the Office is reshaping its projects to be more in line with the SDGs. and and to foster partnerships for developing innovative solutions that will assist countries in monitoring and achieving the Goals.

## **VI. Conclusion**

52. Mainstreaming the three dimensions of sustainable development is essential to achieving the vision and aspirations of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Indeed, it embodies the transformative nature of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs - the emphasis on linkages and nexuses, the imperative of moving from silo to integration and synergies, and the spirit of partnerships, none of which will materialize in the absence of progress in the mainstreaming of the three dimensions of sustainable development. The survey findings suggest that the UN system organisations are stepping up to this challenge by aligning their work programmes and priorities to the SDGs, by initiating organisational changes, and by linking results-based management with the delivery of the SDGs.
53. These are encouraging steps in the right direction and they deserve to be supported and nurtured to ensure impact in supporting Member States in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs. UN system organisations should also consider learning from each other, exchanging experience and lessons learned on how to mainstream the three dimensions of sustainable development, keeping in mind their respective mandates and comparative advantages. In the final analysis, mainstreaming the three dimensions of sustainable development should be embedded and integrated into the work programmes of all UN entities and should be part of their organisational DNA.