

ECOSOC Partnership Forum – January 30, 2024

*Statement delivered on behalf of the EU and its Member States
by Ambassador Philippe Kridelka, Permanent Representative*

- Madam President, Excellencies, distinguished colleagues, I deliver this statement on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.
- The EU and its Member States fully support further strengthening the participation of all stakeholders, in particular women's groups and human rights defenders, the private sector and academia in ECOSOC's work. We commend the Partnership Forum for making this possible.
- We are more than halfway to 2030 and there is a critical need to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs. As last year's SDG report has warned us, if present trends persist, by 2030, a staggering 575 million people will remain trapped in extreme poverty.
- We cannot let that happen. In the SDG Political Declaration adopted by the UN last September, we collectively committed to accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The SDGs under review at ECOSOC this year - relating to poverty, hunger, climate change, peace, justice and institutions, *and* partnerships - are key in our collective efforts to achieving the SDGs.
- The delay in implementing the SDGs highlights the need for a stronger multilateral system, capable of tackling transnational challenges through effective and reliable partnerships. Through its international partnerships, the EU pursues progress towards the SDGs in line with its priorities, such as supporting, green, just and digital transitions, and strengthening gender equality as a cross-cutting urgency.
- Eradicating poverty, tackling discrimination and inequalities, and leaving no one behind are at the heart of the EU's international partnerships, particularly with African and Least Developed Countries. As the largest single multilateral donor of Official Development Assistance, the EU is channelling its funding – 43% of all ODA in 2022 – to those most in need.
- Over the last two years, the EU has been rolling out Global Gateway, its strategy for mobilising sustainable investments in infrastructure and for supporting an enabling environment in partner countries.
- To tackle the global food crisis, the EU and Member States, working together as Team Europe, have provided a comprehensive response to global food insecurity, providing immediate humanitarian and short term food assistance to those most vulnerable, and investing in sustainable food production and food systems to boost resilience.
- We look forward to this year's High Level Political Forum under the auspices of the ECOSOC, preceded by key events such as the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Population and Development and the Financing for Development Forum. The 4th International Conference on SIDS and the 3rd UN Conference on LLDCs will be other major events. Throughout them, we will remain committed to playing our full part, through effective partnerships, in protecting global public goods and accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.