



# Background Note

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United Nations

9/20/2021



# SDG Moment convened by the United Nations Secretary-General

20 September 2021 – 8am-5pm

Virtual Format

## Context

General Assembly resolution 74/4 calls on the Secretary-General “to organize an annual moment in the context of the General Debate of the General Assembly to highlight inspiring SDG Action”.<sup>1</sup>

In September 2020, the Secretary-General convened the first SDG Moment as a check-in on the status of the Sustainable Development Goals at the beginning of the Decade of Action, in light of the challenges presented by the COVID-19 crisis.

The second SDG Moment will take place as the world experiences a deeply uneven response to the pandemic which risks creating a two-tier recovery, with significant implications for the advancement of the SDGs, especially in developing countries.

The meeting will also be held in advance of crucial summits during high level week on Food Systems and Energy as well as intergovernmental meetings in the final quarter of 2021 including the G20, COP26 on Climate Change and COP15 on Biodiversity.

## Objectives

In this context, the SDG Moment meeting will seek to:

- 1) Reinforce the continued relevance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and build momentum in advance of major summits and intergovernmental meetings.
- 2) Highlight urgent actions needed to ensure COVID-19 response and recovery efforts are equitable, inclusive and accelerate the transition to sustainable development.
- 3) Demonstrate that transformative change at scale is possible between now and 2030.

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<sup>1</sup> Resolution 74/4

## **Format, time and date**

The SDG Moment is scheduled to take place on 20 September 2021 from 8am-5pm in a virtual format.

The meeting will be streamed live online and accessible to all through UN media channels including:

UN WebTV [ <http://webtv.un.org/>]

Facebook [@UNwebTV]

Twitter [@UNwebTV]

YouTube [<https://www.youtube.com/UNITEDNATIONS>]

## **Speakers and Member States participation**

Approximately 30-35 Heads of State/Government of countries that recently conducted voluntary national reviews will be invited to make a direct contribution to the meeting for a maximum of three to four minutes each.

The meeting will also showcase the contributions of SDG partners including from civil society, the private sector, academia and the UN development system.

## **More information**

The updated meeting programme and list of speakers will be available at <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sdg-moment/>