

24 SEPTEMBER 2018, 3:00-6:00 PM, UNHQ NEW YORK

## BACKGROUND

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) represent tremendous investment opportunities, on the order of trillions of dollars. Yet, despite growing momentum for sustainable development investments, financing gaps remain large. The mobilization of both public and private resources and investments falls far short of what is needed.

National governments are taking the lead and are working to unlock the large levels of financing necessary to implement the 2030 Agenda. Actions focus on three broad areas: first, increasing domestic resource mobilization to create a sound fiscal base for public investments in the SDGs; second, creating enabling environments to catalyse private investments; and third, enhancing international cooperation to support these domestic efforts.

These actions are always country-specific, but there are common challenges that many are grappling with – such as aligning all investment with the SDGs and setting incentives compatible with long-term sustainable investment, developing project pipelines to close vast infrastructure gaps, and enhancing countries' resilience and preparedness for shocks.

Business is responding to the 2030 Agenda at an unprecedented scale. Yet, initiatives by many companies and sectors do not yet amount to the systemic change that is needed to transform economies and societies. Sustainable investment opportunities often remain unrealized even in markets with well-developed business climates and regulatory frameworks. Too much investment remains short-term oriented and volatile. Much

3. Build momentum around key actions and initiatives by national Governments, business and the international community that have high potential to accelerate implementation of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and call on actors to report back on progress at the 2019 High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development.

## FORMAT AND PARTICIPATION

The High-level Meeting will feature an opening address by the Secretary-General and a keynote address by the Managing Director, International Monetary Fund, followed by an opening panel with Heads of State and Government, and two subsequent panels with high-level representatives of leading private sector investors, financial technology innovators, and foundations. The moderated discussion will be conducted in a free-flowing 'Davos-style' setting. Each high-level panel will feature an interactive component, engaging speakers from the floor, including Member States, civil society organizations and private sector representatives.

## EXPECTED OUTCOME

At this High-level Meeting the Secretary-General will launch his Strategy for Financing the 2030 Agenda, which calls for:

1. Aligning global financial and economic policies with the 2030 Agenda.
2. Enhancing sustainable