



The priorities for my presidency of ECOSOC can play a role in addressing these important issues.

For instance, I want ECOSOC

This divide has sharply curtailed the ability of many developing countries to recover from the pandemic and invest in recovery and social development.

Heavy emphasis should be put on the financing needed by LLDCs to invest in a sustainable recovery towards the SDGs and building the transport, energy and ICT infrastructure they badly need.

Another priority I set is to ensure that ECOSOC and the HLPF provide solid, evidence based, innovative and actionable policy guidance to curb and address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the SDGs.

Attaining the Goals has been difficult for many LLDCs even before the outbreak of the pandemic.

LLDCs were disproportionately affected by the pandemic.

Excellencies,

Distinguished delegates,

I am pleased that the HLPF Ministerial Declaration also welcomed the convening of the third United Nations Conference on LLDCs in 2024. The Conference will indeed allow for an opportunity to learn from the last decade and to enhance global commitments towards the LLDCs.

I am aware that the Ministerial Declaration that you will adopt today contains a call to me, as President of ECOSOC, to make contributions to the preparatory process for the Third Conference.

I attach great importance to this request,