

Seventeenth Meeting of the
United Nations Economist Network (UNEN)

Wednesday, 26 May 2021
8:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Mr. Elliott Harris, Assistant Secretary-General of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and Chief Economist of the United Nations, introduced the agenda: (i) New Economics for Sustainable Development (NESD); (ii) Update on Working Groups on Digital Economic Transformation and on Innovative Financing.

New Economics for Sustainable Development

Mr. Harris continued the conversation pertaining to NESD from the past meeting of UNEN and began with a recap on the commonalities among the economic concepts, including recalling the

Mr. Harris proposed the following next steps:

- (i) A template for the policy briefs will be developed and shared prior to the next UNEN meeting;
- (ii) Participants who would like to contribute to the template should please inform Mr. Harris and Ms. Germann;
- (iii) Working groups should, if possible, meet prior to the next UNEN meeting and brainstorm on the structure and content of the respective policy briefs.

Update on Working Groups on Digital Economic Transformation and on Innovative Financing.

Mr. Alex Julca, DESA, provided an update on the Working Group on Digital Economic Transformation. Mr. Stuart Davies, RCO Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean, provided an update on the Working Group on Innovative Financing. Please see background documents shared prior to the meeting for details. Mr. Harris informed participants that the next meetings of the working groups had been scheduled for 4 and 6 June 2021.