

Honourable Ministers, Excellencies,

Greater efforts are needed to build partnerships among the international community to promote and spread innovation for sustainable development in Africa. Nevertheless, if transfer of technology is elusive or sparingly provided, it is necessary to assume responsibility and commit to develop and assign responses to science, technology and innovation. Appropriate budget allocations means less arms and more education.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

For over 60 years, ECOSOC has been serving as an important interface between policymakers and other stakeholders, including the scientific community. The Council brings together Member States to collectively take innovative and effective ways to meet specific challenges. ECOSOC recognizes the critical role of science, technology and innovation in pursuing sustainable development.

Through its Regional Commissions, such as the Economic Commission for Africa, ECOSOC supports the implementation of regional policies for technology dissemination and innovation. One good example here in Africa is the Economic Commission for Africa's Innovation Prize.

ECOSOC will continue to provide an open environment