Update: 2020 Financing for Development Forum Will Hold Virtual Meeting on 23 April

The annual ECOSOC Forum on Financing for Development, originally scheduled for 20-23 April, will hold a short, informal virtual meeting on April 23 to acknowledge the outcome document, which is currently being negotiated.

The FfD Forum usually sees dozens of Ministers of Finance, Foreign Affairs and Development Cooperation from around the world, along with senior executives from UN agencies, the World Bank and the IMF. The Forum agrees on an outcome, after reviewing the trends in development finance and progress on the SDGs outlined in the latest <u>Financing for Sustainable Development Report</u> (FSDR).

The FSDR, released on 9 April, <u>says</u> in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic governments must take immediate steps to prevent a potential debt crisis, and address the economic and financial global shocks related to the crisis.

Officials in the Financing for Sustainable Development Office of UNDESA, which organizes the Forum, said they are confident that, notwithstanding its shortened form, it will achieve its aims of mobilizing efforts for sustainable development.

The SDG Investment Fair, originally scheduled for 20-22 April, has been cancelled.

9 April 2020