# DAY ONE: Tuesday, 15 March 2022

**Beirut time (GMT +2)**

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## Opening session

1. Welcoming remarks
   - Ms. Rola Dashti, Under-Secretary-General, Executive Secretary, ESCWA
   - Mr. Ahmad Aboul Gheit, Secretary-General, League of Arab States
   - Mr. Nasser Shraideh, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Jordan (AFSD-2022 Chair)
   - Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, United Nations Deputy Secretary-General
2. Scene setting presentation (video)
3. Intergovernmental segment
   - Member States representatives
4. Statement by Mr. Abdulla Shahid, President of the General Assembly of the United Nations (video)

## Plenary session

**SDG 4 review: Quality education**

This session will present progress on SDG 4 in the Arab region and policy options for moving forward to build resilience and achieve an inclusive recovery.

**Moderator:** Ms. Karma El-Hassan, Professor of Educational Psychology Measurement and Evaluation, American University of Beirut

**Panelists:**

- Mr. Saddam Sayyaleh, Executive Director, I Learn Jordan
- Ms. Alexa Joyce, Digital Transformation and Skills Director for Europe, the Middle East and Africa, Microsoft
- Ms. Nawal Shalaby, Director, Centre for Curriculum and Instructional Materials Development, Egypt
- Ms. Hana Omar, Director of Community Support, King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre (KS Relief), Saudi Arabia

**Discussion**
SDG 5 review: Gender equality
This session will present progress on SDG 5 in the Arab region and policy options for moving forward to build resilience and achieve an inclusive recovery.

Moderator: Ms. Rasha Qandeel, Anchor and TV Presenter, BBC, Egypt

Panelists:

Mr. Magued Osman, CEO and Director, Egyptian Centre for Public Opinion Research (Baseera), Egypt

Ms. Nicole Arian-Markazi, Head of Quality and Strategic Transformation Programmes, Middle East and Africa, Nokia

Mr. Mohamed Naji, Professor, Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II, Morocco

Ms. Ohood Enaia, Head of Planning and Policies Unit, Ministry of Local Government, State of Palestine

Discussion

13:45 -14:45   Lunch

14:45-16:15   Special session 1: United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration – what does it mean for the Arab region?

16:15-16:30   Break

16:30-18:00   Special session 2: Social Expenditure Monitor: toward making budgets more efficient and effective to achieve the SDGs

16:30-18:00   Special session 3: Social norms and gender-based violence

16:30-18:00   High-level dialogue

Ministries of planning and finance in conversation: Towards greater coherence for building back better and delivering the SDGs

As Arab Governments work to recover from the COVID-19 crises, ministries of planning and of finance are pressured to prioritize resources and expand services and social protection coverage. This necessitates greater coherence and sequencing of interventions and processes undertaken by both ministries within a whole-of-government approach. This session aims to galvanize commitment to strengthen coordination between ministries of planning and of finance throughout the SDG implementation cycle, shedding light on approaches and mechanisms to this end.

Moderator: Mr. Mahmoud Mohieldin, Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund, and United Nations Special Envoy on Financing the 2030 Agenda

Special guest: Ms. Amina J. Mohammed, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, and Chair of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group

Special guest: Mr. Muhammad Sulaiman Al Jasser, President and Group Chairman of the Islamic Development Bank
Panelists:

**Mr. Nasser Shraideh**, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Jordan

**Mr. Hakim Ben Hammouda**, President, Global Institute 4 Transitions (GI4T), Tunisia

**Ms. Taif Sami**, Deputy Minister of Finance, Iraq

**Mr. Youssef El Khalil**, Minister of Finance, Lebanon

**Ms. Hala El Saeed**, Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Egypt

**Mr. Waed Abdullah Badhib**, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Yemen

Discussion

18:00-19:30 Special event on the Report Financing Sustainable Development in Egypt

Regional discussion aimed at anchoring the findings of the report “Financing Sustainable Development in Egypt”, including the overall status of the SDGs, the Integrated National Financial Framework (INFF), public financial flows, debt management, trade and localization. The special event also serves as a springboard to advance the report as a prototype for replication across the Arab region and beyond.