



## Ministerial round table

20 October 2025  
Assembly Hall  
4.30–6 p.m.



## Implementing the Sevilla Commitment on financing for development and establishing a borrowers' platform

### Description

The Sevilla Commitment represents a comprehensive, agreed high-level agenda for the reform of the global financial architecture and mechanisms to finance sustainable development into the future. As the world deals with increasing challenges, ranging from economic instability and climate change to trade tensions and eroding multilateralism, the need to implement this commitment is more pressing than ever.

Discussions at this round table will address practical steps for progressing on and implementing the key outcomes related to debt and development finance agreed during the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development. Discussions at the first panel will focus on the role of UNCTAD, given its expertise in financing for development research, intergovernmental consensus-building and technical assistance, in implementing the key reforms under the Sevilla Commitment. These reforms are aligned with the proposals of the United Nations Secretary-General's Expert Group on Debt and the Africa Expert Panel of the Group of 20 established by South Africa, which holds the Group of 20 Presidency to 30 November 2025.

The establishment of a platform for borrower countries is a key agreed outcome under the Sevilla Commitment. Discussions at the second panel will address how such a platform can assist borrower countries, the modalities for establishing such a platform, criteria for membership and how the challenges faced by similar initiatives in the past may be avoided.

## Programme

**Opening remarks:** Rebeca Grynszpan, Secretary-General, UNCTAD

**Panel 1**, with participation of ministers and heads of international organizations

### Implementing the key elements of the Sevilla Commitment related to debt and development finance

There are pronounced asymmetries in the international financial architecture that result in developing countries facing significantly higher borrowing costs than developed countries, having less favourable access to the global financial safety net and being unable to access effective debt workout mechanisms when required. The Sevilla Commitment includes agreements on several key reforms to the international debt and finance architecture that aim to address these shortcomings.

#### Questions

- Which agreed reforms to the global financial architecture included in the Sevilla Commitment are critical in addressing development finance challenges facing developing countries?
- What support and facilitation can UNCTAD provide towards the implementation of such outcomes?
- How can developing countries cooperate to enable better responses to debt and finance challenges?
- What can developing countries do to ensure the best financing for development outcomes?

**Panel 2**, with participation of ministers and heads of international organizations

### Establishing a borrowers' platform

The absence of a dedicated platform for borrower cooperation that elevates the collective voice of debtor countries, safeguards their interests and provides a repository of knowledge has long been recognized as a gap in the existing international debt and finance architecture. The Sevilla Commitment states that a platform for borrower countries will be established with support from existing institutions, and a United Nations entity serving as its secretariat.

### Questions

- How can a borrowers' platform contribute to more sustainable debt and development finance?
- What are the key challenges in establishing a borrowers' platform and how can they be effectively addressed?
- What kind of support should the United Nations provide for a borrowers' platform?
- What is the role of creditor countries and institutions in supporting the establishment and institutional continuity of a borrowers' platform?
- What is required to move the initiative forward?

**Moderator:** To be determined

**Format:** Davos-style

### Interpretation

Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Spanish, Russian

### Contact

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