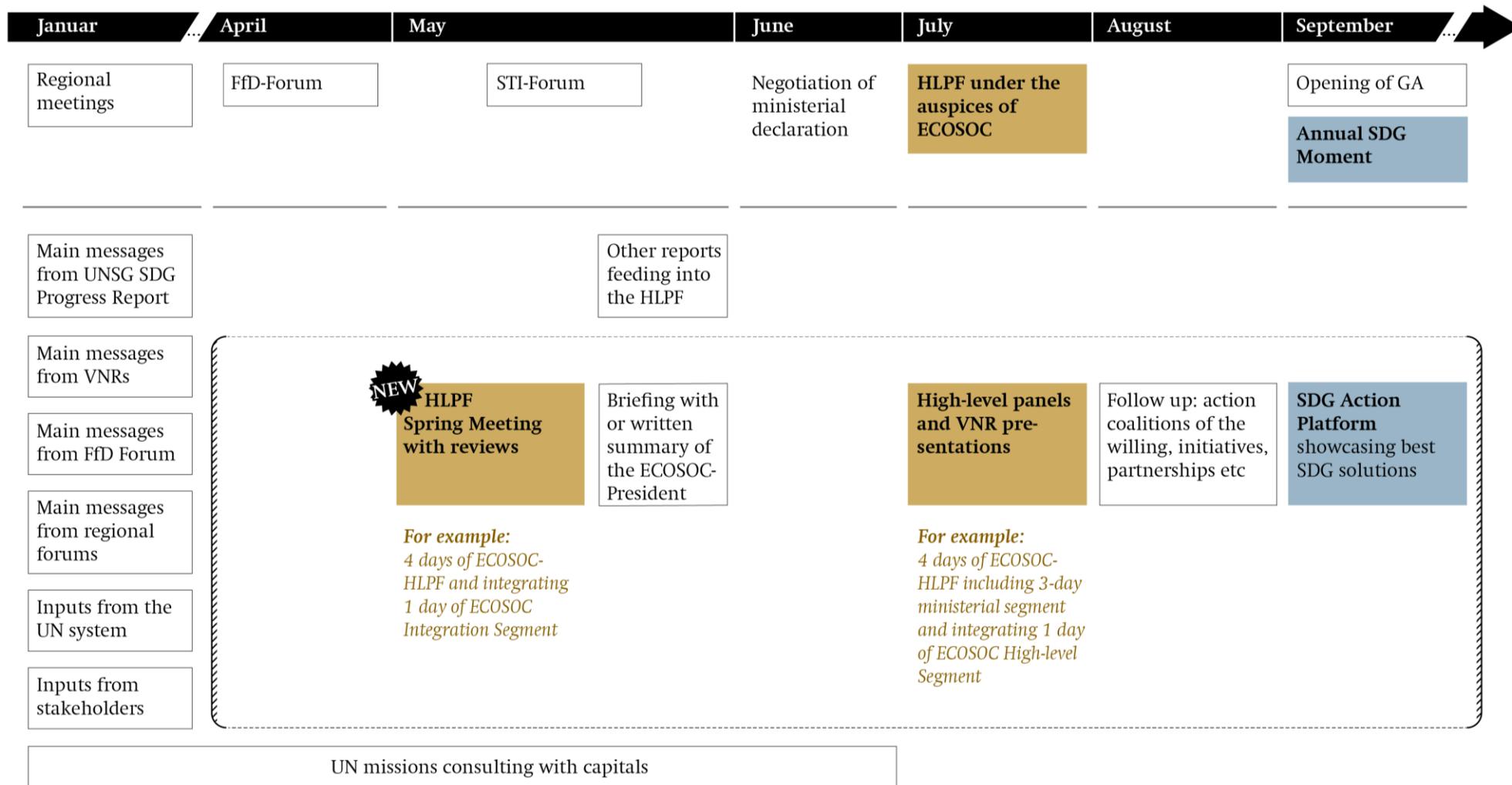


HLPF Reform Option: Spring Meeting splitting the days of the HLPF for an analytical & results-oriented Follow-up & Review process



Data, trends, and policy evaluations from relevant sectors must be analyzed and discussed sufficiently in advance of the July HLPF. To have more time for processing the reports and reviews feeding into the HLPF, to better inform the negotiations of the Ministerial Declaration in June, and to boost the preparatory work for more meaningful HLPF panels in July, member states could decide to hold a preparatory **HLPF Spring Meeting**. This would be feasible *within the existing time framework* (to avoid program budget implications) by combining, *for example*,

(1) for one week in spring: four days of HLPF under the auspices of ECOSOC plus one day of ECOSOC Integration Segment, and

(2) for one week in July: the other four days of HLPF under the auspices of ECOSOC, encompassing the 3-day high-level ministerial segment of HLPF, plus one day of ECOSOC high-level segment. One could think about having a ministerial track and an expert track during this week.

An alternative option could be an *informal* preparatory meeting, i.e. a pre-meeting that is not an official part of the HLPF, with a few days at expert level in spring to evaluate reports, possibly encompassing and combining the Expert Group Meetings (EGMs). However, a spring meeting would profit from having substantial input from capitals.

Furthermore, to lower travel costs for delegations, such a spring meeting could happen *back to back* with another meeting that is related to the HLPF (for example STI-Forum in mid-May; FfD-Forum in mid-April would be another option but that would be challenging as mid-April is rather early). The existing voluntary Trust Fund could be used to ensure the participation of developing countries, least developed countries, and of major groups and other relevant stakeholders (in line with A/RES/ 67/290, para. 24).

In advance of such a spring meeting, it would be useful to know the *main messages* of the Secretary-General's SDG Progress Report, of the VNRs, of the reports feeding into the FfD and STI forum, or any other reports and inputs from the UN-system (Regional Commissions, ECOSOC Functional Commissions, Custodian Agencies) and relevant stakeholders and, where applicable, to have the background notes from EGMs available.

An official HLPF Spring Meeting could hold the *Thematic and SDG Reviews*. The sessions would discuss entry points and levers for achieving transformative change, clarify who should do what, and how to install the right incentives for those actors.

The ECOSOC President could share a *summary* of results in a briefing and/or send out a written summary.

This would provide a basis for UN missions – sufficiently early in the process – to *consult with decision makers in capitals* and discuss what policy recommendations, good practices, or commitments they would want to bring to the HLPF in July.

The results of such a HLPF Spring Meeting could also feed into the *negotiations of the Ministerial Declaration* in June, which on this basis could and should contain more substantial recommendations (incl. on who should do what and how to get the right incentives for those actors in place). During the (one-week) July HLPF and ECOSOC HLS, the results from the Thematic and SDG Reviews and the recommendations in the Ministerial Declaration could then be discussed with the high-level participants during the ministerial segment.

For the *follow-up* after the July HLPF, member states could think about ways to encourage participants to implement recommendations and foster the identified good practices, as well as about making further commitments and joining innovative action/policy coalitions or partnerships. Selected good practices could be featured during the annual *SDG moment* in September.