



**International  
Science Council**

The global voice for science

# The ISC at the UN 2023 STI Forum Statement

## **INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE COUNCIL (ISC) statement at the UN 2023 STI Forum**

*Session 5: Global research cooperation and funding- sharing knowledge through new partnerships*

*Thursday 4 May, 11.45 – 13.00, Trusteeship Council Chamber, UNHQ, New York*

Presenter: Anda Popovici

1. This statement is delivered on behalf of the International Science Council, which federates 230 national science academies and international unions in the field of natural, social and human sciences, in support of strengthened global research cooperation and scaled up science investments to support mission-oriented science and actionable knowledge for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
2. The International Science Council (ISC) wishes to stress that achieving the transformative vision of the SDGs by 2030 requires all countries and actors to urgently intensify the pace of progress and realign their priorities and resources towards more collaborative and drastically accelerated action. Game-changing collective action within science systems and funding globally is required above all to enable real and long-lasting progress on the people and planet agenda.
3. It is increasingly obvious that the existential and other major threats facing society – be them climate change and its consequences, environmental degradation, pandemics, loss of social cohesion and widening inequalities, wars and humanitarian crises – have no frontiers. More than that, the challenges are becoming more dynamic, complex and interconnected. The kind of solutions that are needed require more coordinated and collaborative approaches across different actors, sectors and scales and bolstered global scientific cooperation.
4. There is however a real gap between the scale of the global challenges ahead of us, the vision and ambition of the 2030 Agenda and how science is pursued, mobilized and funded to inform responses and solutions to the challenges of the global commons.
5. To make impactful progress on many of the challenges, the ISC stresses the need for a genuine approach to engaging science in service to society, by working with policy and societal actors to co-design, co-produce and co-implement interventions required to address specific and contextual sustainability challenges around the world.
6. In this regard, the ISC has set up a Global Commission on Science Mission for Sustainability that will present an institutional and funding model at the upcoming session of the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) outlining how to operationalize the delivery of science missions to support SDG implementation.
7. In the past, the global community has supported big mission-led science approaches in basic science, such as human genome, nuclear research, the discovery of exoplanets. Now it is the time to do so for existential and urgent issues affecting humanity and the planet.
8. In this decisive decade, the ISC stands ready to work with policymakers, science funders, philanthropists, the private sector, and civil society to promote and enable the kind of science that benefits society and contributes to a dignified future for humanity and the planet. This calls for courage, and it calls for commitment and hope to be able to count on your support moving forward.

The International Science Council (ISC) is a non-governmental organization with a unique global membership that brings together 40 international scientific Unions and Associations and over 140 national and regional scientific organizations including Academies and Research Councils