

Scientific and Technological Community Major Group statement
Virtual Consultation on the Summit of the Future
31 July 2024

Thank you, Excellencies.

This statement is delivered on behalf of the Scientific and Technological Community Major Group, co-coordinated by the International Science Council (ISC) and the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO). We bring together more than 350 scientific and engineering organizations worldwide.

We wish to stress three key messages:

1. First, the Pact for the Future is a critical opportunity to shift multilateralism towards prevention, conservation, action, accountability, and evidence-informed decision-making. Science and engineering serve as essential, universal languages for identifying issues, understanding root causes and impediments to lasting change, and constructing and implementing sustainable and resilient solutions. Addressing major intertwined global challenges requires renewed efforts to break deep-seated siloes in how multilateral issues are understood and avoiding simplistic solutions to multi-faceted issues.
2. Second, we commend Member States for centering the importance of science and technology to address global challenges in Rev. 2. We urge Member States to retain the language on:
 - The importance of advancing trust in science;
 - The value of science and scientific evidence for policy-making;
 - The value of multi- and transdisciplinary collaboration to address complex global challenges, which we note requires engagement of natural sciences, social sciences, and engineering, as well as local, Indigenous, and practitioner knowledges;
 - The need to understand and address risks associated with emerging scientific and technological developments, *and* to ensure associated benefits accrue to all;
 - And the reference in the paragraph 3 of the Chapeau to the fact that advances in knowledge, science, technology, and innovation, if properly and equitably managed, could deliver a breakthrough to a better and more sustainable future for all. The scientific and technological community firmly supports this statement, and emphasizes its cross-cutting importance across all chapters.
3. Finally, we note that while Rev. 2 refers to “science and technology” throughout, this should be understood to encompass all STEM fields, including natural and social sciences, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

The S&T Major Group is committed to working with you to deliver an effective, action-oriented and impactful Pact bringing about positive change for both people and the planet, firmly grounded in the latest and best available scientific knowledge and engineering solutions.

Thank you.