

World Economic 2021 Situation and Prospects

UNITED NATIONS MEDIA ADVISORY

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United Nations to launch latest economic forecast

10 May, New York - The United Nations will launch a mid-year update on the World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP), which was released in January 2021 and warned that the devastating socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic will be felt for years to come unless smart investments in economic, societal and climate resilience ensure a robust and sustainable economic recovery.

The mid-year update, which includes the global economic data from the last quarter of 2020, looks at the performance of the world economy since the start of the pandemic as well as the impact of global policy responses and post-crisis recovery scenarios. It highlights the risks of vaccine inequity as the world continues to struggle with containing the pandemic. Latest numbers from the World Health Organization indicate highest levels of COVID-19 cases across the world since the beginning of the pandemic, at more than 5.7 million new weekly cases and over 93,000 deaths (4 May).

WHAT Press Conference to launch the **World Economic Situation and Prospects Mid-2021 Report**

WHO **Mr. Hamid Rashid**, Lead Author and Chief, Global Economic Monitoring Branch, Economic Analysis and Policy Division, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Ms. Helena Afonso, Economic Affairs Officer, Global Economic Monitoring Branch, Economic Analysis and Policy Division, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs

WHEN Approximately at **12:30 p.m. EDT Tuesday 11 May 2021**

WHERE Watch live on **webtv.un.org**

Expert Interview Opportunities

The following UN experts from the Department of Economic and Social Affairs are available for interviews.

Global Outlook

- Mr. Elliott Harris, UN Chief Economist (English)
- Mr. Hamid Rashid, Chief, Global Economic Monitoring Branch (English)
- Ms. Helena Afonso, Associate Economic Affairs Officer (Portuguese)
- Mr. Grigor Agabekian, Economic Affairs Officer (Russian)
- Mr. Ingo Pitterle, Senior Economic Affairs Officer (German)
- Mr. Sebastian Vergara, Economic Affairs Officer (Spanish)

Regional Outlooks

Africa

- Mr. Sebastian Vergara, Economic Affairs Officer (English, Spanish)
- Ms. Helena Afonso, Economic Affairs Officer (English, Portuguese)

North America

- Mr. Hamid Rashid, Chief, Global Economic Monitoring Branch (English)
- Mr. Yasuhisa Yamamoto, Economic Affairs Officer (English)

Latin America & the Caribbean

- Mr. Ingo Pitterle, Senior Economic Affairs Officer (English, German)

Economies in Transition & Commonwealth of Independent States

- Mr. Grigor Agabekian, Economic Affairs Officer (English, Russian)

South Asia

- Mr. Julian Slotman, Associate Economic Affairs Officer (English)

East Asia

- Ms. Poh Lynn Ng, Economic Affairs Officer (English)

Western Asia

- Mr. Yasuhisa Yamamoto, Economic Affairs Officer (English)

Europe

- Mr. Matthias Kempf, Economic Affairs Officer (English, German)