

**UNITED NATIONS COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
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**The role of science, technology, and innovation in advancing sustainable,
inclusive, science-and evidence-based solutions for the 2030 Agenda for
Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals for leaving
no one behind**

Briefing of the outcome of STI Forum 2024 and preparation of the STI Forum 2025 by

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Transcript of the statement by Ambassador Elina Kalkku, Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations, for the Commission on Science and Technology for Development

Distinguished Ministers, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to address you ahead of the Ministerial Session of the **Commission on Science and Technology for Development**.

The CSTD's agenda is once again pertinent and responds to the challenges we face in the field of science, technology and innovation. In an increasingly digitalized world, all countries need to focus on building their capacity to absorb technology, and to innovate. The CSTD can play a key role in facilitating countries' access to expertise and best practices in this field.

We all need to prepare to face an uncertain future that is shaped by challenges, such as climate change. We cannot predict everything that the future holds, but **we can make our societies more resilient and shockproof with better utilization of foresight**. This requires investment in education, competence and skills, especially among the youth.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Against this backdrop, I am pleased to invite you to discuss these themes in the upcoming **Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology, and Innovation for the SDGs**, which will be held on 7th and 8th of May at the UN Headquarters in New York.

Finland and Morocco have the honor to act as co-chairs in this **special 10th anniversary of the STI Forum**. We are excited to build on the

success of the previous year's Forum, which generated valuable discussion around the role of STIs in poverty eradication.

The co-chairs have decided to mark this milestone year with a newly revitalized format and highly interactive discussions.

This year's Forum will feature several sessions where a diverse line-up of speakers will be discussing important and timely topics, such as **artificial intelligence and STI financing**.

We hope to see as many of you as possible at the STI Forum and to engage with you on these important themes. We hope Ministers from all relevant fields, including science and technology of course, and many stakeholders can participate.

Thank you very much. I wish you a productive and dynamic CSTD session!