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Zusammenfassung des HLPF

Summary of the 2024 Session of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development: 8-17 July 2024

Deep and formative tensions associated with the geopolitical and economic challenges confronting the multilateral system were a recurring theme at the 2024 session of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). These issues inevitably spilled onto the floor of the closing plenary as delegates considered adoption of the Ministerial Declaration, resulting in votes on two contested paragraphs: one recognizing that sustainable development cannot be realized without peace and security, and a newly proposed paragraph drawing attention to the impact of unilateral coercive measures (economic sanctions) on poverty and food security, among other Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

With the overarching theme, "Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions," HLPF 2024 looked back at the 2023 SDG Summit and forward to the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient, and innovative solutions.

The Forum was tasked to review five SDGs:

- eradicate poverty in all its forms everywhere (SDG 1);
• end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture (SDG 2);
• take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts (SDG 13);
• promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels (SDG 16); and
• strengthen means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development (SDG 17).

Introducing headline messages from the UN Secretary-General's 2024 SDG progress report, UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs Li Junhua stated that in the final stretch towards 2030, only 17% of SDG targets are on track to being achieved. He reiterated the report's call for bold action on peace and finance, highlighting the upcoming Summit of the Future, the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, and the second World Summit for Social Development, as critical milestones in advancing the SDGs.

In her opening remarks, Chair Paula Narváez, President of the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), set the tone of the session, describing it as a critical moment of consequence and choice. She identified protracted conflicts in Haiti, Gaza, South

Sudan, and Ukraine as complex challenges that have left deep scars, stressing that the promise of sustainable development cannot be met in the absence of humanitarian and preventive interventions.

The pressing debt crisis and its impact on the most vulnerable was another recurring theme, with UN Development Programme (UNDP) Administrator Achim Steiner remarking that some countries can only service the interest on debts by "raiding" budgets for healthcare, education, and welfare services. Abdullah Bin Ali Al Amri, Chairman, Environment Authority, Oman, and President of the seventh session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-7), reminded delegates that they gather not only as Member States, "but as stewards of our planet, united by a common target to achieve the 2030 Agenda."

The first half of the meeting featured in-depth sessions focusing on: science, technology, and innovation; small island developing states; African countries, least developed countries, and landlocked developing countries; middle-income countries; and Major Groups and other Stakeholders. During the second half, delegates also embarked on an exchange of experiences during the presentations of 36 Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs), alongside reports from the five UN regions, an ECOSOC ministerial segment, and a high-level general debate.

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Following adoption of the Ministerial Declaration, closing statements highlighted the varying priorities of different regions and countries in the path towards sustainable development, and illustrated the breadth of issues pertinent for delivering the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

HLPF 2024 convened at UN Headquarters in New York from 8-17 July 2024, under the auspices of ECOSOC. During the three-day Ministerial segment, 115 Ministers, Vice-Ministers, Permanent Representatives and others presented speeches. More than 250 high-level special events, VNR labs, side events and exhibitions took place in person and online, with highlights including the launch of:

- the first-ever [UN system-wide strategy on water and sanitation](#);
- the [2024 Global Report on Climate and SDGs Synergy](#);
- the [Higher Education for Sustainability Initiative Action Group on Futures of Higher Education and Artificial Intelligence](#); and
- the UN Environment Programme's 2024 [global foresight report on planetary health and human wellbeing](#).

A Brief History of the HLPF

The UN General Assembly (UNGA) established the HLPF in July 2013 in resolution 67/290 as the main forum for sustainable development issues within the UN. The HLPF is among the main outcomes of the 2012 UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20). It replaced the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), which was established at the 1992 UN Conference on Environment and Development (Earth Summit). The UNGA resolution calls on the HLPF to meet under the auspices of ECOSOC every year, and under the auspices of the UNGA every four years, to:

- provide political leadership, guidance, and recommendations for sustainable development;
- follow up and review progress in the implementation of sustainable development commitments;
- enhance the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development; and
- have a focused, dynamic, and action-oriented agenda, ensuring the appropriate consideration of new and emerging sustainable development challenges.

In September 2015, the UN Sustainable Development Summit adopted UNGA resolution 70/1, "Transforming Our World: The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development," a package that includes the 17 SDGs, 169 targets, and a framework for follow-up and review of implementation. The 2030 Agenda called on the HLPF to take a central role in the follow-up and review process at the global level, and to carry out country-led VNRs.

Key Turning Points

First Session of the HLPF: The one-day inaugural session of the HLPF, on 24 September 2013, was held under the auspices of the UNGA and followed the closing session of the CSD. Heads of State and Government articulated several concrete proposals on the role of the HLPF, saying it should include stakeholders, emphasize accountability, review the post-2015 development agenda and the implementation of the forthcoming SDGs, and examine issues from scientific and local perspectives. There was general agreement on the need for a genuine balance between the three dimensions of sustainable development, and for the HLPF to seek to integrate these dimensions throughout the UN system.

HLPF 2019: This session (9-19 July 2019) completed the first four-year cycle of the HLPF. The key message from the meeting was that the global response to implementing the SDGs had not been ambitious enough, and renewed commitment and accelerated action was needed to deliver the SDGs in time. The session focused on the theme of "Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality." Five SDGs were reviewed in addition to SDG 17: SDG 4 (quality education), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), SDG 13 (climate action), and SDG 16 (peace, justice, and strong institutions). VNRs were presented by 47 countries during the Ministerial Segment, with seven countries presenting for the second time.

First SDG Summit: The SDG Summit (24-25 September 2019) was the first HLPF session to convene under the auspices of the UNGA since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda. Heads of State and Government reviewed progress in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, with just over a decade left before the target date of 2030. A political declaration was adopted on "Gearing up for a decade of action and delivery for sustainable development."

Recent Meetings

HLPF 2020: This meeting was originally intended to initiate a new four-year cycle to review SDG implementation and assess progress towards achieving the 2030 Agenda. Instead, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting was held virtually, and the agenda focused on the impact of the pandemic and how to "build back better." Forty-seven countries presented VNRs, with 26 presenting for the first time. The meeting ended without the adoption of a ministerial declaration, due to lack of consensus and lack of voting procedures for a virtual meeting.

HLPF 2021: This session took place in a hybrid format and focused on the theme of "Sustainable and resilient recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic that promotes the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development: Building an inclusive and effective path for the achievement of the 2030 Agenda in the context of the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development." To that end, the Forum reviewed progress on nine SDGs: SDG 1 (no poverty), SDG 2 (zero hunger), SDG 3 (good health and well-being), SDG 8 (decent work and economic growth), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production), SDG 13 (climate action), SDG 16 (peace, justice, and strong institutions), and SDG 17 (partnerships). Forty-four countries presented VNRs, including 10 first timers, 24 second timers, and 10 third timers.

HLPF 2022: The first fully in-person meeting in three years reviewed four SDGs in addition to SDG 17: SDGs 4 (quality education), 5 (gender equality), 14 (life below water), and 15 (life on land). Forty-four countries presented their VNRs. HLPF 2022 also began planning for the second SDG Summit. The Forum adopted a 142-paragraph Ministerial Declaration, with one paragraph on "the full realization of the right to self-determination of peoples living under colonial and foreign occupation" subject to a vote.

HLPF 2023: This session took place at the halfway point on the journey to 2030, with a growing awareness that only a minority of targets had been met and some had gone into reverse, regressing below the 2015 baseline. Five SDGs were under review: SDGs 6 (clean water and sanitation), 7 (affordable and clean energy), 9 (industry, innovation, and infrastructure), 11 (sustainable cities and communities), and 17 (partnerships for the Goals). Many status updates confirmed the somber tone of a report from the Secretary-

General, including news that SDG 6 was “alarmingly off-track.” Thirty-eight countries presented their VNRs: one for the first time, 36 for the second, and one for the third.

Second SDG Summit: This session took place at the halfway point to the 2030 Agenda, from 18-19 September 2023. Aiming to provide renewed impetus and accelerate action for the SDGs, the Summit gathered over 290 high-level dignitaries to assess progress on sustainable development and adopt a Political Declaration that reaffirmed their intent to effectively implement the SDGs and “turn our world towards 2030.”

HLPF 2024 Report

Paula Narváez, ECOSOC President and Chair of HLPF 2024, opened the meeting on [Monday, 8 July](#). Delegates adopted the agenda ([E/HLPF/2024/1](#)).

Delegates watched a video highlighting the HLPF’s 2024 session as a critical moment of “consequence and choice.” UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed pointed to the momentum for progress generated by the SDG Summit in 2023 and the importance of the upcoming Summit of the Future as an opportunity to restore trust and human solidarity in the face of multiple threats.

Kaira Umarov, ECOSOC Vice-President (Kazakhstan), noted the need for strengthened ECOSOC capacity to provide transformative policy guidance at a time of unprecedented convergence of crises. Umarov highlighted the need for food systems reform; climate resilience; a rights-based approach, including a focus on gender and children’s rights; reform of the international financial architecture and harnessing finance, including for loss and damage; and consideration of the ethical and human rights aspects of governance in the realm of artificial intelligence.

From the SDG Summit to the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient, and innovative solutions: This opening townhall on [Monday, 8 July](#), offered perspectives on the HLPF theme, with a focus on accelerating transformative and inclusive strategies to bridge the widening gap in implementing the 2030 Agenda. Li Junhua, UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, introduced the UN Secretary-General’s 2024 SDG [Report](#), stating that in the final stretch towards 2030, only 17% of SDG targets are likely to be achieved. He reiterated the report’s call for bold action on peace and finance, highlighting the upcoming Summit of the Future, Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, and second World Summit for Social Development, as critical milestones for advancing the SDGs.

Moderator Sherwin Bryce-Pease, Bureau Chief and Correspondent, South African Broadcasting Corporation, opened the interactive panel session. Paulo Rangel, Minister of State and Foreign Affairs, Portugal, stressed that accelerating SDG implementation in the face of multiple crises requires adequate financing and engaging the whole of society if no one is to be left behind.

Noting the disconnect between high-level declarations and SDG action, Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi, Chancellor, Nelson Mandela University, and Chair, UN Committee of Experts on Public Administration, called for a mindset shift towards putting “people first,” including through reframing SDG reporting processes as a citizens’ accountability tool. Amy Pope, Director-General, International Organization for Migration, highlighted the role of migration as a catalyst for sustainable development, including for

leveraging finance, calling for proactive action on safer migration pathways.

José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, Executive Secretary, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), underlined three axes underpinning the means of implementing the 2030 Agenda: finance, policies, and institutional arrangements and capabilities, stressing that alongside access to data, these are crucial to drive transitions forward. Shannon Lisa, Chemicals and Waste Youth Platform, called for divesting from destructive industries and partnerships, including by establishing a fossil fuel non-proliferation treaty. She stressed meaningful and equitable youth participation at all levels.

Other issues raised by delegations included the need for: ensuring greater respect for human rights and a just transition centering people and planet; addressing the root causes of gender inequality; combating corruption and enhancing fiscal transparency; and ensuring that frontier technologies such as artificial intelligence (AI) are rights-based and do not create new forms of inequality.

SDGs in Focus

SDG 17 and Interlinkages with Other SDGs – Partnerships for the Goals: On [Monday, 8 July](#), ECOSOC President Paula Narváez chaired this session, focusing on the role of international financial institutions in driving transformative progress towards the SDGs. Laura Chinchilla, former President of Costa Rica, called for a new international financial architecture and underlined that the widening gap in citizens’ trust in decision-makers’ capabilities to meet the 2030 Agenda is “more dangerous” than the USD 4 trillion SDG finance gap.

Shari Spiegel, Director, Financing for Sustainable Development Office, UN Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), noted that lack of access to capital markets at affordable rates is an ongoing challenge for many countries that are most in need of financial allocations for sustainable development. UNDP Administrator Achim Steiner stressed that high interest rates are punitive and debt servicing is prohibitive, with the latter being maintained by “raiding” budgets for healthcare, education, and welfare services.

Rola Dashti, Executive Secretary, Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), pointed to strategic areas to bridge the finance gap, including by embracing innovative finance tools and facilitating the effective and transparent use of public funds. Foteini Papagiotti, Acting Deputy Director, Policy and Advocacy, International Center for Research on Women, called for, among others: a multilateral legal framework to address unsustainable debt that is based on the SDGs, human rights, climate, and gender justice; and increased participation of lower- and middle-income countries in macro-economic decision making.

In the ensuing discussion, many delegates noted priorities for reforming the multilateral financial architecture, with recommendations proposed including:

- scaled-up financing to address human rights and climate change;
- steps to support debt-distressed developing countries; and
- clearer focus by multilateral development banks on global challenges, without compromising their work on global poverty.

Discussions also highlighted the need for more concessional development finance and exploring innovative instruments, alongside status reports that financing conditions for developing countries and debt financing in sub-Saharan Africa are dire. Some delegates called for more robust partnerships; greater recognition

of informal work; improved access to investments for grassroots communities; and better partnerships that leverage the strengths of different actors, acknowledging that governments alone cannot mobilize the necessary resources.

SDG 1 and Interlinkages with Other SDGs - No Poverty: On [Tuesday, 9 July](#), ECOSOC Vice-Presidents Bob Rae (Canada) and Tarek Ladeb (Tunisia), co-chaired this session, with discussions focusing on the multidimensional nature of poverty and exploring approaches to scale up poverty eradication efforts. Sokunpanha You, Statistics Division, UN DESA, presented highlights from the UN Secretary-General's 2024 report on SDG progress, noting that current trends will result in 590 million people still living in extreme poverty by 2030.

Rola Dashti, ESCWA, reported that over half of the people living in poverty globally are in Africa, with the region therefore unlikely to reach SDG 1 targets by 2030 in any realistic scenario. Ilze Brands Kehris, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, and Head, UN Human Rights Office in New York, observed that “poverty has a woman’s face” and called for prioritized spending to meet human rights obligations.

Leonidas Iza Salazar, President, Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities of Ecuador, called for action to tackle fiscal injustice in pursuit of wealth redistribution. Vercilene Dias, Founder, National Network of Quilombola Lawyers, Brazil, highlighted the close link between poverty and structural racism and segregation, and called for a specific reference to this in the HLPF Ministerial Declaration.

In the subsequent discussion, many noted that addressing the root causes of poverty requires policies designed to address synergies across the SDGs, and recommended policy approaches that consider the multidimensional nature of poverty. Several delegates called for debt restructuring and forgiveness, pointing to the challenge faced by many countries that are forced to divert expenditure on essential service provision towards debt repayments. Speakers reported on successful measures to tackle poverty, and raised further related issues, including the need to address political will and structural factors such as neoliberalism.

In their closing messages, panelists highlighted:

- citizens are key to holding their governments accountable for delivering on the SDGs;
- multilateralism is the only effective way forward;
- improved metrics can help guide actions, track trends, and recognize successes;
- the multiple dimensions of poverty are an “assault” on a range of human rights; and
- “an ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure.”

SDG 2 and Interlinkages with Other SDGs – Zero Hunger: Opening this session on [Tuesday, 9 July](#), Chair Narváez characterized progress on this SDG as sobering.

Faryal Ahmed, Statistics Division, UN DESA, noted persistent global food insecurity in the face of multiple global crises, and reported an estimated 20% of children under five will suffer from stunting in 2030. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Executive Secretary, Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), stressed the importance of regional action to harness expertise and collaboration for holistic and innovative solutions.

Opening the interactive panel discussion, Moderator Afshan Khan, Coordinator, Scaling Up Nutrition Movement, stressed that malnutrition disproportionately affects women and youth. Iain Wright, Vice Chair, Steering Committee of the High-Level Panel

of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition, said intersecting global crises have exposed the vulnerabilities of our food systems, citing the loss of 10% of Africa’s gross domestic product (GDP) annually due to child stunting.

Inaya Ezzedine, Member of Parliament, Lebanon, discussed the links between conflict and food insecurity, and called for the right to food to be reinforced in national and international legislation and accountability frameworks. Pointing to the rise of non-communicable diseases, Aline Mosnier, Scientific Director, FABLE Pathways Consortium, France, called for more coherent policies to account for the hidden costs of unhealthy food.

Michal Mlynár, Acting Executive Director, UN Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat), underlined interlinkages between urbanization and food systems, especially in intermediary cities that act as nodes to connect people and socio-economic activities across rural and urban territories.

Lead discussant Meena Pokhrel, Nepal Agriculture Co-operative Central Federation, representing the Farmers Major Group, called for, among others, an open, fair, and rules-based global trading system that provides farmers with stable market access. Lead discussant Stefanos Fotiou, Director, SDG Office, Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN, called for sustainable natural resource management through, for instance, geospatial targeting to reduce food loss.

In the subsequent discussion, many delegates highlighted national and sub-national programmes to eliminate hunger and transform food systems, including school feeding programmes, integrated nutrition and health policies, and agro-entrepreneurship. While some showcased progress in areas such as “whole-of-food” systems and agroecology, recurring themes were the lack of access to finance, credit, and capacity.

Delegates further identified measures that could bring the world closer to achieving this SDG, highlighting:

- a shift to agroecology and plant-rich diets, and crop diversification to more resilient foods;
- elimination of distortive subsidies that promote exploitation of workers; and
- strengthened value chains, scaled-up regenerative agricultural practices, and bolstered social protections.

On the link between conflict and food insecurity, delegates emphasized that hunger cannot be eradicated in a silo. They called for increased global solidarity and partnerships to strengthen the resilience of food systems. Delegates also underlined the role of digital transformation and research, as well as the need to engage with civil society, especially at the local level, to address food challenges.

In closing remarks, Moderator Khan underlined that financing and investment towards building nutrition resilience is key.

SDG 13 and Interlinkages with Other SDGs – Climate Action: Opening this session on [Wednesday 10 July](#), ECOSOC Vice-President Ladeb noted the adoption of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement in 2015 had established a strong foundation for coherent implementation of climate action and sustainable development.

Heather Page, Statistics Division, UN DESA, introduced key points from the UN Secretary-General’s 2024 SDG Report, including that current national policies set the world on track for 3°C warming. Tatiana Molcean, Executive Secretary, UN Economic

Commission for Europe (ECE), described how urgent action on climate change can positively impact other SDGs, including on water, poverty, energy, and employment.

Katherine Calvin, Chief Scientist, US National Aeronautics and Space Administration, and Co-Chair, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Working Group III, drew insights from the IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report. She highlighted, among others, the need for the energy, transport, and industry sectors to halve their emissions by 2030, and the availability of multiple low-cost solutions.

Introducing the panel discussion, Moderator Britt Groosman, Vice President, Climate-Smart Agriculture, Environmental Defense Fund, noted the world has set several temperature records while making no significant progress on SDG 13 targets. She emphasized the need for decoupling economic growth from the carbon economy to achieve progress on other SDGs.

Axel Schmidt Graef, Mayor of Niterói, Brazil, underscored the critical role of cities in addressing climate action, and described his city's investments in the resilience of informal settlements and disaster prevention. Maria Mähl, Partner and Head, USA ESG Solutions, ESG Book, observed that the potential of financial markets to influence corporate decarbonization remains unfulfilled. She called for enhanced diagnostics for corporate disclosure protocols.

Lead discussant Miquel Muñoz Cabré, Senior Scientist, Stockholm Environment Institute US, challenged participants to commit to a just transition, ensuring that climate adaptation and mitigation actions benefit vulnerable groups. Lead discussant Faisal Alfadl, Secretary General, Saudi Green Building Forum, emphasized that access to data and multi-partner collaboration are crucial for decarbonizing the built environment.

In the subsequent discussion, delegates highlighted the growing impact of climate-related disasters across the world and shared national and regional initiatives designed to boost climate action. They called for urgent action and emphasized the need to:

- adopt ambitious disaster risk reduction strategies and maximize synergies while minimizing trade-offs;
- increase finance and coordinated action for vulnerable regions;
- address high interest rates and capital costs, fossil fuel subsidies, and debt servicing;
- prioritize climate-smart infrastructure and social protection measures;
- create an enabling environment for green investments; and
- develop reliable global carbon emissions trading systems.

Many delegates underlined that limited finance and capacity are key challenges for many countries and called for increased international cooperation. The need to develop innovative means of finance in addition to public finance was further highlighted. Other issues noted in the discussions were the role of civil society, cities, and municipalities, as well as the need for developing countries to design their own just transition pathways.

SDG 16 and Interlinkages with Other SDGs – Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions: On [Thursday, 11 July](#), Ivan Simonović, ECOSOC Vice-President (Croatia), chaired this session, underscoring that SDG 16 is fundamental for achieving all SDGs. Delegates were invited to examine the multiple and systemic ways in which peace, justice and institutional factors frame and influence the realization of other SDGs and the delivery of the 2030 Agenda. Daniel Eshetie, Statistics Division, UN DESA, outlined key

messages pertaining to SDG 16 from the UN Secretary-General's 2024 SDG Report, including that corruption continues to undermine and divert resources from sustainable development, and the number of forcibly displaced people has doubled since 2015, reaching an unprecedented 120 million as of May 2024.

Surya Deva, UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Development, alongside several delegates during the ensuing discussion, called for reforming the UN Security Council, including the permanent representation and veto power. George Tarr, UN High Commissioner for Refugees Youth Representative, urged for refugees to be directly included in peacebuilding efforts and dialogue processes.

In subsequent discussions, many emphasized that sustainable peace requires equality and participation, and advocated for the “youth, peace, and security” agenda; independent media outlets; and respect for human rights and the rule of law. Speakers highlighted the role of technology and AI in strengthening transparency, service provision, and tackling online crimes.

Several delegates addressed the serious and multidimensional impacts on their countries and regions due to persistent conflicts and instability, sharing experiences of citizens' resilience in the face of these threats. Others outlined steps being taken away from insecurity, including through institutional and political reform, and regional peace negotiations. Many expressed concern about the exponential rise of military spending globally.

Discussions further addressed:

- the role of localizing the SDGs in fostering peaceful and inclusive societies;
- the need to develop a fit-for-purpose international financial architecture;
- inequalities in different countries' path towards the SDGs;
- the international community's shared responsibility in addressing threats undermining security and wellbeing, including drug trafficking; and
- threats to environmental and human rights defenders.

Special Panels

Science, technology and innovation: Triggering transformation and sustaining science-driven solutions:

Introducing this session on [Monday, 8 July](#), ECOSOC President and Chair Paula Narváez said discussions would build on the outcomes of the Ninth Multistakeholder Forum on Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI Forum) and related UN initiatives.

In a keynote statement, Christina Markus Lassen, Permanent Representative of Denmark to the UN, and Co-Chair, 2024 STI Forum, said the Forum showcased practical and scalable solutions from young innovators, notably the world's first off-grid milk pasteurizer, and a portable air pollution detector.

Opening an interactive panel discussion, Inga Rhonda King, Co-Chair, 2024 STI Forum, invited speakers to identify strategies to accelerate deployment of such solutions. Carlos Henrique Brito Cruz, Senior Vice-President, Research Networks, Elsevier, said increased investment in scientific collaboration and capacities in the global South are creating “a new geography of research” on the SDGs.

Joyeeta Gupta, Professor, University of Amsterdam and IHE Delft Institute for Water Education, stressed the importance of multistakeholder collaboration to ensure that social and environmental costs are fully internalized in SDG programmes, including through redirecting fossil fuel subsidies for a just energy

transition. Subho Mukherjee, Vice President and Global Head of Sustainability, Nokia, underscored the role of cross-border innovation and collaboration in bridging digital divides, especially in rural and remote settings.

Lead discussant Magdalena Stoeva, International Union for Physical and Engineering Sciences in Medicine, and Science and Technology Major Group, noted that while scientific collaboration can help address complex sustainability challenges, human development and planetary resilience must be placed back at the center.

In the subsequent discussion, delegates shared examples of national and multilateral STI initiatives, highlighted the role of statistics and evidence-based decision-making, and called for increased resource mobilization. Many delegates also called for increased governance around AI, with several speakers stressing the need to tackle misinformation and discrimination.

Small Island Developing States (SIDS): Implementing the Outcomes of the Fourth SIDS Conference (SIDS 4): On [Wednesday, 10 July](#), ECOSOC Vice-President Simonović chaired this segment on next steps in implementing the [Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS: A Renewed Declaration for Resilient Prosperity \(ABAS\)](#), adopted at SIDS 4 in May 2024. The Declaration defines actions in ten thematic areas, including economic resilience, climate action, disaster risk reduction, data, science, and digitalization. Gaston Browne, Prime Minister, Antigua and Barbuda, described how, in the wake of SIDS 4, the Caribbean had been devastated by Hurricane Beryl, the earliest-forming Category 5 hurricane on record during any season in the Atlantic.

Naomi Matapta, Prime Minister of Samoa, said Hurricane Beryl had reduced seemingly prosperous islands into unimaginable hardship. She noted that ABAS enshrines a collective commitment to ensure that the smallest and most vulnerable are not left behind in a world of want, injustice, and conflict, and urged international financial institutions and UN funds and agencies to mainstream SIDS priorities.

Li Junhua, Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs, and Secretary-General, SIDS 4, expressed heartfelt solidarity with the people of the Caribbean. Delivering key messages from SIDS 4, he warned that SIDS are at a critical juncture in their ongoing battle with sea-level rise, accessing development finance, and living with unsustainable debt.

Introducing the panel, moderator Ali Naseer Mohamed, Permanent Representative of Maldives to the UN, urged a focus on practical action on ABAS rather than more “wish lists.” Rabab Fatima, High Representative for the Least Developed Countries (LDCs), Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs), and SIDS (UN-OHRLLS), and Special Adviser, SIDS 4, said the destruction caused by Hurricane Beryl underscores the need for urgency and coordinated action across the UN System. Among other actions, she called for: integrating ABAS commitments into the strategic priorities and plans of respective UN entities; developing a robust monitoring and evaluation framework; strengthening SIDS national focal points; and providing sustainable, innovative, and targeted financing that considers SIDS’ vulnerabilities.

Natalia Kanem, Executive Director, UN Population Fund, highlighted her agency’s support for integrated programming and high-quality geospatial data to identify who is most vulnerable, and enable outcome monitoring. Salsiah Alisjahbana, ESCAP, outlined some policy priorities in ABAS implementation, including: support

for the long-term resilience of coastal ecosystems; promoting healthy lifestyles and preventive healthcare due to a rise in non-communicable diseases; investing in sustainable livelihoods; and enhancing island connectivity.

During the discussion, many delegates expressed solidarity with those affected by Hurricane Beryl. Several affected countries called for international support for official development assistance and concessional development financing. One speaker urged adequate provision and mobilization of all means of implementation to support ABAS and the development of its monitoring and evaluation framework.

Transformation From the Ground Up: Acting at the Local Level: ECOSOC Vice-President Rae chaired this panel discussion on [Wednesday, 10 July](#), which focused on local and regional-level actions to accelerate implementation of the SDGs. Moderator Emilia Saiz, Secretary General, United Cities and Local Governments, stressed poverty must be addressed at the local level, and marginalized communities must have the opportunity to participate in discussions that affect their future.

Bandiougou Diawara, President, Regional Council of Kayes, Mali, urged states to give more priority and attention to local authorities, underlining the local level is where action to implement the SDGs happens. Tatiana Molcean, ECE, noted voluntary local reviews (VLRs) have proven to be a powerful tool for addressing inequalities, as they not only fill data gaps but also influence local development plans and budgets in line with SDG frameworks. She drew attention to the Cities Summit of the Future scheduled for September 2024.

Lead discussant Cielito Perez, Executive Director, Center for Women’s Resources, the Philippines, urged supporting innovative grassroots actions and solutions provided by marginalized communities. Lead discussant Bernd Vöhringer, Vice-President, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, highlighted the European Charter of Local Self-Government as an example of instruments and tools that give local authorities “a real place at the table.”

In the ensuing general discussion, one speaker noted the success of the SDGs hinges on the active engagement and participation of local communities. Others noted that SDG localization implies a bottom-up approach, with calls for policy coherence to meet the top-down efforts of global action.

A representative of the LGBTI Stakeholder Group decried discriminatory national policies that further marginalize and endanger LGBTI+ communities, and called for decriminalizing same-sex relations to enable these communities to safely take on their roles in achieving the 2030 Agenda. Moderator Saiz encouraged delegates to build capacity for self-representation by local government actors in global-level policy development, including during the 2024 Summit of the Future.

Introduction of the Report on the 10-year Framework of Programmes on Sustainable Consumption and Production Patterns: On [Thursday, 11 July](#), ECOSOC Vice-President Simonović introduced consideration of the UN Secretary-General’s Progress report on the 10YFP ([E/2024/59](#)). He explained that while SDG 12 on sustainable consumption and production (SCP) is not under review at this HLPF session, it is an important enabler for other SDGs.

Annika Lindblom, Director, International and EU Affairs, Ministry of the Environment, Finland, and Co-Chair, 10YFP Board,

explained that the universal Framework is designed to accelerate a shift at national, regional, and global levels, with strong links to SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth. She noted the 2024 Global Resources Outlook has indicated it is possible to reduce resource use while improving wellbeing and reducing environmental impacts. She called for more research on circularity, and announced that UN-Habitat and UN Environment Programme (UNEP) will host the One Planet Network Forum in September 2024.

Chol Ajongo, Permanent Representative of South Sudan to UNEP and UN-Habitat, and Co-Chair, 10YFP Board, described links between SCP and climate action, and highlighted the development of a toolbox to support countries' integration of circularity into their nationally determined contributions (NDCs).

African Countries, Least Developed Countries, and Landlocked Developing Countries: Building Resilience and Capacity in Times of Crises and Transition: This segment on [Thursday, 11 July](#), considered African countries, LDCs, and LLDCs, which face unique challenges in their pursuit of sustainable development. Delegates addressed these countries' particular vulnerabilities to external shocks, such as economic crises, climate change, and public health emergencies.

In her opening remarks, Chair Narváez invited speakers to focus on concrete recommendations and action points for accelerating SDG progress in these countries. Introducing the panel, Moderator Kamal Kishore, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction, and Head, UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, said these groups of countries are disproportionately impacted by climate change and natural disasters, while also facing severe barriers to trade and other economic opportunities.

Rabab Fatima, UN-OHRLS, and Secretary-General, third UN Conference on Land Locked Developing Countries (LLDC 3), welcomed the completion of the third LLDC Programme of Action, noting it contains a practical roadmap to strengthen food security, climate resilience, and freedom of transit. Josefa Leonel Correia Sacko, Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Environment, African Union Commission, urged significant investments in social protection and human capital, disaster preparedness, and operationalization of the Fund for addressing loss and damage.

Ibrahim Elbadawi, Managing Director, Economic Research Forum for the Arab World, Iran and Türkiye, and former Minister of Finance, Sudan, said resolving the debt crisis, peacekeeping, and addressing high costs of transit in landlocked countries are key priorities. Claver Gatete, Executive Secretary, UN Economic Commission for Africa, urged focus on, among others: countries' capacity to anticipate and withstand crises; innovation for long-term productivity; climate-proofing infrastructure; integrating humanitarian and development support; and investing in digitalization and access to clean energy.

Lead discussant Saoudata Aboubacrine, Head, Tin Hinan Sahel, Burkina Faso, called on the international community to end its "timorous and inadequate" solidarity and honor commitments to implement the SDGs. Many delegates highlighted the impact of unfair global trade terms, declining fiscal space, geopolitical dynamics, and other challenges that undermine SDG progress. The link between multiple cascading crises and mass displacement, was noted, with calls for a paradigm shift in international cooperation. Saudi Arabia and China highlighted their commitment to South-South and triangular cooperation.

Middle-Income Countries: Overcoming Barriers in Achieving the SDGs: This panel on [Thursday, 11 July](#), addressed countries in the middle-income category—currently 108 in number—that, together, account for around 30% of global GDP, 75% of the world's population, and nearly two-thirds of people experiencing acute multidimensional poverty. As Chair, ECOSOC President Narváez, noted the heavy burden placed on MICs by the confluence of growing sovereign debt burdens and limited fiscal space. Panel moderator Omar Hilale, Permanent Representative of Morocco to the UN, and Chair, Like-Minded Group of Countries Supporters of MICs, underlined that GDP-based classifications result in obstacles to countries' qualification and access to international cooperation, finance, and technical assistance.

José Manuel Salazar-Xirinachs, ECLAC, noted broad acknowledgement of the need for reforms to overcome the "middle-income trap," calling for transformative action to restructure the international financial architecture. Nurgul Dzhanavaeva, President, Forum of Women's Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Kyrgyzstan, outlined several strategies to overcome MIC-specific barriers, including enhanced policy coherence and human-rights based approaches. Somik Lall, Senior Adviser to the Chief Economist, World Bank, highlighted multi-step pathways towards accelerating investment and infusing global technologies domestically, and fostering innovation. He called on advanced economies to scale back protectionism to facilitate technology sharing.

Lead discussant Sude Balaban, Global Co Lab Network, Türkiye, underlined the multidimensional chains holding youth back, calling for international support to enable her generation to scale up immediate actions for sustainable development. Two ministerial respondents opened general discussions. Hugo Allan García, Vice Minister for Strategic Analysis for Development, National Planning Ministry, Guatemala, underscored the need for greater funding opportunities that consider the diverse nature of MICs. Eduardo Punay, Undersecretary, Department of Social Welfare and Development, the Philippines, urged a system-wide response that considers metrics beyond GDP.

Many delegates underscored the insufficiency of GDP as a measure of countries' development, with several calling for multidimensional indicators.

Perspectives from Major Groups and Other Stakeholders: On [Friday, 12 July](#), Major Groups and Other Stakeholders (MGoS) led a morning segment that showcased experiences and proposals from the 21 self-organized stakeholder groups on accelerating implementation of the 2030 Agenda while leaving no one behind. Opening the session, Chair Narváez noted that [UNGA resolution 67/290](#) on the organization of the HLPF ensures the rights of civil society organizations (CSOs) to participate and make submissions, and called on the forthcoming Summit of the Future to support their meaningful participation

Maritza Chan-Valverde, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the UN, concurred, recalling that the UN Charter's reference to "we the peoples," is a reminder that the UN is not exclusively an organization of states. She described several initiatives promoting enhanced civil society inclusion, notably the #UNMute initiative, and the creation of a civil society action day and a Special Envoy to ensure "more seats at the table."

Moderator Oliver Henman, Co-Chair, MGoS Coordination Mechanism, and Frances Zainoeddin, UN Focal Point, Stakeholder Group on Ageing, traced the evolution of MGoS engagement in UN sustainable development processes, starting with the first Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in 1992.

Four panelists representing MGoS constituencies offered diverse perspectives. Paul Divakar, Founder, the Inclusivity Project, urged continued focus on institutionalized forms of discrimination and solidarity with migrants, modern slave communities, and others that are still falling through the cracks. Rey Asis, Asia Pacific Mission for Migrants, underlined challenges with language, digital, and other divides. Caroline Rucuh, Executive Director, Western Kenya LBQT Feminist Forum, described the resilience of LGBTI+ networks in Kenya as “a beacon of hope.” Amina Bouayach, Secretary, Global Alliance of National Human Rights Institutions, noted that, at this halfway point on the path to 2030 Agenda implementation, the most challenging work still lies ahead.

In the ensuing discussion, many delegates emphasized civil society’s critical role in meaningful engagement, participation, and collaboration on policy development, implementation, and holding governments accountable. Several underlined the MGoS self-organizing approach at a time of shrinking civic space, with one delegate commending their role in peacebuilding and safeguarding freedom of expression. Subsequent discussions underscored, among other issues:

- the importance of distinguishing between attendance at meetings and meaningful participation;
- maintaining a focus on hidden and systemic forms of discrimination that persist today, particularly for migrants, modern slave communities, and other groups that continue to fall through the cracks;
- the need to empower young people as important catalysts of change; and
- the need to confront the fundamental injustice of the current international financing architecture—including the massive funding for wars and conflict—in a world where half the population is denied their basic human rights.

Many pointed out that despite hard-won gains, civil society spaces continue to shrink globally, which requires continuous and sustained multistakeholder efforts to drive reforms for more inclusive and transparent multilateral processes.

Closing the session, Chair Narváez underlined that “diversity is our strength, rather than our weakness.”

Voluntary National Reviews

Friday, 12 July: On [Friday](#), the first ten countries presented their VNRs. Palau, Belize, Mauritania, Eritrea, and Syria presented their second report, while Georgia, Kenya, Chad, Zimbabwe, and Samoa were presenting for the third time.

GEORGIA: Lasha Darsalia, First Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Georgia, highlighted efforts to localize the SDGs, improve access to education and development of human capital, and support vulnerable groups through targeted social programmes. Responding to questions, Darsalia emphasized that ongoing Russian Federation control of Georgian territories has hindered his country’s full implementation of the SDGs. He further noted the introduction of housing and education programmes to support internally displaced persons and Ukrainian refugees.

KENYA: Monica Asuna, Director of Planning, National Treasury, Kenya, noted mixed SDG performance during the reporting period, with progress on SDG 2 (zero hunger) of particular concern. She highlighted a range of social protection measures, such as affirmative funds for women, youth, the informal sector, and other marginalized groups. Responding to questions on the inclusivity of the VNR process and efforts to leave no one behind, Asuna noted close collaboration with the Kenya SDG Forum, a civil society platform.

PALAU: Gaafar Uherbelau, Minister of Health and Human Services, Palau, highlighted several achievements in the review process, including: collecting data on 115 SDG targets, 30% of which are on track to be achieved by 2030; improved access to education through online learning centers for rural schools, and sustainable management of 100% of Palau’s marine and 20% of its terrestrial areas. In response to questions, Uherbelau underscored the whole-of-government and -society approach taken to prepare the VNR and acknowledged the struggles of young people to preserve their cultural heritage in the face of globalization, climate change, and migration.

BELIZE: Orlando Habet, Minister of Sustainable Development and Climate Change, Belize, said the 2024 VNR was a comprehensive multistakeholder effort that reviewed 85 SDG indicators. Among key results, he noted a sharp fall in unemployment; recognition of Indigenous Peoples and other marginalized groups; efforts to restore nearly 6% of the country’s deforested land; and improvements in digitalization and data-driven decision making. Welcoming several statements of solidarity, Habet urged the international community to fulfil climate financing and other pledges.

CHAD: Fatima Haram Acyl, Delegated Minister in charge of the Economy and Planning, Chad, outlined efforts made to enhance peace and security, and poverty eradication, stating the country’s new constitution provides a framework for broad-based public sector reform and multistakeholder efforts to support vulnerable groups, including refugees. Responding to questions, she reported that broad-based consultations took place to develop the new SDG-aligned national development plan, which has also received support from diverse development partners.

MAURITANIA: Abdessalam Ould Mohamed Saleh, Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development, Mauritania, pointed to the country’s success in, among other areas: doubling social expenditure; integrating climate action and poverty reduction strategies; increasing renewable energy investments; integrating internally displaced persons and refugees; and combating terrorism. Elaborating on the country’s social cohesion policy, Saleh stressed that “there is no single political prisoner in Mauritania today.”

ZIMBABWE: July Moyo, Minister of Public Service, Labour, and Social Welfare, Zimbabwe, identified key successes, including increased food security, life expectancy, and primary school completion rates, and the establishment of a national adaptation plan with strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. He highlighted some innovations to enhance multistakeholder engagement in the VNR process, including the integration of VLRs and a children-led VNR. Responding to questions, he outlined strategies to increase crop self-sufficiency and integrate informal sectors into the economy.

ERITREA: Sophia Tasfamariam, Permanent Representative of Eritrea to the UN, identified some notable areas of progress, including: free education from primary to tertiary levels, with hundreds of new schools and libraries constructed; adoption of progressive and affirmative action measures to enhance women's rights, and reduction of harmful traditional practices such as female genital mutilation; and improved access to water, sanitation and hygiene, with 93% of villages nationwide as open defecation free. Responding to questions, Tasfamariam underlined social capital as her country's most valuable and important driver of progress, despite the imposition of unilateral coercive measures.

SAMOA: Fatumanava-o-Upolu III Pa'olelei Luteru, Permanent Representative of Samoa to the UN, described improved data collection, a strengthened social protection framework, and context-sensitive SDG priority setting as highlights of the VNR process. He noted potential to draw on traditional knowledge, such as storytelling, to fill gaps in SDG monitoring data. Responding to delegates' questions, Luteru noted opportunities to strengthen regional partnerships for the SDGs under the new ABAS framework.

SYRIA: Koussay Aldahhak, Permanent Representative of Syria to the UN, noted slow progress due to ongoing conflict, stating the country aims to enhance efforts to localize the SDGs and promote the rule of law. Responding to questions, Aldahhak underlined politicization as the main cross-cutting challenge affecting sustainable development, citing reduced energy facility capacity due to sanctions, and calling for an end to collective punishment.

Monday, 15 July: A second set of seven countries presented their VNRs on [Monday](#). Uganda, Spain, Peru, Lao People's Democratic Republic (PDR), Armenia, and Nepal presented their third VNR reports, while Azerbaijan presented for the fourth time.

UGANDA: Robinah Nabbanja, Prime Minister of Uganda, highlighted the development of the current SDG-aligned five-year strategic plan, as well as initiatives to strengthen national statistics systems and localize the SDGs. Responding to questions, she highlighted progress on: climate early-warning systems and restoration of wetlands; enhanced domestic resource mobilization; and prioritization of agro-industrialization programmes to bolster food systems.

SPAIN: A four-member team led by Teresa Ribera Rodriguez, Third Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge, presented the report. Among key SDG gains, they highlighted progress in reducing inequalities through "a new social contract" to tackle child poverty and other structural inequalities. Other highlights were: efforts to ensure a just energy transition by identifying potential risks for the most vulnerable; strengthening multi-level SDG coalitions; and the establishment of a joint permanent parliamentary commission as a non-legislative and multistakeholder space for debate, coordination, and follow-through on SDG implementation.

PERU: Diego Belevan, Deputy Permanent Representative of Peru to the UN, pointed to data improvements, with 51% of the global UN SDG dataset included in the current review. He said this helped confirm notable progress on water and sanitation access, as well as affordable energy targets. Responding to questions, Belevan conceded that poverty eradication among marginalized communities remains one of the foremost challenges, and highlighted efforts to transition to a multidimensional poverty index to enhance alignment across the SDGs.

LAO PDR: Saleumxay Kommasith, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Lao PDR, highlighted positive trends on 11 SDGs, while noting regression on peace and security (SDG 16), as well as partnerships for the Goals (SDG 17). He reported that the country had adopted an 18th SDG on unexploded ordnances to focus on these gaps. He further highlighted the country's "smooth transition" strategy to align his country's expected graduation to middle-income status with the SDGs.

AZERBAIJAN: Sahib Mammadov, Deputy Minister of Economy, Azerbaijan, noted the proliferation of land mines in the country has led to the adoption of a national 18th SDG on demining, and called on other mine-affected countries to support this initiative. Among notable SDG advances, he mentioned improvements in national statistical indicators, leveraging diverse funding sources for the SDGs based on a "SDG investment map," and fostering global dialogue for enhanced climate action as host of the 2024 UN Climate Conference.

ARMENIA: Ararat Mirzoyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Armenia, focused on the nexus between humanitarian, development, and peace actions as a core theme in his country's VNR. He noted that the establishment of a social emergency support system had led to decreased unemployment rates, also highlighting initiatives to form an inter-agency coordination council to measure progress towards the Paris Agreement. Among peace building efforts, Mirzoyan underscored Armenia's goal of normalizing relations with Azerbaijan and Türkiye.

NEPAL: Lok Bahadur Thapa, Permanent Representative of Nepal to the UN, outlined progress made in advancing social inclusion and access to healthcare and education, while noting slower progress in tackling hunger and climate change mitigation, overcoming financial dependencies, and poor institutional capacities. Responding to questions, Thapa pointed to increasing financial pressures due to Nepal's debt-to-GDP ratio, and stressed the importance of generating disaggregated data, as data "has the power to guide or misguide" public policies.

Tuesday, 16 July: A third set of nine countries presented their VNRs on [Tuesday](#). South Sudan and Yemen presented their inaugural VNRs, Guinea, Libya, and the Solomon Islands presented for the second time; Honduras and Costa Rica presented their third reports; while Colombia and Sierra Leone were fourth-time presenters.

SOUTH SUDAN: Augustino Ting Mayai, Chair, National Bureau of Statistics, South Sudan, outlined the VNR's difficult context in a country still transitioning from long-term conflict, reporting limited progress overall, with some bright spots in maternal mortality and child vaccination rates, adult literacy, and gender parity. He said the revised national development strategy, Vision 2040, aimed to drive institutional improvements and ensure proper resource management, helping to set the stage for increased SDG investments. Responding to questions, Mayai said that available oil resources will be channeled towards agriculture to increase food security.

YEMEN: Waed Abdullah Badhib, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Yemen, underlined persistent challenges arising from the ongoing conflict, noting it has channeled the labor force away from the agriculture and fisheries sectors towards frontline sectors. He identified declining public revenue, increased corruption, internal displacement, poverty, and food insecurity

as key concerns, outlining ongoing efforts to, *inter alia*: rebuild physical and digital infrastructure; strengthen statistical and legislative capacities; and address external debt.

COLOMBIA: Alexander López, Director of National Planning, Colombia, reported that his country has made progress on 58% of the SDGs, while noting persistent challenges in closing inequality gaps. He further highlighted ongoing peace efforts and agriculture reforms to formalize territorial agreements, noting 2023 had the lowest rate of deforestation in the last 20 years. Responding to questions, Lopez highlighted establishment of government-civil society dialogues for each sector of government; and the transition to using a multidimensional indicator of poverty.

GUINEA: Ismael Nabe, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, Guinea, outlined progress in: reducing food insecurity and chronic child malnutrition; promoting the rule of law and equal access to justice; and tackling gender-based violence. Responding to questions, he outlined the importance of civil society in the VNR process and urged the international community to support the preservation of critical water resources that directly impact other countries in the region.

LIBYA: Mohamed Al-Zaidani, Minister of Planning, Libya, highlighted a number of positive trends, including: provision of basic incomes to vulnerable groups; reducing maternal and infant mortality rates; increasing access to safe drinking water; and combating illegal fishing. Responding to questions, Al-Zaidani stressed that CSOs played a key role in the VNR process, and highlighted regulations that ensure CSOs' independence. He further outlined anti-corruption regulations to increase financial oversight.

HONDURAS: Eduardo Enrique Reina Garcia, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Honduras, underlined the new government's "historic commitment" to build a socialist democratic state that fosters human rights. Among planned structural changes, the Vice Minister for Planning enumerated investing in cash transfers and other social protection measures, boosting agricultural production, and introducing a universal school feeding programme. Responding to questions, he highlighted plans to scale up social transfers to Indigenous and Afro-descendant communities, among other marginalized groups.

SIERRA LEONE: Kenyah Barlay, Minister of Planning and Economic Development, discussed the SDG acceleration roadmap aligned to the "Big Five Game Changers" national planning framework, noting progress on: women's leadership; reducing gender-based violence; social protection; and local civil society engagement. On lessons learned from previous reviews, she noted the importance of a timely start to the VNR process, and mobilizing sufficient resources and capacities for robust data gathering and analysis.

SOLOMON ISLANDS: Rexon Ramofafia, Minister, National Planning and Development, Solomon Islands, noted steady, albeit uneven, progress on the five SDGs under review in 2024. He identified ongoing crises as key barriers, with access to energy, water, and sanitation remaining beyond the reach of many citizens. Responding to questions, Ramofafia stressed that structural challenges due to the islands' geography hinder connectivity, transport, and basic service provision, and noted planned relocation guidelines for disaster-affected communities.

COSTA RICA: Maritza Chan Valverde, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the UN, reported good progress in 59% of indicators, with notable progress on poverty reduction,

energy, and industrialization. She further highlighted the relaunch of the National Pact for the Advancement of the SDGs, and enhanced SDG localization through the SDG Cantons Network. Responding to questions, Valverde cited the 2025 UN Ocean Conference, to be co-hosted with France, as an example of blue diplomacy, and underlined her commitment to "build more bridges" by strengthening participatory processes.

Wednesday, 17 July: The final set of VNR presentations featured 10 countries. Austria, Equatorial Guinea, Mauritius, Congo, Oman, Brazil, and Vanuatu presented their second reviews. Ecuador and Namibia presented for the third time, and Mexico presented their fourth VNR report. The morning session was chaired by ECOSOC Vice-Presidents Ladeb and Rae. The afternoon segment was chaired by ECOSOC President Narváez.

AUSTRIA: Karoline Edstadler, Minister of the EU and Constitution at the Federal Chancellery, Austria, presented her country's second VNR report, emphasizing its comprehensive approach undertaken over a 15-month period, with significant advances in "process and product" from the previous review. Among highlights, she mentioned:

- strong collaboration with scientific communities and civil society, and inclusion of 120 "concrete" success stories;
- a focus on transformations needed to accelerate SDG progress, notably: social inclusion and cohesion; labor market skills upgrading; and accelerated action to achieve carbon neutrality by 2040; and
- peer exchanges with Switzerland and Bhutan.

Franz Fehr, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Vienna, discussed the UniNetZ - Universities and SDGs interdisciplinary initiative, noting a key output was developing proposals and specific recommendations on future policy options.

Responding to issues raised by BHUTAN, SWITZERLAND, and the MAJOR GROUP FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH, Edstadler said her country used established stakeholder representation mechanisms, such as the Federal Youth Council, to solicit broad input, and stressed her continued commitment to promote such dialogue in the future. On data gaps, she conceded that despite the integration of diverse data sources, issues remain, especially around gender pay gaps. Outlining some lessons learned from scientific collaboration, Fehr remarked that the biggest challenge was not coordinating inputs from diverse stakeholders, but organizing the scientific community itself. Concluding that "what you measure is what you get," he stressed the need to address real challenges and to translate scientific recommendations into practical messages to drive action.

EQUATORIAL GUINEA: Gabriel Mbaga Obiang Lima, Minister, Planning and Economic Diversification, Equatorial Guinea, presented his country's second VNR report. He highlighted initiatives to diversify the economy, strengthen public policies and finances, and develop tools to monitor and report on the SDGs through a national committee for SDG coordination. Obiang Lima noted challenges in making progress on education and social welfare. He further pointed to efforts underway for increasing food security and access to healthcare, including by opening a hospital in each provincial capital.

Following questions from the CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC and the AFRICA REGIONAL MECHANISM OF MGOS, Obiang Lima stressed his country's efforts for economic diversification and a transition away from over-reliance on fossil fuel exports.

He pointed to workshops held to facilitate consultations with civil society, NGOs, and vulnerable groups, noting efforts to further integrate these groups in formulating Equatorial Guinea's national sustainable development commitments.

MAURITIUS: Purmanund Jhugroo, Ambassador of Mauritius to the US, presented his country's second VNR report, noting that despite the impact of COVID-19 and related global crises, the country's economy "bounced back" in 2023 and 2024. He attributed this to, among other policy measures: a progressive tax regime; investments in education and social protection; a focus on sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, and the blue economy; and a proactive approach to climate adaptation and disaster risk reduction. He noted that 35% of the projected USD 6.5 billion needed for the country's revised NDC will be raised through domestic resource mobilization, underscoring the need for additional international financing and capacity building. He further highlighted the adoption of a national environmental masterplan in 2022 with a roadmap for transitioning to a circular economy.

Responding to AUSTRALIA, CANADA, and the PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES STAKEHOLDER GROUP, Jhugroo said the country has adopted a whole-of-society approach akin to a "Marshall Plan against poverty." He noted, among other priorities: subsidies for basic needs; women's empowerment and skills upgrading programmes; and special financial transfers to enhance young people's access to digital tools and training. On climate action, he called for increased international support to build long-term resilience, noting that the upcoming Summit of the Future, 2024 UN Climate Change Conference, and the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development will be key moments for generating political momentum.

CONGO: Ingrid Olga Ghislaine Ebouka-Babackas, Minister of Planning, Statistics and Regional Integration, Congo, presented her country's second VNR report. She noted the development of national and local development plans, and a new economic resilience plan to support Congo in the context of international geopolitical tensions. Ebouka-Babackas highlighted her country's focus on three SDGs considered to have immediate and multiplying effects on others, namely SDGs 8, 9 and 11. She outlined high access to public transport networks; slow progress on increasing the value of manufacturing industries; and exponential growth in the value of mobile money transactions.

In response to questions from SWITZERLAND, the MAJOR GROUP FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH, and CHAD, Ebouka-Babackas highlighted Congo had recently hosted the Three Basins Summit and the first International Conference on Afforestation and Reforestation. She emphasized that combating climate change and forest management requires greater resources and participation from the international community. She further noted efforts and initiatives to: improve governance before elections take place in 2026; address challenges faced by youth within the national development plan; and strengthen capacity for data collection and statistics generation.

ECUADOR: Sariha Moya, National Planning Secretary, Ecuador, presented her country's third VNR report. She said the review covered 158 SDG indicators, the bulk of which drew on disaggregated data, and confirmed progress on reducing multidimensional poverty and hunger due to expansion of social protection programmes, as well as subsidies for small-scale farmers. She further highlighted the use of machine learning to review the

SDGs under focus and their interlinkages, as well as the adoption of a UNDP framework to identify high impact initiatives.

Responding to questions from BRAZIL, COSTA RICA, the NGOs MAJOR GROUP, and PERU, Moya said a key innovation was the participatory approach taken to link the VNR to broader national planning processes. She highlighted: specific workshops with different stakeholder groups, including the Citizen's Assembly; gathering gender and geographically disaggregated data; and data partnerships with UN agencies. She noted while overall poverty has fallen, targeted interventions are needed to address marginalized groups and achieve land tenure security, especially for women. Moya further acknowledged that the fight against crime is a long-term one, requiring broad partnerships at all levels.

NAMIBIA: Sylvester Mbangi, Chief National Development Advisor, National Planning Commission, presented his country's third VNR report. He outlined numerous successes including:

- securing foreign direct investments and creation of a sovereign wealth fund to accelerate renewable energy projects, especially on green hydrogen;
- channeling 50% of the national budget to social sectors;
- achieving HIV/AIDS targets; and
- effective management of all 20 national conservation areas.

He said Namibia had been recognized as the second-best governed country in Africa, and was ranked among the top nine nations in the global gender gap report.

Responding to questions from UGANDA, the TRADE UNIONS MAJOR GROUP, and BRAZIL, Mbangi outlined the close alignment between the SDGs and national development planning processes; improvements in data collection; and achieving co-benefits across SDGs due to targeted measures such as a focus on the most vulnerable. Acknowledging that economic growth has not translated into jobs, he noted the need for economic diversification, reducing inequalities, and further transforming education to meet labor sector needs.

OMAN: Said Mohammed Al Saqri, Minister of Economy, Oman, presented his country's second VNR. He reported that over one-quarter of public spending is allocated to basic service provision, including healthcare and education. Al Saqri highlighted efforts towards implementing an integrated social protection system for vulnerable groups, and facilitating the inclusion of people with disabilities, through rehabilitation and training programmes. He further reported the launch of several national strategies, including on: climate mitigation and adaptation; carbon neutrality; mangrove reforestation; and accelerating the digital transition.

Following questions from BANGLADESH, SAUDI ARABIA, the EDUCATION AND ACADEMIA MAJOR GROUP, SINGAPORE, MOROCCO, and SWITZERLAND, the Oman VNR team noted: developments in legislation to guarantee women's right to work; establishment of a platform to monitor progress towards the SDGs; increased investment in food security; and efforts to decentralize administrations. The team further outlined the launch of a social protection fund that targets the most vulnerable groups.

BRAZIL: Márcio Macedo, Minister, General Secretariat of the Presidency, Brazil, presented his country's second VNR report. He pointed to renewed efforts to strengthen public policies and institutions that were weakened during Brazil's previous administration. Macedo outlined the establishment of a national commission for the SDGs and programmes to reduce inequality through a new fiscal framework and tax reform. He highlighted that

deforestation in the Amazon was immediately halved following the change in government, and outlined initiatives for: tackling food insecurity through a “solidarity kitchen” programme; strengthening the public healthcare system; and reducing racial inequality.

Following questions from GERMANY, MEXICO, FINLAND, the NGOs MAJOR GROUP, EGYPT, and URUGUAY, Macedo outlined efforts to undertake participatory planning for sustainable development and to align development strategies with the 2030 Agenda. He called on the international community to contribute to the shared responsibility for achieving the SDGs, and stressed that Brazil’s 18th SDG on racial equality addresses a cross-cutting issue.

MEXICO: Raquel Buenrostro Sánchez, Minister of Economy, Mexico, presented her country’s fourth VNR report. She pointed to over 35 VLRs produced by local governments, emphasizing the whole-of-society approach to sustainable development. Buenrostro reported recent progress on the SDGs, including: doubling the minimum wage; providing decent pensions; and lifting five million people out of extreme poverty.

Alejandro Encinas Nájera, Vice-Minister of Foreign Trade, Ministry of the Economy, Mexico, responded to questions from BRAZIL, SWITZERLAND, the VOLUNTEERS MAJOR GROUP, and the UK. He reported: a significant increase in public spending on social services; progress made on reforestation; and initiatives to address root causes of migration. Encinas highlighted programmes to address inequalities in rural areas, increase food security, and promote entrepreneurship.

VANUATU: Odo Tevi, Permanent Representative of Vanuatu to the UN, presented his country’s second VNR report, describing Vanuatu’s SDG story as one of resilience to a series of extreme events. He highlighted public sector reforms, including at the local level, and social protection programmes building on traditional support systems as important developments. Tevi also noted gains in access to, and improved quality of education, as well as efforts to climate-proof programmes in the agriculture, natural resources management, and marine sectors.

Responding to questions from FINLAND, the NGOs MAJOR GROUP and FIJI, Tevi highlighted data as a key challenge, noting that ongoing efforts to align national and local development planning processes to the SDGs will also help generate more data. He remarked that compounding disasters have become “the new normal,” and stressed that efforts to integrate disaster risk reduction in national development plans will require multistakeholder engagement, and strengthening international partnerships.

Ministerial Segment

“From the SDG Summit to the Summit of the Future”:

General Debate: The Ministerial Segment’s general debate began on [Monday, 15 July](#), with [12 statements](#) by coalitions of countries and various groups, and [43 high-level officials](#) speaking for individual countries. Spokespersons expressed commitment towards meeting the 2030 Agenda, and highlighted challenges and pathways looking ahead to the Summit of the Future in September 2024. Many countries highlighted national initiatives already underway alongside future developments for implementing the SDGs.

Recurring themes included calls for: reform of the international finance architecture; regional cooperation on disaster risk reduction; operationalizing the Loss and Damage Fund; debt alleviation to enable LDCs to focus public spending on sustainable development

needs; targeting root causes of intergenerational cycles of poverty and conflict; and for the Summit of the Future to reinvigorate multilateral cooperation.

On [Tuesday, 16 July](#), the high-level general debate continued with [34 statements](#) by high-level government officials. Several stressed that the multilateral system is at an inflection point, underlining the intersection of crises of foreign occupation, terrorism, war crimes, and genocide alongside demands for international action on the triple planetary crisis and the SDGs. Calls were made for renewed commitment to: protect vulnerable and marginalized groups; the SDG Stimulus Plan; gender equality; restoration of trust; and the protection of human rights and the rule of law. The debate further emphasized the role of localization as a way of bridging local realities with the global agenda.

The final segment of the high-level debate took place on Wednesday, 17 July. There were 38 [statements](#) from Ministers, Vice-Ministers, Permanent Representatives to the UN, and their deputies, and from 31 civil society and professional organizations.

Numerous countries commented on ongoing geopolitical conflicts, including: occupation; internal displacement; a resurgence of unilateralism and xenophobia; the weaponization of access to food during conflicts; war crimes and impunity; unprecedented numbers requiring humanitarian support; and a debt crisis, with over three billion people living in countries that spend more each year in servicing debt than on health and education. Some argued that the 2030 Agenda can only be realized with fairness in a new world order, when gaps between the global North and South are addressed. One delegate said he could not address the future without calling attention to the denial of the rights of the Palestinian people. Another called for greater representation of women in high-level positions within the UN system.

A number of statements underlined the role that the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs can play in providing a timely response to geopolitical, economic, and ecological challenges, noting their inherent linkages with peace, the rule of law, and human rights. Specific calls were made for the Summit of the Future to “future proof” the SDGs. Some countries called for reinvigorated multilateralism and partnerships that transcend borders and ideologies.

Several speakers explained how the triple planetary crisis is being compounded by conflict and weaknesses in the multilateral system. Some noted that the world is at a crossroads between an option to embrace rules-based multilateralism, cooperation, solidarity, and empathy, or to continue with business-as-usual. One speaker emphasized that no country should have to choose between tackling poverty and saving the planet.

Addressing the interdependence of the SDGs, one official called for investment in global public goods that “know no borders,” cautioning that the world must move beyond the delusion that problems impacting one group do not impact others. Some countries welcomed national ownership of the Goals and their incorporation into national development plans in collaboration with civil society partners.

On the Summit of the Future, one country suggested that it could be used to send a strong political signal on the need to reform multilateral institutions, including those working on financing development; and contribute to a restoration of trust and a strong compact, referencing the UN Charter’s onus on “We the peoples.”

On gender, countries reported on their feminist foreign policy approaches; called for a gender lens on financing development; and highlighted the positive contribution of women's participation in peace processes and democratic institutions. Regarding AI, some welcomed its potential contribution while cautioning the possible risks.

Some urged a focus on children and the UN Declaration on the Rights of the Child, calling for their meaningful participation in deliberations on sustainable development to, among others, reveal their exposure to violence. Others underlined the importance of reforming the multilateral financial architecture, including the implementation and integration of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda into the UN cooperation framework, the Global Gateway Initiative. Several welcomed the UN Multidimensional Vulnerability Index and called for the delivery of climate financing commitments.

MGoS representatives raised issues, including:

- access for those living with disabilities to sustainable development deliberations;
- land grabs in Africa and their impact on food security;
- protection of labor rights from discrimination; and
- role of philosophy and virtue in cultivating “ethical voluntarism.”

A youth delegate spoke of her possible responses to the triple planetary crisis, stating that she could respond with apathy and fear—or with action, “if countries light a path ahead.” She called for a fair future and mainstreaming of the just transition, and asserted that the Paris Agreement goal of 1.5°C is non-negotiable.

Messages from the UN Environment Assembly: On [Tuesday, 16 July](#), Abdullah Bin Ali Al Amri, Chairman, Environment Authority, Oman, and President, UNEA, reminded HLPF delegates that they gather not only as Member States, “but as stewards of our planet, united by a common target to achieve the 2030 Agenda.” He underscored the vital role of healthy ecosystems in eradicating hunger and poverty and fostering more equitable societies. Al Amri highlighted UNEA's leadership in:

- spearheading multilateral action to tackle the triple planetary crisis, namely the recently adopted Global Framework on Chemicals, and negotiations towards a legally binding agreement on plastic pollution; and
- promoting the One Health approach to addressing human and planetary wellbeing.

Citing the recent UNEP preliminary assessment on the environmental impact of the conflict in Gaza, Al Amri challenged delegates to tackle the root causes of conflict: “What good is working on sustainable development if children and women are killed every day?”

Messages from the Regions: On [Tuesday, 16 July](#), ECOSOC President Narváez introduced this segment, and the five regional forums on sustainable development imparted messages from their 2024 meetings.

Arab states noted the need for a comprehensive reform of the multilateral system and called for legislation to address the use of technology, including AI, as a tool of war. Africa stressed the impact of debt on domestic investment, and pointed to recommendations for the Summit of the Future to enhance the international financial architecture.

Europe outlined opportunities to advance information technology, youth engagement, and climate awareness, and for the Summit of the Future to enhance the involvement of municipalities and regions. Latin America and the Caribbean called for increased investment in social protection and for economic opportunities at the global and

regional levels, reporting recommendations for the international community to strengthen measures on biodiversity, disaster risk reduction, and youth participation.

The discussion highlighted recommendations for: policy coherence for SDG implementation; targeted support for connectivity, financing, and debt management; reforming the international financial architecture and G20 Common Framework for Debt Treatments; investment in decent and green job creation; and developing solutions adapted to local and regional realities and needs.

Closing Plenary

Ministerial Declaration: Merete Fjeld Brattested, Permanent Representative of Norway to the UN, and Co-Facilitator of the negotiations on the Ministerial Declaration, noted the Co-Facilitators “have done our utmost” to facilitate a transparent and inclusive process and expressed regret at the late submission of amendments by some delegations. Co-Facilitator José Blanco, Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic to the UN, noted delegates had engaged in a “frank exchange,” which had led to the draft Declaration, and that the text strikes a delicate balance between varying interests.

ECOSOC President Narváez noted the draft Declaration has no programme budget implications, and invited Nicaragua to present a proposed amendment (E/HLPF/2024/L.3).

NICARAGUA, also speaking on behalf of BELARUS, BOLIVIA, CUBA, ERITREA, IRAN, the RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SYRIA, VENEZUELA, and ZIMBABWE, stressed more than 40 countries are suffering from the negative impacts of “unilateral coercive measures” that hinder the sustainable development aspirations of developing countries. Urging the HLPF not to continue to overlook the realities of these impacts, such as lack of access to medicines and medical equipment, he encouraged delegates to vote in favor of the amendment. The DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA, SOUTH AFRICA, and TANZANIA joined as co-sponsors of the amendment.

Responding to a question by VENEZUELA, Narváez clarified that the US and UK requested a vote.

The UK lamented the late introduction of the amendment, and stressed it jeopardizes months of negotiations on the text of the Declaration. He noted that the 2030 Agenda is a “carefully negotiated balance,” and opposed efforts to “cherry pick” its elements. The UK said autonomous sanctions support the fundamental purposes of the UN Charter and ensure compliance with human rights, adding that his country ensures these are always accompanied with arrangements to deliver humanitarian assistance.

Some of the co-sponsors of the amendment then took the floor to express and explain their support for the amendment. SOUTH AFRICA further rejected the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM), saying it is a trade-distorting mechanism disguised as climate action.

The amendment was then put to a vote with 105 voting in favor, 11 voting against, and 46 abstaining. Following the vote, the EU dissociated from the adopted amendment. Noting he had abstained from voting “on principle,” he expressed regret at the inclusion of the “hostile amendment” submitted by a few countries and lamented the “false narrative” surrounding unilateral sanctions.

TANZANIA and CHILE reiterated that unilateral coercive measures (UCMs) flout international law.

Uganda, for the GROUP OF 77 AND CHINA, expressed disappointment at a call by Israel for a vote on the retention of a paragraph stating that sustainable development cannot be realized without peace and security, and that peace and security will be at risk without sustainable development. He explained the paragraph is text from the 2030 Agenda, and that countries in conflict and those under occupation experience specific structural issues that require targeted national support, state building, and sustainable development.

ISRAEL noted that despite the efforts of the Co-Facilitators, there was no consensus on the draft paragraph and some countries insisted on “placing narrow political considerations” ahead of a global consensus on the SDGs. She explained that her call for a vote against the retention of the paragraph aimed to discourage the politicization of the HLPF.

In the vote, 122 delegations voted for, 2 voted against, and 39 abstained. The paragraph was retained in the Ministerial Declaration. After the vote, CHILE emphasized support for the text’s retention based on the 2030 Agenda. The Declaration, as amended, (E/HLPF/2024/L.1) was adopted with no objections.

Country Statements: AUSTRALIA, with CANADA and NEW ZEALAND, said they had accepted the final Declaration in the spirit of compromise but considered the effort to alter the document as disruptive and an “affront to the long, hard work of the negotiations.” He expressed disappointment about other aspects of the text, including the references to gender equality that lack ambition and references to climate change that step back from commitments made at the 2023 Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC COP 28). He said delegations should be moving forward rather than “fighting over standing still,” underlining that the SDG on climate action had been under review at the HLPF.

The EU said they had accepted the consensus language as proof of their attachment to the HLPF and to follow up the SDG Summit Declaration. He added that the implementation of the 2030 Agenda was inhibited by the current international context of uncertainty, the shocks of war, and the triple planetary crisis, with particular concern about backsliding on the rule of law. He said the imperative of peace and just societies “compels us to condemn conflict and commit to international law.” He also defended the CBAM as a logical response to the risk of carbon leakage. SWITZERLAND expressed regret about the introduction of the controversial subject of sanctions and the failure of the Declaration to reflect significant decisions taken at UNFCCC COP 28.

The UK dissociated itself from the text on UCMs, and concurred with views that the Declaration rolls back on the COP 28 outcomes and on gender and unsustainable debt. IRAN said he does not commit to those elements of the Declaration that contradict his country’s national priorities, laws, and regulations. JAPAN noted deep divergences during the informal negotiations on the Ministerial Declaration and expressed concerns about the text on UCMs.

ISRAEL dissociated from the Declaration’s paragraphs on the full implementation of the Political Declaration of the SDG Summit and on the interlinkage of peace and justice with sustainable development. HUNGARY expressed a reservation to a draft paragraph mentioning the positive role of migrants.

Welcoming the adoption of the Ministerial Declaration, COLOMBIA highlighted references to biodiversity and pollution, and underlined that peace and justice are relevant to the entire UN

system. He cautioned that delegations need to ensure that gender equality is achieved in practice as a cross-cutting approach to all the SDGs.

ARGENTINA expressed commitment to the individual rights of all humans with no exceptions, in line with international agreements.

Lamenting the “hijacking” of negotiations to advance “narrow political ends,” the US stressed sanctions are legitimate and in accordance with international law when applied to address “malign” behavior. She dissociated from the adopted amendment. She also denounced the retained paragraph as an “inappropriate attempt to politicize the work of the HLPF.”

Closure of the Meeting: Delegates adopted the draft report of the meeting (E/HLPF/2024/L.2), while authorizing President Narváez to finalize it.

In his closing statement, Under-Secretary-General Li underlined that the SDGs continue to inspire, unite, and mobilize efforts worldwide, noting the 2030 Agenda remains the only blueprint to advance sustainable development.

President Narváez stressed the HLPF is fulfilling its mission to assess progress, share lessons learned, and discuss priorities. She identified the thematic reviews as having provided examples of success that can be replicated, and noted they demonstrate the multidimensional nature of the SDGs, together with opportunities to strengthen the links between them. Emphasizing HLPF 2024 has demonstrated it is “not too late to make sustainable development a reality,” Narváez gavelled the Forum to a close at 6:10 pm.

Ministerial Declaration

The 2024 Ministerial Declaration identifies the current situation and challenges, alongside future actions and investment pathways needed to reinforce the 2030 Agenda and deliver on the SDGs.

On the current challenges and situation to achieve implementation of the SDGs, the Declaration:

- strongly reaffirms a commitment to building a sustainable, peaceful, just, and inclusive world by 2030 and to act with urgency, leaving no one behind;
- reaffirms that eradicating poverty is the greatest challenge; and
- reaffirms that there can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development and, in this regard, expresses grave concern at the increased and ongoing conflicts in the world.

On the long-term impacts of COVID-19, continued poverty, widening inequalities, and interlinked crises of climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution, and forced displacement, the Declaration: recommits to the full implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030; and calls for new and additional means of implementation to close the biodiversity financing gap and effectively implement at the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

This section of the Declaration also reiterates that Member States are strongly urged to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial, or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the UN Charter that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, particularly in developing countries.

Regarding actions and investment pathways to support the 2030 Agenda, accelerate poverty eradication, and achieve the SDGs, the Declaration calls for:

- full implementation of the political declaration adopted at the 2023 SDG Summit;

- recognition that sustainable development cannot be realized without peace and security, and peace and security will be at risk without sustainable development;
- asserting that factors giving rise to violence, insecurity and injustice, such as inequality, corruption, poor governance and illicit financial and arms flows, are addressed in the 2030 Agenda, and recommit to redoubling efforts to resolve or prevent conflict and support post-conflict countries, including ensuring women have a role in peacebuilding and state-building; and
- removing obstacles to the full realization of the right to self-determination of peoples living under colonial and foreign occupation.

The Declaration further commits Ministers and representatives to:

- cooperate internationally to ensure safe, orderly, and regular migration involving full respect for human rights;
- affirm that the global fight against racism and related intolerance is a priority for the international community, and recognize the special challenges of African countries, LDCs, LLDCs, and SIDs; and
- address ongoing financing gaps for achieving the SDGs.

The Declaration contains further sections dedicated to the SDGs under in-depth review at HLPF 2024.

On eradicating poverty in all its forms everywhere (SDG 1), Ministers and high-level representatives commit to:

- mobilizing the necessary means of implementation;
- fostering sustainable, inclusive, and sustained economic growth;
- eradicating forced labor and human trafficking; and
- acknowledging the mutually reinforcing links between the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the eradication of poverty.

On ending hunger, achieving food security and improved nutrition, and promoting sustainable agriculture (SDG 2), Ministers and high-level representatives commit to, among others:

- support the integration of each country, in particular developing countries, into the global agri-food supply chain;
- achieve global food security; and
- pursue efficient, resilient, and sustainable agri-food systems.

On taking urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts (SDG 13), Ministers and high-level representatives, commit to, *inter alia*:

- recognize the urgency of enhancing ambition for climate action in implementing the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement; and
- operationalize climate change funding arrangements.

Regarding promoting peaceful, inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all, and building effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions for all (SDG 16), Ministers and high-level representatives commit to:

- recognize the importance of good governance and strong institutions as key enablers of sustainable development;
- prevent and combat illicit financial flows;
- invest in conflict prevention, including attention to structural causes and strategies for promoting peace, justice, and the rule of law; and
- acknowledge that current global efforts to prevent and resolve conflicts and address inequality have been fragmented and insufficient.

On strengthening the means of implementation and revitalizing the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development (SDG 17), Ministers and high-level representatives commit to:

- recognize the urgency of providing affordable, predictable, sustainable, and sufficient development finance to developing countries;
- address the urgent need for developed countries to scale up and fulfil official development assistance commitments;
- inter-governmental discussions on international financial architecture reform;
- improve international debt mechanisms, with expansion of support for vulnerable countries; and
- bridge the digital divide and spread the benefits of digitalization.

On VNRs and other priority issues, the Ministerial Declaration encourages all countries to use key findings and share locally-driven development approaches and pathways to accelerate their actions to implement the 2030 Agenda. It encourages the full, equal, and meaningful participation of all relevant stakeholders in the VNR process.

A Brief Analysis of HLPF 2024

“Hope deferred makes the heart sick, but a desire fulfilled is a tree of life.” – Proverbs 13:12

Once upon a time at the UN—in 2015 to be precise—the world pinned its hopes on 2030 as a decisive moment in global sustainable development politics. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) provide a blueprint for ensuring peace and prosperity with a bold undertaking that no one would be left behind.

Hot on the heels of the 2023 SDG Summit and a sobering assessment of progress by the UN Secretary-General, the 2024 meeting of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) confirmed what many already knew or suspected—only 17% of the SDGs’ 169 targets are on track to be achieved, nearly half are showing minimal or moderate progress, and progress on over a third has stalled or even regressed. There are echoes here of another global ambition established in 2015, the Paris Agreement’s goal to keep global warming below 1.5°C, which is also receding over the horizon.

As many observed, the 2015 world in which these agreements were struck has changed decisively in ways that call for more than a ritual acknowledgement of the deep interlinkages between understandings of peace, security, and human development. Today’s calls for new ambition question whether the multilateral institutions themselves—together with their current mandates and forms of representation that hark back to an earlier moment in geopolitical fortunes—can hold and service the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda and beyond.

In this light, this brief analysis reflects on HLPF 2024, and the hope placed in the UN at a time of fracturing multilateralism to move the needle on the many economic, social, and environmental issues plaguing the world. Drawing lessons from the HLPF, the analysis will examine if there is any guidance about the prospects for the Summit of the Future in September, which has become the latest repository for the UN’s seemingly incurable hope that “we the peoples” will—even now—deliver on the promises made to “leave no one behind.”

Multilateralism in a Fractured World

One major cause for alarm—as demonstrated by dissenting voices in the closing plenary—is the increasing fracturing of the multilateral system itself. The HLPF essentially has two functions:

the first, an experience-sharing exercise or peer review, and the second, producing a high-level declaration intended to drive progress towards the 2030 Agenda. On the surface, it appears the HLPF is doing both things poorly. The experience-sharing debates are less true dialogues and more one-sided discussions, and the Ministerial Declarations do not seem to have much impact. The lack of consensus on this HLPF's Ministerial Declaration—despite a long negotiation process spanning more than 20 consultative sessions in advance of the HLPF—highlighted how conflicts and other global crises are further eroding countries' ability to work together towards a shared set of objectives.

Since its inception, the HLPF has had a difficult time adopting its Ministerial Declaration by consensus, as political divisions overtake any sense of unity on the 2030 Agenda. During this year's closing plenary, these divisions manifested in two votes: one on a proposed amendment on the impact of unilateral coercive measures (economic sanctions) on poverty and food security, and the second about retaining language that acknowledges the impact of violence, insecurity, and injustice on sustainable development. These debates served to highlight ways in which the larger geopolitical fractures bear down on the HLPF in a manner that only serves to expose its lack of authority to address such issues definitively.

What should be a core understanding of “sustainable development” as the mirror image of a world invested in geopolitical divisions, xenophobia, and record levels of spending on arms, became a matter of dispute in the dying moments of HLPF 2024. Observers noted that the Secretary General's Summit of the Future could not come soon enough while, simultaneously, harboring questions about the ability of the Summit to rise to the occasion.

Yet, these fractures and differences were not the entire story at the HLPF. The session undertook in-depth reviews of five SDGs: 1 (no poverty), 2 (zero hunger), 13 (climate action), 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions), and 17 (partnerships for the Goals). These in-depth reviews, combined with the Voluntary National Review (VNR) reports and the extensive debate that followed, clearly reaffirmed that countries are striving for progress, even if it is slower than desired. Delegates heard reports of war, the suffering of children, and fundamental criticisms of the institutions that once promised accountability and the rule of law, in a world that is rushing headlong to beat records for global arms expenditure while largely in denial about its failure to protect and cherish the most vulnerable. Surya Deva, UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Development, captured the moment for many when he drew a line—in his call to action—between human rights, accountability of companies profiting from conflict, and reform of the UN Security Council to address permanent representation and veto powers.

Yet, these reviews, and the special sessions held over the eight days, also showcased action at the municipal, local, and regional levels, notably driven with the collaboration of non-state actors. This suggested to some that the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs have taken on a life of their own, and are tapping into the hearts and minds of “we the peoples.”

The positive spirit exhibited during the annual presentation of VNRs by 36 countries was in marked contrast to the fractious closing debate. Carefully prepared by a “Friends of VNRs” group, each country's presentation received critical responses from both government and non-governmental delegates, creating a real moment of honest exchange and learning. The VNR labs taking place on the sidelines of the meeting offered further opportunity for

joint reflection, exchange of best practice, and building partnerships to further advance SDG implementation.

For example, civil society representatives from Honduras and Mexico established new connections with their governments—both in their capitals and at the HLPF—in the course of their challenging engagements on the design, preparation, and content of the VNRs. In the case of Mexico, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs even issued a public apology in response to challenges over their failure to adequately consult with the hundreds of civil society organizations signed up to Mexico's focal point. Similarly, after the Honduran VNR, an engagement by civil society actors with the government representatives led directly to plans for follow-up meetings with government representatives back in Tegucigalpa.

As such, all hope is not lost. As Michelle Bachelet, former President of Chile and former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, put it, “Change is also happening fast, improving the lives of many.” The overarching message of the VNR presentations was that, despite many challenges, on the frontlines of SDG implementation differences are being set aside and multi-stakeholder partnerships taking hold to impact “real lives.”

The fractures that nonetheless spilled onto the floor of the closing plenary cannot be ignored, however, and seemed to offer an early taste of things to come at the Summit of the Future, when issues of peace, security, and multilateral institutional reform will be tackled head on.

Surely there Remains a Future: A Vision for Reform and Transformation

One of the most sophisticated forms of denial is our capacity to defer the future on the altar of the present. Originally called for in the UN Secretary-General's “Our Common Agenda” report, the Summit of the Future has been described as a “once-in-a-generation opportunity to reinvigorate global action, recommit to fundamental principles, and further develop the frameworks of multilateralism so they are fit for the future.” It is expected to be both retrospective and forward looking: retrospective with a view to finding ways to accelerate achievement of the SDGs, and forward looking to address the fractured multilateral system and make it “fit for the future.” There was much talk of dimensions of the SDGs as “enablers” and catalysts for transformative change. It has become clear that the decisive enablers—in all probability—lie outside the scope of the immediate competence of the HLPF and the 2030 Agenda, and reside in the UN General Assembly mandate for the Summit of the Future.

One of the objectives of HLPF 2024 was to contribute to the preparations for the Summit, particularly to enable sharing of the priorities and expectations for the Summit. Consequently, the general debate was on the theme “From the SDG Summit to the Summit of the Future,” and even outside the general debate, delegates shared their high expectations for the Summit. One of the most recurrent calls during HLPF 2024 was to use the upcoming Summit as an opportunity to consider a reform of the international financial architecture, including the multilateral development banks, given the high levels of indebtedness being experienced by most developing countries. Demands about finance and the democratization of the global financial institutions—including calls for more participation by women and youth—are far reaching and will be decisive in demonstrating a shift towards the new multipolar world that has not yet found expression in such institutions. With

some developing countries reportedly spending more on debt servicing than on basic services such as healthcare and education, this focus is not surprising.

Others consider the Summit an opportunity to “future proof” the SDGs and 2030 Agenda, given that the poor performance experienced thus far will leave much to be done post-2030. As Indonesia pointed out during the general debate, considering the future post-2030 is as important as remaining steadfast in achieving the 2030 Goals. And, arguably, the most important outcome the Summit could achieve is reinvigorating multilateralism by reforming the UN system.

However, some delegates, especially civil society, were less optimistic, suggesting this Summit will simply be a replay of previous summits, with thousands flying in from around the world to read prepared statements and then return to their home countries where nothing changes.

The Summit is a reminder that 2030 is not an end in itself, but perhaps an opportunity to demonstrate a milestone along the way to a more equal world. Calls to use the Summit as an opportunity to “future proof” the SDGs may not be misplaced if there is a sufficient recognition that much of the energy behind the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs is now coming from the bottom-up, from an unleashing of civic engagement that sometimes—perhaps often—exceeds the ambitions of governments and multilateral organizations.

Moving Forward Because We Have No Choice

“At the end of the day, we must go forward with hope and not backward by fear and division.” – Jesse Jackson

Major Groups and other Stakeholders are not beholden to the fate of multilateralism for their vision and their ambition. In many ways they preceded the UN’s uptake of the planetary predicaments that now populate the official documents of UN processes and Ministerial Declarations. One of the key lessons that seem to have come out of HLPF 2024 is the need to return to a people-centered vision of the UN’s mission, from which governments derive a courageous new mandate to challenge—with and on behalf of their constituencies—the interests that come between them and the future.

In a number of standout interventions, youth representatives and other stakeholders—joined by the delegation from Costa Rica—reminded delegates of the language of “we the peoples” in the UN Charter. They called on countries to recall that the UN was not exclusively an organization of governments. In the decades that have followed the first Earth Summit in particular, the UN has embraced a more complex and participatory model of deliberation. One delegate captured some of the wisdom that resides in the corners of all UN processes that seek to address societal and planetary transformation, in the words of Amartya Sen: “What moves us, reasonably enough, is not the realization that the world falls short of being completely just—which few of us expect—but that there are clearly remediable injustices around us which we want to eliminate.”

As the HLPF’s Ministerial segment opened on Monday, 15 July, delegates were treated to a recital of two pieces of music by the tenor Jonathan Tetelman. His first piece, “E Lucevan Le Stelle,” raises our eyes to the stars while keeping our senses entangled in the Earth: “*How the stars used to shine there, How sweet the earth smelled.*” His second piece, “No puede ser” is about a refusal, “*It can’t be, No way.*” This musical interlude may have set the stage in more ways than one. In this respect, the HLPF delegates and

civil society constituencies are suspended between soaring, Earthly ambition, but are always faced with a sense that they have fallen short.

But isn’t that the human condition? What keeps us going is that there are clearly remediable injustices around us that we want to eliminate and, provided we keep moving forward, there remains hope for a better future.

Upcoming Meetings

Fifth Global Climate and SDG Synergy Conference: The Conference, co-convened by the UNFCCC Secretariat, aims to develop recommendations on enhancing synergistic implementation of the SDGs and climate action. **dates:** 5-6 September 2024 **location:** Rio de Janeiro, Brazil **www:** sdgs.un.org/climate-sdgs-synergies

The 12th International Conference on Sustainable Development (ICSD): Convening on the theme, “Solutions for the Future,” the conference will bring together individuals from research, policy, practice, and business in advance of the 2024 Summit of the Future to share practice solutions for achieving the SDGs at local and national levels. The conference is co-organized by the Global Master’s in Development Practice and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, with support from UNDP, the European Commission, and other partners. **dates:** 19-20 September 2024 **location:** New York City, US and online **www:** ic-sd.org

Global Goals Week 2024: Global Goals Week is an annual week of action, awareness, and accountability for the SDGs, with partners across civil society, business, academia, and the UN system coming together to accelerate action on the SDGs, especially during the UN General Assembly’s High-level Week. It is also an opportunity to speak out as one voice and share ideas and transformative solutions in the fight to recover better from global challenges. **dates:** 20-29 September 2024 **location:** New York City, US **www:** globalgoalsweek.org

Summit of the Future: The high-level event will bring together UN Member States, UN agencies, NGOs, civil society organizations, academic institutions, the private sector, and youth under the theme, “Summit of the Future: Multilateral Solutions for a Better Tomorrow.” The Summit aims to forge a new global consensus on what our future should look like, and what we can do today to secure it. **dates:** 23-24 September 2024 **location:** UN Headquarters, New York **www:** un.org/en/summit-of-the-future

Fourth Forum of Mayors – “The Cities Summit of the Future”: This event aims to contribute to the Summit of the Future process by emphasizing the crucial role of cities and local actors in leading the way towards a brighter and more sustainable future for all. **dates:** 30 September - 1 October 2024 **location:** Geneva, Switzerland **www:** forumofmayors.unece.org

First Global Nature Positive Summit: This event aims to bring together: climate, environment, and finance ministers; private sector leaders; Indigenous groups, scientists, and academics; and community leaders to drive private sector investment to protect and repair the environment. The Summit aims to inform the design of nature-positive activities. Hosted by the Government of Australia and the Government of New South Wales, the Summit will also share guidance for investors and project developers to encourage partnerships for developing country projects. **dates:** 8-10 October 2024 **location:** Sydney, Australia **www:** dcceew.gov.au/environment/international/nature-positive-summit

UN Biodiversity Conference 2024 (CBD COP 16): The 16th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), will convene alongside the 11th Meeting of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties (MOP) to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety (CP-MOP-11) and the fifth MOP to the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of the Benefits Arising from their Utilization (NP-MOP-5). **dates:** 21 October – 1 November 2024 **location:** Cali, Colombia **www:** cbd.int/meetings

2024 UN Climate Change Conference (UNFCCC COP 29): This event will include the 29th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 29), the 19th meeting of the COP serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP 19), and the sixth meeting of the COP serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement (CMA 6) that will convene to complete the first enhanced transparency framework and the new collective quantified goal on finance, among other matters. The 61st sessions of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA 61) and the Subsidiary Body for Implementation (SBI 61) will also meet. **dates:** 11-22 November 2024 **location:** Baku, Azerbaijan **www:** unfccc.int/cop29

Fifth UN World Data Forum 2024: The aim of the Forum is to spur data innovation, nurture partnerships, mobilize high-level political and financial support for data, and build a pathway to better data for sustainable development. The event is organized with support from the Statistics Division of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs. **dates:** 12-15 November 2024 **location:** Medellín, Colombia **www:** unstats.un.org/unsd/undataforum/

G20 Brazil Summit 2024: Marking the conclusion of the work carried out by the country holding the group's rotating presidency, this annual event provides an opportunity for Heads of State and Government to approve the agreements negotiated throughout the year and point out ways of dealing with global challenges. The Summit will bring together leaders of the 19 member countries, together with the African Union and the European Union. **dates:** 18-19 November 2024 **location:** Rio de Janeiro, Brazil **www:** g20.org/en/about-the-g20/summit-rio-2024

UNCCD COP 16: The sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP16) to the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) will commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Convention under the overarching theme "Our land, our future." The twenty-second session of the Committee for the Review of the Implementation of the Convention (CRIC22) and the sixteenth session of the Committee on Science and Technology (CST16) to the UNCCD will also take place. **dates:** 2-13 December 2024 **location:** Riyadh, Saudi Arabia **www:** unccd.int/cop16

Third UN Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries: Held every 10 years, the LLDC conferences provide a platform to explore innovative solutions, strategic partnerships, and increased investments to address hurdles in trade, connectivity, and development, and unlock the full potential of these nations. The conference will build on regional preparatory meetings in 2023 for Africa, Latin America, Asia, and Europe, and will convene dedicated sessions parliamentary, civil society, and youth forums, as well as a high-level event. **dates:** 9-13 December 2024 **location:** Gaborone, Botswana **www:** un.org/en/landlocked

For additional upcoming events, see sdg.iisd.org

Glossary

ABAS	Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS
CSOs	Civil society organizations
ECE	UN Economic Commission for Europe
ECLAC	UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
ECOSOC	UN Economic and Social Council
ESCAP	UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
ESCWA	UN Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia
GDP	Gross domestic product
HLPF	High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
LDCs	Least developed countries
LLDCs	Landlocked developing countries
MGoS	Major Groups and other Stakeholders
MICs	Middle-income countries
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS	Small island developing states
STI	Science, technology, and innovation
UN DESA	UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs
UNDP	UN Development Programme
UNEA	UN Environment Assembly
UNEP	UN Environment Programme
UNFCCC	UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNGA	UN General Assembly
UN-Habitat	UN Human Settlements Programme
VLR	Voluntary Local Review
VNR	Voluntary National Review

2024 session

27 July 2023–24 July 2024

Agenda item 5

High-level segment on reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions

Draft ministerial declaration submitted by the President of the Council, Paula Narváez (Chile)

Ministerial declaration of the high-level segment of the 2024 session of the Economic and Social Council and the 2024 high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the Council on the theme “Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions”

I. Current situation and challenges to achieve the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals

1. We, the Ministers and high representatives, met in New York at the 2024 high-level political forum on sustainable development and the high-level segment of the 2024 session of the Economic and Social Council and adopted the present ministerial declaration at the conclusion of the respective meetings on 17 and [24] July 2024.
2. We strongly reaffirm our commitment to building a sustainable, resilient, prosperous, peaceful, just and inclusive world by 2030, as envisioned in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development¹ and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals. We will act with urgency to realize its vision as a plan of action for people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership, leaving no one behind. We will endeavour to reach the furthest behind first.
3. We also reaffirm that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge facing the world today and an overarching objective of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.
4. We recall that the 2030 Agenda is a plan of action for people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership, seeking to strengthen universal peace in larger freedom. We reaffirm that there can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development. We are gravely concerned, in this regard, by the increased and ongoing conflicts in the world, which are affecting global peace and security, respect for human rights and sustainable development. We call for full respect for the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and international law and condemn any violation of those principles and law.
5. We are concerned about the persistent and long-term impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic, continued poverty and widening inequalities, and the multiple

¹ General Assembly resolution [70/1](#).

interlinked crises that are pushing our world to the brink, particularly in developing countries and for the poorest and most vulnerable. The crisis of climate change and its impacts, including persistent drought and extreme weather events, land loss and degradation, sea level rise, coastal erosion, ocean acidification and the retreat of mountain glaciers, as well as biodiversity loss, desertification, sand and dust storms, and pollution, including plastic, air, and chemical pollution, threaten planet and people. Forced displacement, the cost-of-living, water, food security and nutrition, financial and energy crises and challenges are derailing progress on the Sustainable Development Goals.

6. We also reaffirm that climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time. We express profound alarm that emissions of greenhouse gases continue to rise globally, and remain deeply concerned that all countries, particularly developing countries, are vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change. We emphasize in this regard that mitigation of and adaptation to climate change represent an immediate and urgent priority.

7. We recommit to the full implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030,² and recall its midterm review, as disasters have become more frequent and intense. We acknowledge that its implementation will require capacity-building and technical and financial assistance in order to be effectively implemented by developing countries. We will promote a disaster risk-informed approach to sustainable development at the local, national, regional and global levels and accelerate progress on integrating disaster risk reduction into policies, programmes and investments at all levels. We recognize the need for a broader and a more people-centred preventive approach to disaster risk reduction, and that disaster risk reduction policies and practices need to be multi-hazard and multisectoral, inclusive and accessible in order to be efficient and effective. We will promote effective local, national and regional multi-hazard early warning mechanisms.

8. We emphasize the importance of protecting, conserving and restoring nature and terrestrial and marine ecosystems, as well as ensuring their sustainable use and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits from the use of genetic resources. We call for the provision and mobilization of new and additional means of implementation to support the full implementation of the Convention on Biological Diversity,³ and further emphasize the importance of urgently increasing the mobilization of financial resources from all sources, domestic and international, public and private, with a view to closing the biodiversity financing gap and making adequate and predictable resources available in a timely manner for the effective implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

9. We look forward to the sixteenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity, to be held in Cali, Colombia, from 21 October to 1 November 2024.

10. We reiterate the need to combat desertification, reduce land degradation, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world, and look forward to the convening of the sixteenth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa, in Riyadh from 2 to 13 December 2024, and to its outcome.

11. We will support the global efforts to address plastic pollution, and the work of the intergovernmental negotiating committee to develop an international legally

² General Assembly resolution 69/283, annex II.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1760, No. 30619.

binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, by the end of 2024.

12. We pledge to redouble our efforts to achieve a more sustainable and inclusive world. We are all committed to bold, ambitious, accelerated, just and transformative action to implement the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals in the six years leading up to 2030. We reaffirm that international cooperation, multilateralism and international solidarity at all levels are the best way to address the global challenges that we are facing.

13. We reaffirm that the 2030 Agenda is universal in nature and that its Goals and targets are comprehensive, far-reaching, people-centred, indivisible and interlinked, balancing the three dimensions of sustainable development – economic, social and environmental – in an integrated manner. They seek to realize the human rights of all and to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.

14. We also reaffirm that the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development⁴ is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda and that its full implementation is critical for the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets.

15. We reiterate that States are strongly urged to refrain from promulgating and applying any unilateral economic, financial or trade measures not in accordance with international law and the Charter of the United Nations that impede the full achievement of economic and social development, in particular in developing countries.

II. Actions and investment pathways to support the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions for reinforcing the 2030 Agenda, accelerating poverty eradication and achieving all the Sustainable Development Goals

16. We call for renewed impetus and accelerated actions to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals and, to this end, the full implementation of the political declaration adopted at the 2023 Sustainable Development Goals Summit⁵ is crucial.

17. We reaffirm all the principles of the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development,⁶ including, inter alia, the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, as set out in principle 7 thereof.

18. We recognize that sustainable development cannot be realized without peace and security, and peace and security will be at risk without sustainable development. The 2030 Agenda recognizes the need to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies that provide equal access to justice and that are based on respect for human rights, including the right to development, on effective rule of law and good governance at all levels and on transparent, effective and accountable institutions. Factors that give rise to violence, insecurity and injustice, such as inequality, corruption, poor governance and illicit financial and arms flows, are addressed in the 2030 Agenda.

⁴ General Assembly resolution 69/313, annex.

⁵ General Assembly resolution 78/1, annex.

⁶ *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3–14 June 1992*, vol. I, *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigendum), resolution 1, annex I.

We must redouble our efforts to resolve or prevent conflict and to support post-conflict countries, including by ensuring that women have a role in peacebuilding and State-building. We call for further effective measures and actions to be taken, in conformity with international law, to remove the obstacles to the full realization of the right to self-determination of peoples living under colonial and foreign occupation, which continue to adversely affect their economic and social development as well as their environment.

19. We reaffirm, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the need to respect the territorial integrity and political independence of States.

20. People who are vulnerable must be empowered. Those whose needs are reflected in the 2030 Agenda include all children, youth, persons with disabilities, people living with HIV/AIDS, older persons, Indigenous Peoples, refugees, internally displaced persons and migrants. We intend to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and all peoples and for all segments of society. We will take action to combat inequalities within and among countries and pursue policies that stem the tide of rising inequality, including through social protection systems and universal health coverage. We will endeavour to identify those who are being left behind and reach those who are the furthest behind first.

21. We recognize the importance of integrated policy planning and moving towards inclusive, comprehensive social protection that leaves no one behind, including through contributory as well as non-contributory schemes, taking into account national circumstances.

22. We recognize the positive role and contribution of migrants for inclusive growth and sustainable development in countries of origin, transit and destination, including by enriching societies through human, socioeconomic and cultural capacities. We recommit to cooperate internationally to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration involving full respect for human rights and the humane treatment of migrants, regardless of their migration status, and to support countries of origin, transit and destination in the spirit of international cooperation, taking into account national circumstances.

23. We also recognize and affirm that the global fight against racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance and all their abhorrent and contemporary forms and manifestations is a matter of priority for the international community.

24. We recognize the special challenges facing all developing countries in pursuing sustainable development, in particular African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries, small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing middle-income countries and countries in conflict and post-conflict situations.

25. We welcome the Doha Political Declaration⁷ and the commitments made towards the timely and full implementation of the Doha Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries⁸ for the decade 2022–2031.

26. We reaffirm the recently adopted outcome document of the Fourth International Conference on Small Island Developing States, held in St. John's from 27 to 30 May 2024, the Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for Small Island Developing States: A

⁷ *Report of the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries, New York, 17 March 2022, and Doha, 5–9 March 2023 (A/CONF.219/2023/3)*, chap. I, resolution 2.

⁸ General Assembly resolution [76/258](#), annex.

Renewed Declaration for Resilient Prosperity, and urge timely action to ensure its full and effective implementation, as well as its monitoring, follow-up and review.

27. We are encouraged by the progress achieved in the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action for Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014–2024,⁹ while noting the gaps that remain, and look forward to the Third United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries to adopt a renewed framework for international support to address the special needs of landlocked developing countries and to strengthen partnerships between the landlocked developing countries and transit countries and their development partners.

28. We reaffirm support for the Agenda 2063 of the African Union and the programme of the New Partnership for Africa's Development,¹⁰ which are integral to the 2030 Agenda.

29. We call for advancing the elaboration of a specific inter-agency, comprehensive system-wide response plan, taking note of the mapping exercise conducted by the Secretary-General and his recommendations, that is aimed at better addressing the multidimensional nature of sustainable development and facilitating sustainable development cooperation and coordinated and inclusive support to middle-income countries based on their specific challenges and diverse needs and improving their resilience to shocks.

30. We commit to address ongoing financing gaps for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. We call for scaling up international public finance and improved access to concessional finance and commit to deliver more affordable, predictable, sustainable and sufficient finance to developing countries.

31. We encourage all relevant actors to better address interlinkages, synergies and trade-offs between the Sustainable Development Goals, enhancing policy coherence for sustainable development.

32. We recognize that large-scale and rapid changes will need to build on a foundation of science and research that is multidisciplinary, non-discriminatory, widely trusted, and accessible. We commit to bridging the digital, science, technology and innovation divides and the responsible, safe use of science, technology and innovation as drivers of sustainable development and to build the capacities necessary for sustainable transformations.

33. We commit to enhance access to and leverage science, technology and innovation and the benefits of digital transformation and financial inclusion for all.

34. We reaffirm that gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will make a crucial contribution to progress across all the Goals and targets. The achievement of full human potential and of sustainable development is not possible if one half of humanity continues to be denied its full human rights and opportunities. Women and girls must enjoy equal access to quality education, economic resources and political participation as well as equal opportunities with men and boys for employment, leadership and decision-making at all levels. We will work for a significant increase in investments to close the gender gap and strengthen support for institutions in relation to gender equality and the empowerment of women at the global, regional and national levels. All forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls will be eliminated, including through the engagement of men and boys. The systematic mainstreaming of a gender perspective in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda is crucial.

⁹ General Assembly resolution [69/137](#), annex II.

¹⁰ [A/57/304](#), annex.

35. We commit to enhancing global, regional, national and local partnerships for sustainable development, engaging all relevant stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector, academia and youth, recognizing the important contribution they can make towards achieving the 2030 Agenda, and the localization of the Sustainable Development Goals. We also reaffirm the importance of the regional dimension of sustainable development in addressing regional challenges and scaling up action among countries.

36. The 2030 Agenda remains our commitment to the children and youth of today so that they may achieve their full human potential, as critical agents of change and torchbearers of the 2030 Agenda for current and future generations.

Goal 1, End poverty in all its forms everywhere

37. We emphasize that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development.

38. We commit to provide and mobilize the necessary means of implementation to eradicate poverty and will support, as appropriate, national policies and strategies aimed at eradicating poverty in both urban and rural areas. We will strengthen social protections systems and expand coverage of social protection programmes, to reduce poverty and hunger.

39. We commit to foster sustainable, inclusive and sustained economic growth, employment and decent work for all, equal pay for work of equal value, economic diversification and productive capacities in developing countries, as drivers to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions and achieve sustainable development, including through strengthening support for micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises. We note the significance of decent jobs and social protection for eradicating poverty and, in this regard, take note with appreciation of the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions and encourage all countries to support its implementation. We commit to ensuring that persons with disabilities actively participate in and equally benefit from sustainable development efforts.

40. We commit to eradicate forced labour and human trafficking and end child labour in all its forms.

41. We recognize that poverty is a serious impediment to the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, including those living in rural areas, and that the feminization of poverty persists, emphasizing that the eradication of poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, acknowledging the mutually reinforcing links between the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls and the eradication of poverty, and stressing the importance of support for countries in their efforts to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions.

42. We are determined to make all efforts to eradicate poverty, including through strengthening multi-stakeholder partnerships and supporting synergies with other Sustainable Development Goals and targets, including those aimed at creating decent jobs, developing and involving financial, trade and technology solutions, strengthening social protection systems, and tailoring solutions to national circumstances and needs.

Goal 2, End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

43. We will accelerate actions to end hunger, food insecurity and all forms of malnutrition, including through access to safe and nutritious food all year round and

the promotion of sustainable, efficient, inclusive and resilient agrifood systems, while addressing the needs of developing countries and supporting the integration of each country in the global agrifood supply chain. We recognize the positive contribution and improved quality of multi-stakeholder partnerships as a means to engage all key actors. We reaffirm the right of everyone to adequate and nutritious food, consistent with the fundamental right of everyone to be free from hunger and all forms of malnutrition.

44. We further reaffirm the importance of achieving global food security and express deep concern over the levels of hunger, malnutrition and food insecurity, increasing the risk of famine around the world, especially in developing countries.

45. We recognize the need to make special efforts to meet nutritional needs, especially of women, children, older persons, Indigenous Peoples, rural and local communities, persons with disabilities, as well as of those living in vulnerable situations, and recognize that infant and young child mortality can be reduced through the improved nutritional status of women of reproductive age.

46. We commit to end hunger, malnutrition and poverty, in particular rural poverty, by promoting more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems; strengthening policy coherence; increasing agricultural productivity, efficiency, sustainability and resilience, inter alia, through agricultural technology, promoting family farming and reducing food loss and waste; employment generation in non-agricultural sectors; integrated water resources management for improving rural livelihoods; implementing safe, nutritious and efficient school feeding programmes that provide nutritious diets; and strengthening rural development and taking actions to better address the needs of rural communities.

47. We recognize that more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable agrifood systems have a fundamental role to play in promoting healthy diets and improving nutrition and preventing and controlling non-communicable diseases, and welcome the formulation and implementation of national policies aimed at eradicating malnutrition in all its forms and strengthening sustainable agrifood systems so as to make more nutritious diets, including traditional healthy diets, available and accessible to all, while reaffirming that accessible health, water and sanitation systems for all must be strengthened to end malnutrition.

48. We note the need for actions to support sustainable fisheries and sustainable aquaculture for sufficient, safe and nutritious food, recognizing the central role of healthy oceans in resilient food systems and for achieving the 2030 Agenda.

49. We stress the importance of the development and application of science, technology and innovation and related knowledge management and communications systems in ensuring food security by 2030, encouraging cooperation on agricultural science and technology innovation among countries and reducing technology barriers and restrictions on high-tech exchanges, and encourage the adoption of the most advanced and appropriate information technology, such as the Internet, mobile platforms, meteorology, big data and cloud computing, in agriculture systems in order to support the efforts of smallholder and family farmers to increase their resilience, productivity and incomes and include them in the development of research and innovation agendas while reducing negative environmental impacts, and leveraging the potential for innovation among young family farmers in connecting local knowledge with new solutions.

50. We recommit to the promotion of a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory, fair, inclusive and equitable multilateral trading system, with the World Trade Organization at its core.

Goal 13, Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts

51. We stress the urgency of enhancing ambition for climate action in the implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change¹¹ and the Paris Agreement¹² in relation to climate mitigation, adaptation and the provision of the means of implementation, especially finance to developing countries.

52. We recognize the specific needs and special circumstances of developing countries, especially those that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, and commit to continue efforts to enhance support for developing countries.

53. We note with alarm and serious concern the findings of the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

54. We express deep concern regarding the significant financial costs associated with loss and damage for developing countries resulting in a growing debt burden and impairing the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals.

55. We welcome the operationalization of the funding arrangements, including the Fund, referred to in decisions 1/CP.28 and 5/CMA.5,¹³ and the pledges of 792 million United States dollars to the funding arrangements, including 661 million dollars to the Fund; urge developed country parties to continue to provide support and encourage other parties to provide or continue to provide support, on a voluntary basis, for activities to address loss and damage in line with decisions 1/CP.28 and 5/CMA.5, and invite financial contributions with developed country parties continuing to take the lead to provide financial resources. We will support the Santiago network for averting and minimizing and addressing loss and damage associated with the adverse effects of climate change.

56. We commit to enhance synergies towards the effective implementation of national climate and development policies and actions, contributing to the achievement of global climate goals and delivering on the 2030 Agenda. We must ensure transition pathways that are just, equitable and inclusive, across all sectors to leave no one behind.

57. We welcome the decisions adopted at the twenty-eighth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the eighteenth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol and the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement, held in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, including the decisions adopted under the United Arab Emirates consensus, which includes the outcome of the first global stocktake of the Paris Agreement,¹⁴ at the fifth session of the Conference of the Parties serving as the Meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement.

58. We reaffirm our resolve to set, at the twenty-ninth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, a new collective quantified goal from a floor of 100 billion dollars per year, taking into account the needs and priorities of developing countries.

59. We note with concern the growing gap between the needs of developing country parties, in particular those due to the increasing impacts of climate change and their increased indebtedness, and the support provided and mobilized for their efforts to

¹¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1771, No. 30822.

¹² Adopted under the UNFCCC in [FCCC/CP/2015/10/Add.1](#), decision 1/CP.21.

¹³ See [FCCC/CP/2023/11/Add.1](#) and [FCCC/PA/CMA/2023/16/Add.1](#).

¹⁴ [FCCC/PA/CMA/2023/16/Add.1](#), decision 1/CMA.5.

implement their nationally determined contributions, highlighting that such needs are currently estimated at 5.8 trillion to 5.9 trillion dollars for the pre-2030 period.

60. We reaffirm the Paris Agreement temperature goal of holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, recognize that the impacts of climate change will be much lower at the temperature increase of 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared with 2 degrees Celsius, and resolve to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius, also recognize that limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius requires rapid, deep and sustained reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions, including reducing global carbon dioxide emissions, by 43 per cent by 2030 relative to the 2019 level, and to net zero by or around mid-century, and further recognize that this requires accelerated action in this critical decade, on the basis of the best available scientific knowledge and equity, reflecting common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities in the light of different national circumstances and in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty, and, in accordance with article 4 of the Paris Agreement, reiterate the aim to reach global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible, recognizing that peaking will take longer for developing countries, and to undertake rapid reductions thereafter in accordance with best available science, so as to achieve a balance between anthropogenic emissions by sources and removals by sinks of greenhouse gases in the second half of this century, on the basis of equity, and in the context of sustainable development and efforts to eradicate poverty.

Goal 16, Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

61. We commit to promote peaceful, prosperous, inclusive societies and safe communities for achieving sustainable development, and to build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Good governance, rule of law, human rights, fundamental freedoms, equal access to fair justice systems, and measures to combat corruption and curb illicit financial flows will be integral to our efforts. We emphasize the importance of good governance and strong institutions as key enablers of sustainable development.

62. We emphasize the importance of ensuring public access to information and protecting fundamental freedoms, in accordance with national legislation and international agreements.

63. We recognize that democracy, good governance and the rule of law, as well as an enabling environment at the national and international levels, are essential for sustainable development, including sustained and inclusive economic growth, social development, environmental protection and the eradication of poverty and hunger.

64. We recommit to preventing and combating illicit financial flows and strengthening international cooperation and good practices on assets recovery and return. We reaffirm our commitment to strive to eliminate safe havens that create incentives for the transfer abroad of stolen assets and illicit financial flows. We will implement our obligations to prevent and combat corruption, bribery and money-laundering in all their forms enshrined in the existing international architecture, in particular those prescribed in the United Nations Convention against Corruption¹⁵ and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.¹⁶

¹⁵ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.

65. We note that the multidimensional nature of today's conflicts calls for greater investment in prevention, including attention to the structural causes and strategies for promoting peace, justice and the rule of law.

66. We acknowledge that in many parts of the world armed conflicts and instability have persisted or intensified, causing untold human suffering and undermining the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals. Our efforts to prevent and resolve conflicts, address inequality and foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies have often been fragmented and insufficient and have been hindered in the current global context.

67. We encourage Member States, in accordance with their domestic legislation and within their capacity, to ensure equal access to justice and application of the law to all.

68. We reaffirm that the full, equal, effective and meaningful participation of women in all stages of peace processes, conflict prevention, conflict resolution and peacebuilding is one of the essential factors for the maintenance and promotion of international peace and security.

Goal 17, Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development

69. We are deeply concerned by the marked increase of the estimated Sustainable Development Goal financing gap to between 2.5 trillion and 4 trillion dollars annually for developing countries and recognize the urgency of providing affordable, predictable, sustainable and sufficient development finance to developing countries from all sources.

70. We urge developed countries to scale up and fulfil their respective official development assistance commitments, including the commitment by many developed countries to achieve the target of 0.7 per cent of gross national income for official development assistance (ODA/GNI) to developing countries and 0.15 to 0.20 per cent of ODA/GNI to the least developed countries.

71. We welcome the Secretary-General's efforts to address the Sustainable Development Goal financing gap through a Sustainable Development Goal stimulus. We will take actions to advance the Secretary-General's proposal in a timely manner. We look forward to further discussions at the United Nations as well as at other relevant forums and institutions.

72. We stress that the scaling up and improvement of access to finance, including concessional finance, capacity-building and technology transfer on mutually agreed terms to developing countries are of the utmost importance to realize the Sustainable Development Goals.

73. We acknowledge ongoing discussions on measures of progress on sustainable development that complement or go beyond gross domestic product to take a more inclusive approach to international cooperation, including in the consideration of informing access to development finance and technical cooperation. We look forward to the decision on the establishment of a high-level group of experts to advance the selection of multidimensional indicators that complement or go beyond gross domestic product, taking into consideration the relevant work of all relevant stakeholders, including the Statistical Commission, regional economic commissions, United Nations agencies and international financial institutions, with the purpose of informing the upcoming United Nations intergovernmental process on going beyond gross domestic product, including the need to design robust and technically sound measures of progress while also recognizing the value of evidence-based approaches to evaluate progress to date towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

74. We encourage the international community to consider multidimensional vulnerability, including the potential use of a multidimensional vulnerability index, as criteria to access concessional finance.

75. We reaffirm that the 2030 Agenda, including the Sustainable Development Goals, can be met within the framework of a revitalized Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, supported by the concrete policies and actions outlined in the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, which is an integral part of the 2030 Agenda. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda supports, complements and helps contextualize the 2030 Agenda's means of implementation targets. These relate to domestic public resources, domestic and international private business and finance, international development cooperation, international trade as an engine for development, debt and debt sustainability, addressing systemic issues and science, technology, innovation and capacity-building, and data, monitoring and follow-up.

76. We recognize that domestic resources are first and foremost generated by economic growth. We recognize the critical importance of creating an enabling environment at all levels to increase domestic resources and ensure that developing countries have the necessary fiscal space to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Sound social, environmental and economic policies, including countercyclical fiscal policies, adequate fiscal space, good governance at all levels and democratic and transparent institutions responsive to the needs of the people are necessary to achieve our goals.

77. We support reform of the international financial architecture. We also support international financial institution and multilateral development bank reform as a key for large-scale Sustainable Development Goal-related investments in order to better address global challenges. The international financial architecture, including its business models and financing capacities, must be made more fit for purpose, equitable and responsive to the financing needs of developing countries, to broaden and strengthen the voice and participation of developing countries in international economic decision-making, norm-setting, and global economic governance. We commit to engage in inclusive intergovernmental discussions on the reform of international financial institutions in forthcoming processes, including at the United Nations, taking into account current and ongoing initiatives.

78. We call for improved international debt mechanisms to support debt review, debt payment suspensions, and debt restructuring, as appropriate, with an expansion of support and eligibility to vulnerable countries in need. We commit to continuing to assist developing countries in avoiding a build-up of unsustainable debt and in implementing resilience measures so as to reduce the risk of relapsing into another debt crisis. We recognize the importance of new and emerging challenges and vulnerabilities in regard to developing country external and domestic debt sustainability. We call for strengthened multilateral actions and coordination by all creditors to address the deteriorating debt situation.

79. We reiterate the call for scaling up debt swaps for Sustainable Development Goals, including debt swaps for climate and nature, and debt swaps for food security, as appropriate, while recognizing that debt swaps cannot replace broader debt treatments in unsustainable debt situations, to allow developing countries to use debt service payments for investments in sustainable development.

80. We commend the surpassing of the target of 100 billion dollars of special drawing rights channelling and equivalent contributions. We underscore the critical importance of delivering on these pledges in a timely manner. We call for the urgent voluntary rechannelling of additional special drawing rights for countries most in need, including through multilateral development banks, while respecting relevant legal frameworks and preserving the reserve asset character of special drawing rights.

We recommend the exploration of further voluntary options related to special drawing rights that could serve the needs of developing member countries of the International Monetary Fund and will explore ways for future allocations of special drawing rights to benefit those countries most in need.

81. We welcome General Assembly resolution [78/231](#) and look forward to continuing the preparations for the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, to be held in Spain from 30 June to 3 July 2025 to, inter alia, assess the progress made in the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus of the International Conference on Financing for Development,¹⁷ the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development¹⁸ and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, identifying obstacles and constraints encountered in the achievement of the goals and objectives agreed therein as well as actions and initiatives to overcome these constraints, and to address new and emerging issues, including in the context of the urgent need to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals and to support reform of the international financial architecture.

82. We commit to supporting the implementation of integrated national financing frameworks, in alignment with nationally owned sustainable development strategies, in order to further implement the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and recognize their potential to contribute to further coordination between all relevant actors engaged in-country.

83. We emphasize that promoting inclusive and effective international tax cooperation contributes significantly to national efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, as it enables countries to effectively mobilize their domestic resources. We stress that the current international tax governance structures need improvements. We are committed to strengthening the inclusiveness and effectiveness of tax cooperation at the United Nations and support the outline and modalities of the Ad Hoc Committee to Draft Terms of Reference for a United Nations Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation and look forward to its work. We call upon all countries to continue engaging constructively in the process towards developing a United Nations framework convention on international tax cooperation.

84. We welcome the meaningful involvement and participation of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and other multilateral development banks in the high-level political forum on sustainable development.

85. We stress the need for technical assistance and capacity-building support for the promotion of investment and the development of project pipelines and bankable projects. We recognize the important role of the United Nations development system, the World Bank and other multilateral institutions in addressing the capacity and funding gaps in quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure investment, in particular in developing countries, working through existing initiatives. We call upon the United Nations system to continue to advance innovative solutions that can unlock Sustainable Development Goal investments, including through the Sustainable Development Goals Investment Fair, the Global Pilot Programme on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals Road Maps (STI for SDGs road maps) and the United Nations Global Compact, and encourage enhanced efforts by the Global Investors for Sustainable Development Alliance.

86. We welcome and reiterate the role of international development cooperation, especially North-South cooperation, which remains a fundamental catalyst for

¹⁷ *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18–22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

¹⁸ General Assembly resolution [63/239](#), annex.

sustainable development. We recognize that South-South cooperation is an important element of international cooperation for development as a complement to, not a substitute for, North-South cooperation. We also acknowledge the importance of triangular cooperation.

87. We will continue to take action to bridge the digital divides and spread the benefits of digitalization. We will expand participation of all countries, in particular developing countries, in the digital economy, including by enhancing their digital infrastructure connectivity, building their capacities and access to technological innovations through stronger partnerships and improving digital literacy. We will leverage digital technology to expand the foundations on which to strengthen social protection systems. We commit to building capacities for inclusive participation in the digital economy and strong partnerships to bring technological innovations to all countries. We reaffirm that the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online. We look forward to the elaboration of a Global Digital Compact to bridge the digital divides and to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals.

88. We recognize that technology can enable rapid transformations for bridging the existing digital divides and accelerate progress for inclusive and sustainable development, and, to this end, encourage investment in digital public infrastructure.

89. We pledge to take action to strengthen international, national and local data systems efforts to collect high-quality, timely, relevant, disaggregated and reliable data on Sustainable Development Goals progress and to intensify efforts to strengthen data and statistical capacities in developing countries. We will continue to strengthen our efforts to collect, analyse and disseminate relevant, reliable and disaggregated data for better monitoring and policymaking to accelerate the achievement of the 2030 Agenda. We commit to increasing the availability of Sustainable Development Goal data and closing Goal data gaps at all levels, increasing financing for data and statistics, and enhancing capacity-building support to developing countries.

90. We look forward to the fifth United Nations World Data Forum, to be held from 12 to 15 November 2024, in Medellin, Colombia.

91. We look forward to the Summit of the Future in 2024 as an important opportunity to, inter alia, accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals.

92. We commit to strengthen the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at all levels, including through involving and empowering local authorities to ensure local ownership of the Sustainable Development Goals, in particular through the empowerment of citizens, communities, civil society and local organizations, in order to ensure local implementation of development priorities.

Voluntary national reviews and other priority issues

93. We commend the 36 countries that presented voluntary national reviews at the 2024 high-level political forum on sustainable development.¹⁹ We recognize that the voluntary national reviews presented by countries reflect their efforts to integrate the Sustainable Development Goals into national plans and policies and acknowledge the need to continue supporting countries in the voluntary national reviews, including the work of the Group of Friends of the Voluntary National Reviews. We encourage all

¹⁹ Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belize, Brazil, Chad, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Georgia, Guinea, Honduras, Kenya, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Libya, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Oman, Palau, Peru, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Solomon Islands, South Sudan, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda, Vanuatu, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

countries to use the key findings of the voluntary national reviews and the sharing of locally driven development approaches and pathways, to accelerate actions to implement the 2030 Agenda.

94. We encourage countries to consider developing national road maps of voluntary national reviews for presentation until 2030 and to support local authorities in the preparation of voluntary local reviews.

95. We encourage the full, equal and meaningful participation of all relevant stakeholders, including local governments, civil society organizations and academia, in the design, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and reporting of national sustainable development strategies and in the preparation of voluntary national reviews.

96. We will strengthen the voluntary national reviews, including through more evidence-based reviews that are supported by participatory processes involving all relevant stakeholders.

97. We further encourage strengthening of the quality of voluntary national reviews by a more systematic use of accurate and comparable data and anticipatory models, as well as including statistical annexes, taking into account national circumstances and capabilities.



Votenliste

Stand: 24. September 2024

Ifd. Nr.	Drs.-Nr.	Art	Titel	Berichterstatter	Nachhaltigkeitsbezug	Aussagen zur Nachhaltigkeit	Aussagen plausibel	Votum der BE
1	20/12685	VO	<u>Einundzwanzigste Verordnung zur Änderung der Außenwirtschaftsverordnung</u>	Maik Außendorf, MdB Ralph Brinkhaus, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
2	435/24	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Beschleunigung der Genehmigungsverfahren von Geothermieranlagen, Wärmepumpen und Wärmespeichern sowie zur Änderung weiterer rechtlicher Rahmenbedingungen für den klimaneutralen Ausbau der Wärmeversorgung</u>	Maik Außendorf, MdB Ralph Brinkhaus, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
3	434/24	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Durchführung der EU-Verordnung über europäische Daten-Governance (Daten-Governance-Gesetz - DGG)</u>	Maik Außendorf, MdB Ralph Brinkhaus, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
4	429/24	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Entwicklung und Erprobung eines Online-Verfahrens in der Zivilgerichtsbarkeit</u>	Muhanad Al-Halak, MdB Dr. Rainer Kraft, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
5	428/24	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Stärkung der Herzgesundheit (Gesundes-Herz-Gesetz - GHG)</u>	Tina Rudolph, MdB Volker Mayer-Lay, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
6	424/24 20/12770	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes über die Feststellung eines Nachtrags zum Bundeshaushaltsplan für das Haushaltsjahr 2024 (Nachtragshaushaltsgesetz 2024)</u>	Armand Zorn, MdB Dr. Andreas Lenz, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte



lfd. Nr.	Drs.-Nr.	Art	Titel	Berichterstatter	Nachhaltigkeitsbezug	Aussagen zur Nachhaltigkeit	Aussagen plausibel	Votum der BE
7	423/23	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Änderung des Strafgesetzbuches - Stärkung des Schutzes von Vollstreckungsbeamten und Rettungskräften sowie von dem Gemeinwohl dienenden Tätigkeiten</u>	Muhanad Al-Halak, MdB Dr. Rainer Kraft, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
8	400/24	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zu dem Vierten Protokoll vom 18. September 2023 zur Änderung des Vertrags vom 27. Oktober 1956 zwischen der Bundesrepublik Deutschland, der Französischen Republik und dem Großherzogtum Luxemburg über die Schiffbarmachung der Mosel</u>	Nils Gründer, MdB Felix Schreiner, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
9	399/24 20/12784	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Dritten Gesetzes zur Änderung des Energiewirtschaftsgesetzes</u>	Maik Außendorf, MdB Ralph Brinkhaus, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
10	398/24	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Änderung des Außenhandelsstatistikgesetzes und weiterer statistischer Gesetze (Außenhandelsstatistikänderungsgesetz - AHStatG-ÄndG)</u>	Maik Außendorf, MdB Ralph Brinkhaus, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
11	397/24	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes über die Feststellung des Wirtschaftsplans des ERP-Sondervermögens für das Jahr 2025 (ERP-Wirtschaftsplangesetz 2025 - ERPWiPlanG 2025)</u>	Maik Außendorf, MdB Ralph Brinkhaus, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
12	395/24	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Zweiten Gesetzes zur Änderung des Schornsteinfeger-Handwerksgesetzes</u>	Maik Außendorf, MdB Ralph Brinkhaus, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte



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13	393/24 20/12773	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Zehnten Gesetzes zur Änderung des Regionalisierungsgesetzes</u>	Nils Gründer, MdB Felix Schreiner, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
14	392/24	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Vierten Gesetzes zur Änderung des Güterkraftverkehrsgesetzes und anderer Gesetze</u>	Nils Gründer, MdB Felix Schreiner, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
15	391/24	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Beschleunigung des Ausbaus von Telekommunikationsnetzen (TK-Netzausbau-Beschleunigungs-Gesetz)</u>	Nils Gründer, MdB Felix Schreiner, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
16	390/24 20/12789	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Sechsten Gesetzes zur Verbesserung rehabilitierungs-rechtlicher Vorschriften für Opfer der politischen Verfolgung in der ehemaligen DDR</u>	Muhanad Al-Halak, MdB Dr. Rainer Kraft, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
17	388/24 20/12788	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Änderung der Höfeordnung und zur Änderung der Verfahrensordnung für Höfesachen</u>	Muhanad Al-Halak, MdB Dr. Rainer Kraft, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
18	387/24	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Änderung des Zuständigkeitsstreitwerts der Amtsgerichte, zum Ausbau der Spezialisierung der Justiz in Zivilsachen sowie zur Änderung weiterer prozessualer Regelungen</u>	Muhanad Al-Halak, MdB Dr. Rainer Kraft, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
19	386/24	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Modernisierung des Schiedsverfahrensrechts</u>	Muhanad Al-Halak, MdB Dr. Rainer Kraft, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte



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20	385/24 20/12787	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Umsetzung der Richtlinie (EU) 2022/2464 des Europäischen Parlaments und des Rates vom 14. Dezember 2022 zur Änderung der Verordnung (EU) Nr. 537/2014 und der Richtlinien 2004/109/EG, 2006/43/EG und 2013/34/EU hinsichtlich der Nachhaltigkeitsberichterstattung von Unternehmen</u>	Muhanad Al-Halak, MdB Dr. Rainer Kraft, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
21	384/24	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Fünften Gesetzes zur Änderung des Aufstiegsfortbildungsförderungsgesetzes</u>	Katharina Willkomm, MdB Dr. Stefan Kaufmann, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
22	379/24		<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Reform der Notfallversorgung</u>	Tina Rudolph, MdB Volker Mayer-Lay, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
23	378/24	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Dritten Gesetzes zur Änderung des Transplantationsgesetzes - Novellierung der Regelungen zur Lebendorganspende und weitere Änderungen</u>	Tina Rudolph, MdB Volker Mayer-Lay, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
24	377/24	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Schaffung einer Digitalagentur für Gesundheit (Gesundheits-Digitalagentur-Gesetz - GDAG)</u>	Tina Rudolph, MdB Volker Mayer-Lay, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
25	376/24 20/12790		<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Stärkung der Öffentlichen Gesundheit</u>	Tina Rudolph, MdB Volker Mayer-Lay, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
26	375/24 20/12783	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur steuerlichen Freistellung des Existenzminimums 2024</u>	Armand Zorn, MdB Dr. Andreas Lenz, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte



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27	374/24	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Übertragung von Mitteln des Restrukturierungsfonds auf den Finanzmarktstabilisierungsfonds (Restrukturierungsfonds-Übertragungsgesetz - RStruktFÜG)</u>	Armand Zorn, MdB Dr. Andreas Lenz, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
28	373/24 20/12778	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Fortentwicklung des Steuerrechts und zur Anpassung des Einkommensteuertarifs (Steuerfortentwicklungsgesetz - SteFeG)</u>	Armand Zorn, MdB Dr. Andreas Lenz, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
29	371/24 20/12772	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Haushaltsbegleitgesetzes 2025</u>	Armand Zorn, MdB Dr. Andreas Lenz, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
30	370/24 20/12781	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Änderung des Gesetzes über die Statistiken der öffentlichen Finanzen und des Personals im öffentlichen Dienst sowie zur Anpassung nationaler Rechtsvorschriften an die Verordnung (EU) 2023/2631 über europäische grüne Anleihen sowie fakultative Offenlegungen zu als ökologisch nachhaltig vermarkteten Anleihen und zu an Nachhaltigkeitsziele geknüpften Anleihen</u>	Armand Zorn, MdB Dr. Andreas Lenz, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
31	369/24 20/12780	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Jahressteuergesetzes 2024 (Jahressteuergesetz 2024 - JStG 2024)</u>	Armand Zorn, MdB Dr. Andreas Lenz, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
32	367/24 20/12782	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Durchsetzung tiergesundheitsrechtlicher und bestimmter kontrollrechtlicher Vorschriften der Europäischen Union und zur Änderung der Binnenmarkt-Tierseuchenschutzverordnung</u>	Rita Hagl-Kehl, MdB Dr. Wolfgang Stefinger, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte



lfd. Nr.	Drs.-Nr.	Art	Titel	Berichterstatter	Nachhaltigkeitsbezug	Aussagen zur Nachhaltigkeit	Aussagen plausibel	Votum der BE
33	366/24	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Änderung des Seefischereigesetzes und zur Umsetzung weiterer unionsrechtlicher Vorgaben</u>	Rita Hagl-Kehl, MdB Dr. Wolfgang Stefinger, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
34	249/24 20/12198	GE	Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Änderung des Abkommens über die Internationale Bank für Wiederaufbau und Entwicklung	Sanae Abdi, MdB Albrecht Glaser, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
35	248/24 20/12202	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zu dem Übergangsabkommen für ein Wirtschaftspartnerschaftsabkommen vom 22. Januar 2009 zwischen der Europäischen Union und ihren Mitgliedstaaten einerseits und der Vertragspartei Zentralafrika andererseits</u>	Sanae Abdi, MdB Albrecht Glaser, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
36	247/24 20/12201	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zu dem Wirtschaftspartnerschaftsabkommen vom 10. Juni 2016 zwischen der Europäischen Union und ihren Mitgliedstaaten einerseits und den SADC-WPA-Staaten andererseits</u>	Sanae Abdi, MdB Albrecht Glaser, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
37	246/24 20/12200	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zu dem Interims-Wirtschaftspartnerschaftsabkommen vom 28. Juli 2016 zwischen Ghana einerseits und der Europäischen Union und ihren Mitgliedstaaten andererseits</u>	Sanae Abdi, MdB Albrecht Glaser, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
38	245/24 20/12199	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zu dem Interims-Wirtschaftspartnerschaftsabkommen vom 22. Januar 2009 zwischen Côte d'Ivoire einerseits und der Europäischen Union und ihren Mitgliedstaaten andererseits</u>	Sanae Abdi, MdB Albrecht Glaser, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte



lfd. Nr.	Drs.-Nr.	Art	Titel	Berichterstatter	Nachhaltigkeitsbezug	Aussagen zur Nachhaltigkeit	Aussagen plausibel	Votum der BE
39	242/24 20/12197	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Dritten Gesetzes zur Neuordnung des Wehrdisziplinarrechts und zur Änderung weiterer soldatenrechtlicher Vorschriften (3. WehrDiszNOG)</u>	Dr. Carolin Wagner, MdB Dr. Rainer Kraft, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
40	239/24 20/12350	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Ersten Gesetzes zur Änderung des Kulturgutschutzgesetzes (KGSGÄndG)</u>	Johannes Wagner, MdB Dr. Stefan Kaufmann, MdB	teilweise	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
41	238/24 20/12660	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes über Maßnahmen zur Förderung des deutschen Films (Filmförderungsgesetz - FFG)</u>	Johannes Wagner, MdB Dr. Stefan Kaufmann, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
42	237/24 20/11851	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zum Zweiten IT-Änderungsstaatsvertrag</u>	Muhanad Al-Halak, MdB Maria-Lena Weiss, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte
43	231/24 20/12716	GE	<u>Entwurf eines Gesetzes zur Änderung des Produktsicherheitsgesetzes und weiterer produktsicherheitsrechtlicher Vorschriften</u>	Rasha Nasr, MdB Felix Schreiner, MdB	ja	ja	ja	keine Prüfbitte