



**The President
of the
Economic and Social Council**

31 July 2023

Excellency,

I am writing in relation to the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) to be conducted at the July 2024 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), which will be convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council.

I would like to inform you that, to date, expressions of interest for presenting VNRs at the 2024 HLPF have been received from Austria, Azerbaijan, Estonia, Guinea, Honduras, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mauritania, Nepal, Niger, Oman, Palau, Peru, Syrian Arab Republic, Uganda and Zimbabwe, which will be duly considered as part of the elaboration of the list of VNRs for 2024.

In line with existing practice, please note that the maximum number of presentations during the 2024 HLPF cannot exceed forty-two (42). In finalizing the list, I will give priority, if needed, to countries who will be presenting their first or second voluntary national review. As you are aware, while recognizing the voluntary nature of the VNRs, the General Assembly, in its resolution on the HLPF review (75/290B) encouraged countries to conduct a review once during the four-year cycle of the HLPF (annex, paragraph 18).

I wish to thank H.E. Mr. Antonio Manuel Revilla Lagdameo, Permanent Representative of the Philippines, and H.E. Mr. Omar Hilale, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations, for their continued leadership of the Group of Friends of VNRs and for the Group's important contribution and support to the countries that presented VNRs at the July 2023 HLPF.

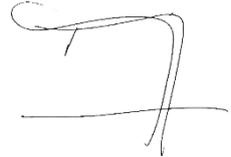
The VNRs enable follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). They also facilitate the sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned, with a view to accelerating progress. Remaining mindful of the voluntary nature of the VNRs, I would particularly encourage countries that have not yet presented a VNR, and countries that have presented a VNR only once, to consider doing so at the July 2024 HLPF.

All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
Economic and Social Council
New York

It is my intention to review and close the list of VNRs for 2024 in the first week of October and would greatly appreciate receiving expressions of interest by **Friday, 29 September 2023**.

I look forward to working with all of you in preparing for a successful 2024 HLPF.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive 'P' followed by a horizontal line and a vertical stroke that loops back to the top.

Paula Narváez
President of ECOSOC