

GER Statement – 1st informal consultations: Review of ECOSOC/HLPF (15 Feb 2024)

Distinguished co-facilitators,

- I thank you for convening this first consultation.
- Germany aligns itself with the statement provided by the EU and would like to add some comments in national capacity.
- From our perspective, enhancing the HLPF's effectiveness to ensure an accelerated implementation of the 2030 Agenda, should be the overall objective of the review.

What do Member States envision as priorities for the reviews of the arrangements contained in General Assembly resolutions 751290 A and 151290 B and their annexes?

- The outcomes of the HLPF Review should safeguard the overall ambition, credibility and integrity of the 2030 Agenda and the effectivity of its follow-up and review processes. It is pivotal to ensure continued success of the HLPF as a platform at the center of global implementation efforts for the 2030 Agenda, building on the momentum it creates.

How to make use of the impetus of the SDG Summit 2023 as well as the preparatory process of the Summit of the Future to strengthen ECOSOC and accelerate coordinated implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development?

- In view of the outcomes of the SDG Summit and the expected discussions at the Summit of the Future, the coming HLPFs should present clear follow-up processes on the outcomes of these summits and uphold their momentum. HLPF 2024 bridges the gap between both summits. This offers the opportunity to use this year's HLPF as an incubator for the Summit of the Future and to uphold its initial goal to booster-shot the 2030 Agenda. By doing so, the HLPF has also the potential to moderate diverging positions between different stakeholder groups, which helps to re-gain trust among member states.

For the review of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, how to mobilize the forum to achieve maximum progress on the SDGs in the light of the fast-approaching target year of 2030?

- To accelerate the progress on SDG implementation, the HLPF's discussions, as well as the ministerial declaration should further reflect the recommendations of the GSDR 2023 and follow-up on its plan of action. The format's agenda should prioritize discussions on such levels that help booster SDG implementation in the next years.
- It is further important to enhance the accountability and peer learning character of the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs), including by strengthening the active participation of stakeholders in the VNR process. It would be beneficial to allocate space on the HLPF website for uploading reports complementary to the VNRs by civil society that could be referenced in the interactive debate. In addition, the stakeholders should have the possibility to be consulted on the content of the HLPF outcome document. HLPF should also give a certain orientation on the further process of the

development of a global transformation framework, based on national action plans, as recommended by the latest GSDR.

- Other relevant UN and stakeholder meetings at various levels should be encouraged to conduct an in-depth analysis and stocktaking for the specific goals under review prior to the HLPF.

What would be the best approach for selecting the annual themes for ECOSOC and the HLPF for 2025-2027 to follow the four-year cycle (2024-2027) of the HLPF? What set of SDGs would you like the HLPF to review in-depth in each of these years?

- As the COVID-19 pandemic was a reoccurring issue in the themes of the past years, it is now time to move on from crisis mode and focus on more structural issues. For example, the discussions at the 2023 SDG-Summit underlined that rising inequalities and unequal international structures, including the financial architecture, are great obstacles, hindering the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. As such, this would be an important topic to be discussed at the HLPF.
- The practice of selecting overarching themes should be maintained. They address the integrated approach of the 2030 Agenda. In the next years, the reviews should focus on those SDGs for which the Global Sustainable Development Report has identified the greatest need to catch up.

I am certain that together we will be able to utilize this review process to strengthen the HLPF as the key forum of the 2030 Agenda.

Thank you.