Swiss Confederation

78<sup>e</sup> Session de l'Assemblée générale

Points 13 de l'ordre du jour

Examen de l'ECOSOC et HLPF

Première consultation informelle

New York, le 15 février 2024

Déclaration de la Suisse

Dear co-facilitators,

Let me begin by congratulating you on your appointment as co-facilitators for this important process. We look forward to receiving a zero draft and to contributing constructively to a process that aims at strengthening both the ECOSOC cycle and the HLPF and empower them to boost and accelerate sustainable development and the achievement of the SDGs.

Let me stress that my delegation welcomes in particular that the review of the ECOSOC and the HLPF is conducted as one, unified process. In this regard, we propose to work towards one single resolution as the outcome of these consultations.

With a view to accelerate our collective action, we hope that this review process will enable a rationalization of the ECOSOC cycle, by strengthening its key segments, in particular the FfD-Forum, the OAS, the HAS and Transition Meeting, the STI-Forum and the HLPF, while streamlining other meetings which may have been less able to add significant value.

In general, we believe that the meaningful inclusion and participation of stakeholders, including parliaments, as well as a systematic integration of a gender-perspective are key elements underpinning the work across the ECOSOC-cycle and the HLPF.

In terms of content, let me highlight a few specific points for your consideration:

## On the HLPF:

- The Voluntary National Reviews are a key element of the HLPF, providing valuable opportunities for peer-learning, and should be further strengthened.
- The contributions of local and regional actors to the achievement of the SDGs could be highlighted and promoted further.
- With regards to the selection of SDGs to be reviewed, it remains our position that each SDG be reviewed once every four-year cycle, with SDG 17 being reviewed annually.

## On the OAS:

- The segment could be strengthened by including a standing item on the RC-system so that the segment can better utilize its governing role in this regard.
- The segment should systematically be briefed and discuss the reports of the Executive Boards of the Funds and Programmes.
- And the segment should enhance the governance and oversight for and the acceleration of system-wide performance and results in relation to the 2030 Agenda.

## On the STI-Forum:

• In the context of rapid technological change and growing importance of our discussions on how to better harness digital technologies for the acceleration of the 2030 Agenda, the STI-Forum could be further strengthened by considering more systematically the inputs elaborated by relevant UN processes and fora, in particular the Internet Governance Forum. For instance, the IGF's Leadership Panel could be invited to address the STI-Forum annually to brief on the key outcomes of its deliberations.

Lastly, we take note that the issue of internally displaced people has been a matter of regular discussion in the ECOSOC, in particular in the Transition Meeting. Considering the growing urgency - from a sustainable development perspective - of finding and implementing durable solutions for IDPs, we believe it would be essential to anchor the issue more firmly in the agenda of the Council.

Dear Co-Facilitators,

We look forward to working constructively with you and all delegations in this process. You have our full support.

I thank you.