

2024 General Assembly reviews of ECOSOC and HLPF

Compilation of inputs by NGOs and MGOS to the Co-Facilitators for the virtual informal briefing of stakeholders on Tuesday, 20 February 2024

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The recommendations put forth by the Amazon Conservation Team stress the significance of including indigenous peoples, local communities, and civil society organizations in the review processes of General Assembly resolutions 75/290 A and 75/290 B, and their annexes. This emphasis on participation acknowledges the invaluable perspectives and traditional knowledge held by these groups, particularly concerning sustainable development and environmental conservation efforts. In Latin America and the Caribbean, indigenous peoples confront a host of challenges, including struggles for land rights, environmental degradation, cultural preservation, and social marginalization.

Land grabbing, extractive industries, and deforestation pose significant threats to their traditional territories and ways of life, while limited access to education, healthcare, and basic services perpetuates cycles of poverty and inequality within indigenous communities. Addressing these issues necessitates recognizing the rights and agency of indigenous peoples and ensuring their meaningful participation in decision-making processes that affect their lives and territories. Furthermore, leveraging the momentum of the SDG Summit 2023 and the preparatory process of the Summit of the Future presents an opportunity to generate political will and secure binding commitments for the advancement of the 2030 Agenda. By prioritizing the empowerment of marginalized groups like indigenous peoples, these summits can ensure inclusive and equitable development, particularly in regions like Latin America and the Caribbean, where indigenous populations often bear the brunt of environmental degradation and social injustices.

Additionally, strengthening ECOSOC and the high-level political forum on sustainable development requires robust engagement with civil society to ensure accountability in the implementation of sustainable development initiatives. In Latin America and the Caribbean, where civil society plays a vital role in advocating for the rights of indigenous peoples and environmental protection, fostering meaningful engagement with these stakeholders is essential for driving progress towards the SDGs.

In summary, the recommendations underscore the importance of prioritizing the inclusion and empowerment of indigenous peoples and civil society organizations in sustainable development processes. By addressing the specific challenges faced by these groups in Latin America and the Caribbean, policymakers can work towards more equitable and environmentally sustainable development outcomes in the region.

2024 Written statement to UN ECOSOC

The Association de l'Intervention pour les Mères, AIM is a women's rights foundation that is committed to improving maternal and child health in a climate of peace and security. In the pursuit of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls, we stand as a fundamental imperative in the quest for a fairer and more inclusive world. Yet, despite significant strides, progress remains uneven and insufficient. It is incumbent upon us to redouble our efforts, to accelerate our actions, and to address the root causes that perpetuate gender inequality.

Poverty continues to disproportionately affect women and girls, denying them equal access to resources, opportunities, and decision-making processes. We recognize that poverty eradication is intrinsically linked to gender equality, and therefore, we must prioritize targeted interventions that uplift and empower women economically, socially, and politically.

Strengthening institutions with a gender perspective is essential to dismantle systemic barriers and ensure the full realization of women's rights. This entails promoting gender-responsive laws, policies, and practices that challenge discriminatory norms and promote inclusive governance structures. Moreover, it necessitates investing in capacity-building initiatives that equip institutions at all levels with the tools and knowledge to advance gender equality effectively.

Financing is a critical enabler for the achievement of gender equality objectives. We must ensure that financial resources are allocated equitably and effectively, with due consideration given to the specific needs and priorities of women and girls. This includes mainstreaming gender considerations in budgetary processes, enhancing access to credit and capital for women-led enterprises, and mobilizing additional resources to support gender-focused programs and initiatives.

Furthermore, we must recognize the intersecting forms of discrimination faced by marginalized and vulnerable groups of women and girls, including those based on race, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, and gender identity. Our efforts towards gender equality must be intersectional, leaving no one behind and prioritizing the most marginalized voices and experiences.

In conclusion, let us reaffirm our commitment to accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls. By addressing poverty, strengthening institutions, and financing with a gender perspective, we can build a fair world where every individual can thrive and contribute fully to society.

Thank you.

Statement from: **Coalition Digitale** (in special consultative status with ECOSOC since 2020)

On: **Ethics and Humanity-centered AI Systems**

Our technological world must prioritize humanity and ethics for inclusivity.

Ethical considerations in AI encompass a wide range of issues, including privacy, bias, transparency, accountability, and the potential impact on society as a whole.

Privacy is a significant concern as AI systems often collect and analyze vast amounts of personal data.

Bias in AI algorithms can perpetuate existing inequalities and discrimination. Whether it's in hiring processes, criminal justice systems, or access to resources, biased AI can amplify societal biases. Therefore, it's essential to ensure a diverse representation of all components of our society when building AI-based software.

Transparency is essential for building trust in AI. Transparent AI systems enable users to hold developers and organizations accountable for their actions.

The broader societal impact of AI must be carefully considered. While AI has the potential to bring about positive change and innovation, it also raises concerns about job displacement, social inequality, and the concentration of power in the hands of a few. Ethical AI development should prioritize the well-being of individuals and communities and strive to create AI systems that benefit society as a whole.

Nowadays, mental health is a global issue, and we cannot permit ourselves to have an AI society that reinforces biases and oppresses minorities. This could ultimately lead to a global mental health crisis.

Addressing the ethical aspects of AI requires a multifaceted approach that considers privacy, bias, transparency, accountability, and societal impact. By prioritizing ethical considerations in AI development and deployment, we can harness the potential of AI to create a more equitable and sustainable future for all.

HLPF review 2024- Statement on behalf of the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind (Roster status with ECOSOC), commonly known as Sightsavers.

My name is Hannah Dawson. I am speaking today on behalf of Sightsavers, an NGO that works in around 30 countries and at the global level to promote the rights of persons with disabilities.

- **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?**

To strengthen ECOSOC and accelerate coordinated implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, we recommend using commitments made in the SDG Summit political declaration. These should be built on with concrete actions that are then reported on during the HLPF as opposed to intentions.

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 mobilise the forum to achieve maximum progress on the SDGs, the HLPF has a central role in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, and there are four key reforms that could help achieve maximum progress.

First, we recommend better alignment with other international frameworks, particularly concerning the environment, humanitarian action and human rights. Sustainable development recognises and aligns with environmental, climate, human rights and other sectors. It is therefore important that the HLPF provides more space for the input from relevant sector mechanisms and agencies.

Second, a greater focus on leaving no one behind, including on people with disabilities. We recommend that member states are encouraged to report on progress in collecting disaggregated data; member states are encouraged to report on efforts to reach agreed groups in VNRs, even where data is lacking; UN DESA is tasked with providing leave no one behind specific analysis of each year's VNRs; and that thematic reviews integrate a specific leave no one behind segment within substantive discussions.

Third, better reporting on civil society participation in implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Paragraph 89 of the 2030 Agenda has not been fully implemented. We recommend that UN DESA drafts a report on the engagement of civil society organisations in each year's VNRs; that a space is created at the HLPF for the presentation of Voluntary Stakeholder Reviews; and member states are encouraged to hold national level dialogues before and after the HLPF to enable more representative participation.

Fourth, more opportunities for meaningful follow up, learning and review in VNR labs. VNR labs have been a welcome innovation, and the 2020 resolution reaffirmed their role within the HLPF. We would recommend the 2024 resolution encourage more member states to engage and request UN DESA cluster issues under VNR labs to ensure a more systematic overview.

- **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?**

HLPF Themes and SDGs under review - Given the key role played by transformed institutions, SDG 16 should be reviewed annually in the same way as SDG 17. This would ensure that there is greater coherence between the development of partnerships to implement the SDGs and the development of national institutions that are able to lead implementation in each country.

Beyond this, there is space to review each of the goals one more time in the next cycle of the HLPF. The 2030 Agenda is coherent and indivisible, and so it is important to recognise the equal and complementary nature of each of the goals in the review process.

02/08/2024

Written Statement by the World Roma Federation for the ECOSOC and HLPF Review

The World Roma Federation, representing the interests and advocating for the rights of the Romani people globally, submits this statement in response to the guiding questions for the review of the arrangements contained in General Assembly resolutions 75/290 A and 75/290 B and their annexes. Our recommendations aim to enhance the effectiveness of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF), ensuring that the needs of marginalized and stateless communities are adequately addressed in the pursuit of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Priorities for the Reviews:

Stakeholders should prioritize inclusive participation and representation in the reviews of ECOSOC and the HLPF. This includes ensuring that marginalized communities, such as the Roma, have a voice in shaping the agendas and policies that directly affect their lives. Enhancing transparency, accountability, and the incorporation of diverse perspectives is crucial for creating more equitable and effective international economic and social cooperation frameworks.

Utilizing the SDG Summit 2023 and Summit of the Future:

The impetus of the SDG Summit 2023 and the preparatory process for the Summit of the Future presents a unique opportunity to strengthen ECOSOC and accelerate the coordinated implementation of the 2030 Agenda. To capitalize on this momentum, we recommend the integration of specific sessions or mechanisms within ECOSOC dedicated to addressing the challenges and contributions of stateless and marginalized communities towards achieving the SDGs. This approach will ensure that the progress made is inclusive and reflective of the diverse global community.

Strengthening ECOSOC Engagement and Follow-Up:

To ensure better engagement, interaction, and follow-up within the ECOSOC system, creating dedicated platforms for dialogue between ECOSOC and non-state actors, including NGOs and community organizations representing marginalized groups, is essential. These platforms should facilitate regular feedback loops and collaborative project development to harness ECOSOC's full potential in addressing complex global challenges.

Mobilizing the HLPF for SDG Progress:

The HLPF should adopt a more targeted approach to mobilize efforts towards achieving the SDGs by 2030. This involves prioritizing SDGs that address inequalities, such as SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities), and ensuring that the review processes are inclusive of the perspectives and experiences of all communities. Incorporating thematic reviews that focus on intersectionality and the multidimensional aspects of poverty and discrimination can enhance the HLPF's impact.

Selection of Annual Themes and SDGs for In-depth Review:

For the annual themes for ECOSOC and the HLPF for 2025-2027, we recommend focusing on themes that promote inclusivity, sustainability, and resilience, with a special emphasis on the empowerment of marginalized communities. The selection process should be participatory, involving a wide range of stakeholders to ensure relevance and comprehensiveness. The set of SDGs for in-depth review each year should include SDG 1 (No Poverty), SDG 4 (Quality Education), SDG 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth), and SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions), reflecting the urgent needs of marginalized communities, including the Roma.

In conclusion, the World Roma Federation urges the co-facilitators and member states to consider these recommendations to ensure that the review processes lead to a more inclusive, effective, and impactful ECOSOC and HLPF. By doing so, we can make significant strides towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in a manner that leaves no one behind.

Intervention Delivered at UNGA ECOSOC and HLPF Review, 15 February 2024

Esteemed delegates, distinguished participants,

My name is Heidi McAnnally-Linz, and it is a privilege to represent BRAC International today.

As the largest Global South-led NGO, BRAC has been at the frontlines of poverty alleviation for decades. We have partnered with over 100 million participants in proven programs across 17 countries.

We are all here today given the urgency that not a single SDG is on track globally, and not a single country is making progress across all the SDGs.

This is a direct result of a siloed approach to poverty reduction which fails to account for the interlinked social, economic and environmental vulnerabilities and deprivations faced by communities living in extreme poverty.

As we look forward to the HLPF, the Summit of the Future, and the post-2030 agenda, I urge us to leave these silos to prioritize scaling proven innovations that address these linkages.

Those who are furthest behind do not face just one single barrier. Women living in extreme poverty are also most impacted by extreme climate events, health crises, or displacement.

Humans simply do not experience their lives neatly divided into sectors or single SDGs.

So we cannot expect single solutions to move the needle.

But there is hope. As I shared in the ECOSOC partnership forum, we have proof that extreme poverty is not insurmountable. There are interventions with decades of evidence behind them that work precisely because of the multidimensional approach.

What has become known as the Graduation approach, which was originally designed by BRAC but is now leveraged by dozens of entities in 100+ programs around the world, is one such intervention. It combines three things: 1) a large productive asset, 2) basic needs support while the asset becomes productive, and 3) coaching that builds agency, know-how, and hope.

Dozens of randomized evaluations, led by academics including Nobel-prize winners, show that the Graduation approach addresses multiple drivers of exclusion and deprivation - what economists call the poverty trap - to achieve transformative impact for those furthest behind.

This evidence also demonstrates that the approach contributes to SDG 1 on no poverty, SDG 2 on zero hunger, SDG 3 on good health and well-being, SDG 5 on gender equality, SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth, SDG 10 on reduced inequalities and SDG 13 on climate action.

This all suggests that scaling such approaches can accelerate progress on multiple SDGs simultaneously, putting generations of people on a pathway out of poverty.

We are making some progress already. Dozens of governments, development partners, and CSOs are adapting the approach across dozens of contexts and for different impact groups, including women, youth, refugees and IDPs, climate-vulnerable communities, and people with disabilities.

For example, the Government's graduation program in Bihar, India is enabling more than 185,000 households - nearly 1 million people - to leave a life of poverty behind. This proves it can be done, but the global community must do more.

The HLPF and the Summit of the Future should encourage us all to think beyond silos and single-outcome interventions, pushing us to scale integrated solutions that match the integrated nature of the SDGs.

I hope this is one of many opportunities for us to explore a new path forward - a path that leverages and scales today's proven multidimensional innovations for a better tomorrow.

Thank you.



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Economic and Social Council of United Nations from 2021

ORAL STATEMENT FOR GREEN MENTORS for ECOSOC and HLPF Review

Distinguished Co-Facilitators, esteemed stakeholders,

On behalf of Green Mentors, we appreciate the opportunity to address this virtual briefing on the Review of arrangements under resolutions 75/290A and 75/290B. Our organization is deeply committed to advancing sustainable development goals.

It is eager to contribute to the ongoing efforts to strengthen ECOSOC and accelerate the coordinated implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The impetus of the SDG Summit 2023 has provided us with a critical platform to amplify our collective efforts. Green Mentors recognizes the significance of this momentum and pledges to leverage it effectively.

Through the preparatory process of the Summit of the Future, we aim to identify innovative strategies and partnerships that will further fortify ECOSOC and expedite the realization of the 2030 Agenda.

In reviewing the strengthening of ECOSOC, it is imperative to ensure enhanced engagement, interaction, and follow-up mechanisms. Green Mentors advocate for inclusive dialogues that harness the full potential of the Council and the ECOSOC system.

We believe in fostering transparent and participatory processes that empower all stakeholders to contribute meaningfully to decision-making and implementation.

Turning to the high-level political forum on sustainable development, Green Mentors underscores the critical role of this forum in mobilizing action towards the SDGs

As we approach the target year of 2030, maximizing progress through concerted efforts is essential. Our organization is committed to actively engaging with the HLPF to identify and promote best practices, share knowledge, and catalyze impactful initiatives that advance sustainable development goals.

In selecting annual themes for ECOSOC and the HLPF for 2025-2027, Green Mentors advocates for a comprehensive approach that aligns with the four-year cycle of the HLPF. We recommend themes that address emerging challenges and opportunities while building on previous discussions and commitments.

Moreover, we propose a systematic review of a subset of SDGs each year, ensuring in-depth analysis and targeted action toward achieving tangible results.

In conclusion, Green Mentors reaffirm its unwavering commitment to supporting the Review of arrangements for ECOSOC and the HLPF.

Together, we can harness the power of collaboration and innovation to advance sustainable development goals and build a more inclusive, resilient, and sustainable future for all.

Thank you



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Written Statements by Impart Change

Following ECOSOC and HLPF review pursuant to resolutions 75/290A and 75/290B Impart Change would like to submit the following statements for consideration.

- In pursuance of article 8 of GA Resolution 75/290 and 75/290, the Development Cooperation Forum should be conducted annually prior to the year 2030. This should also be done by increasing the participation of national and local governments and organizations in the council to share progress, challenges and tentative solutions.
- The impetus for the SDG Summit 2023 by representative stakeholders should build on the tentative solutions agreed upon in preparation of the Summit of the Future.
- Strengthening of ECOSOC can be curated through organizing a number of sub-regional ECOSOC in person and virtual engagement with all stakeholders.
- The high-level political forum can be mobilized to achieve maximum progress on SDGs by requesting governments to seek practical input in terms of solutions from their populace. This includes the private sector, NGO's, civil society etc.
- Annual theme for ECOSOC and HLPF can be collected through an inclusive virtual and in person consultative process from all ECOSOC and HLPF stakeholders. Themes close in nature will be collated to form the main theme.



Rajasthan Samgrah Kalyan Sansthan (RSKS India) **Special Consultative Status 2015 by ECOSOC**

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Statement on High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

Thank you for the opportunity to provide an oral statement on behalf of Rajasthan Samgrah Kalyan Sansthan for the High-level Political Forum on sustainable development. We are deeply committed to advancing sustainable development across Rajasthan and beyond, recognizing the interconnectedness of economic, social, and environmental dimensions. Our organization has actively engaged stakeholders to identify priorities for the review of arrangements outlined in General Assembly resolutions 75/290 A and 75/290 B and their annexes.

Firstly, stakeholders emphasize the importance of enhancing inclusivity and participation in the review process. Rajasthan Samgrah Kalyan Sansthan recognizes meaningful involvement of diverse voices, including local communities, marginalized groups, and youth, is essential to ensure the relevance and effectiveness of the review outcomes. Additionally, there is a strong call for prioritizing action-oriented measures that address the root causes of inequality, poverty, and environmental degradation. This includes strengthening mechanisms for resource mobilization, capacity-building, and technology transfer to support sustainable development efforts at all levels.

Secondly, we recognize the critical role of the SDG Summit 2023 and the preparatory process of the Summit of the Future in strengthening ECOSOC and accelerating coordinated implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Building on the momentum generated by these events, it is imperative to foster greater coherence and synergy among stakeholders, including governments, international organizations, and the private sector and for this we also started an initiative named SAMATVA which means “Equitable Practices” so that women and girls could be given priority from top to bottom level everywhere. This entails enhancing multi-stakeholder partnerships, knowledge sharing, and peer learning to drive transformative change and achieve the SDGs.

Thirdly, for the review on the strengthening of ECOSOC, there is a need to ensure better engagement, interaction, and follow-up to harness the Council's and ECOSOC system's full potential. This requires enhancing transparency, accountability, and effectiveness in ECOSOC's decision-making processes, including through improved monitoring and evaluation mechanisms. Moreover, promoting greater integration and coherence across ECOSOC subsidiary bodies and forums can enhance synergies and optimize the impact of their work on sustainable development.

Fourthly, for the review of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, mobilizing the forum to achieve maximum progress on the SDGs by 2030 is paramount. This necessitates enhancing the forum's role as a platform for knowledge exchange, policy dialogue, and peer review to accelerate implementation and address implementation gaps. Strengthening the follow-up and review mechanisms of the HLPF, including through enhanced data availability and monitoring frameworks, can facilitate evidence-based decision-making and enhance accountability for SDG progress.

Finally, regarding the selection of annual themes for ECOSOC and the HLPF for 2025-2027, it is essential to follow the four-year cycle of the HLPF while ensuring alignment with evolving development priorities. Each annual theme should reflect a holistic approach to sustainable development, encompassing interconnected issues and cross-cutting challenges. Additionally, the selection of SDGs for in-depth review should be based on their relevance to the annual theme and their potential for transformative impact. We would suggest to focus more on SDG 1,2,3,6, 7 and 16 as it is the need of the hour.

Rajasthan Samgrah Kalyan Sansthan remains committed to supporting the review and strengthening of arrangements for sustainable development. By prioritizing inclusivity, action-oriented measures, and multi-stakeholder partnerships, we can accelerate progress towards the achievement of the SDGs and build a more sustainable and equitable future for all. Thank you.

Statement by **Rising Out Of The Ashes (ROOTA)** in special consultative status with ECOSOC since 2023

ROOTA's work embodies a holistic approach to sustainable development, integrating economic, social, and environmental dimensions in its interventions. ROOTA recognizes the interconnectedness of these dimensions and strives to address them comprehensively to achieve sustainable outcomes.

Economically, ROOTA's initiatives are designed to promote inclusive growth, enhance economic resilience, and create opportunities for all stakeholders, particularly those in underserved communities. Through its programs and projects, ROOTA fosters economic empowerment, entrepreneurship, and innovation, contributing to the sustainable development of societies.

Socially, ROOTA is committed to promoting equity, social justice, and human rights. It works to strengthen social cohesion, foster inclusive societies, and promote access to essential services such as healthcare, education, and housing. ROOTA's efforts aim to enhance the well-being and quality of life for individuals and communities, particularly the most vulnerable and marginalized.

Environmentally, ROOTA recognizes the imperative of environmental sustainability and the urgent need to address environmental challenges. It promotes environmental stewardship, conservation, and the sustainable use of natural resources. ROOTA's initiatives seek to mitigate environmental degradation, adapt to climate change, and promote eco-friendly practices to preserve ecosystems and biodiversity.

In alignment with the priorities outlined for the review of General Assembly resolutions 75/290 A and 75/290 B, as well as their annexes, ROOTA's interventions are geared towards strengthening ECOSOC and accelerating coordinated implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

To capitalize on the impetus of the SDG Summit 2023 and the preparatory process of the Summit of the Future, ROOTA emphasizes the importance of leveraging these platforms to reinforce ECOSOC and expedite the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

For the review on the strengthening of ECOSOC, ROOTA advocates for enhanced engagement, interaction, and follow-up mechanisms to fully harness the Council's and ECOSOC system's potential in advancing sustainable development goals.

In the review of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, ROOTA underscores the need to mobilize the forum effectively to accelerate progress towards the SDGs, particularly in light of the approaching target year of 2030.

ROOTA recommends a collaborative approach for selecting annual themes for ECOSOC and the HLPF for 2025-2027, ensuring alignment with the four-year cycle of the HLPF. Moreover, ROOTA suggests a comprehensive review of a set of SDGs each year to facilitate in-depth analysis and progress tracking.

In conclusion, ROOTA remains committed to advancing sustainable development across economic, social, and environmental fronts, and stands ready to contribute constructively to the priorities identified for the review of relevant General Assembly resolutions and the overarching goals of the 2030 Agenda.

DATE: February, 09-2024

To: ECOSOC, Secretariat

The (**Subjective Physics Sciences**) is a non-governmental organization in consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council since [**ECOSOC Special Consultative Status, Since 2023**].

ECOSOC and HLPF review pursuant to resolutions 75/290A and 75/290B: for 20 February 2024, 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. EST

Official Statement

In order to address the priorities for the review of the arrangements contained in General Assembly resolutions 75/290 A and 75/290 B and their annexes, stakeholders consider it essential to invite speakers from organizations that encompass the three dimensions of sustainable development: economic, social, and environmental. These speakers will be requested to make focused interventions during the review process.

1. The priorities for the reviews of the arrangements contained in General Assembly resolutions 75/290 A and 75/290 B and their annexes are determined by stakeholders. These priorities may vary depending on the specific context and needs of each stakeholder, but generally, they revolve around enhancing sustainable development efforts across economic, social, and environmental dimensions. Stakeholders may prioritize issues such as poverty eradication, inclusive economic growth, climate action, gender equality, access to education and healthcare, sustainable consumption and production, and biodiversity conservation.

2. To leverage the impetus generated by the SDG Summit 2023 and the preparatory process of the Summit of the Future, efforts can be made to strengthen the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and accelerate the coordinated implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This can be achieved by fostering closer collaboration between ECOSOC and relevant stakeholders, including governments, civil society organizations, private sector entities, and the research community. Enhancing multi-stakeholder partnerships, knowledge sharing, and resource mobilization can contribute to the effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

3. For the review on the strengthening of ECOSOC, it is crucial to ensure better engagement, interaction, and follow-up to harness the Council's and ECOSOC system's full potential. This can be achieved through various measures, including enhancing transparency, inclusivity, and participation in ECOSOC's decision-making processes. Strengthening the engagement of non-state actors, such as civil society organizations, business representatives, and academia, can bring diverse perspectives and expertise to the table. Additionally, establishing mechanisms for regular monitoring, evaluation, and accountability can help track progress and identify areas for improvement.

4. To mobilize the high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF) for maximum progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030, it is important to utilize the forum effectively. This can be done by encouraging active participation from member states, stakeholders, and relevant actors. The HLPF can serve as a platform for sharing best practices, lessons learned, and innovative solutions. It can facilitate peer learning, promote policy coherence, and foster partnerships for SDG implementation. Additionally, aligning the HLPF's agenda with the fast-approaching target year of 2030 can help prioritize urgent and critical SDGs, focusing on areas where progress is lagging.

5. The best approach for selecting the annual themes for ECOSOC and the HLPF for 2025-2027 should follow the four-year cycle (2024-2027) of the HLPF. This approach ensures continuity and consistent focus on key issues relevant to the SDGs. The selection of themes should be based on a comprehensive analysis of the progress made, remaining challenges, and emerging priorities within the sustainable development agenda. Each year, the HLPF should review a set of SDGs in-depth, considering their interlinkages and mutual dependencies. This can enable a comprehensive assessment of progress, identify bottlenecks, and facilitate targeted actions for achieving the SDGs.

1. Priorities for the reviews of the arrangements contained in General Assembly resolutions 75/290 A and 75/290 B and their annexes depend on the perspectives and needs of stakeholders. Stakeholders may include governments, intergovernmental organizations, civil society organizations, academia, and the private sector.

They may prioritize areas such as:

a- Poverty eradication and inclusive economic growth: This involves addressing economic inequalities, promoting decent work and economic opportunities, and ensuring access to essential services for all.

b- Climate action and environmental sustainability: Prioritizing efforts to mitigate climate change, adapt to its impacts, protect ecosystems and biodiversity, promote sustainable consumption and production, and enhance resilience to environmental challenges.

c- Gender equality and social inclusion: Focusing on promoting gender equity, ensuring equal access to education, healthcare, and social protection, reducing inequalities, and advancing the rights of marginalized groups.

d- Sustainable development financing: Identifying strategies to mobilize resources, promote investments in sustainable development, and strengthen financial mechanisms to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

e- Digital transformation and innovation: Exploring ways to harness the potential of technology and innovation for sustainable development, including digital connectivity, data management, and leveraging emerging technologies.

f- Governance and institutional strengthening: Enhancing the effectiveness, transparency, and accountability of institutions and governance frameworks at all levels to support sustainable development.

2. The SDG Summit 2023 and the preparatory process of the Summit of the Future can provide impetus for strengthening ECOSOC and accelerating coordinated implementation of the 2030 Agenda. These events can serve as platforms for high-level political dialogue, knowledge sharing, and mobilizing commitments from member states and stakeholders.

To make use of this impetus, efforts can focus on:

a- Strengthening ECOSOC's role as a central platform for coordinating and integrating sustainable development efforts.

b- Enhancing the engagement of member states, civil society, private sector, and other stakeholders in ECOSOC processes.

c- Facilitating knowledge exchange, peer learning, and capacity-building initiatives to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

d- Mobilizing resources and promoting innovative financing mechanisms for sustainable development.

e- Strengthening partnerships and collaboration between ECOSOC and other actors, including regional and sub-regional organizations, to foster synergies and coherence in implementation efforts.

f- Leveraging the outcomes and commitments from the SDG Summit 2023 to guide ECOSOC's work and ensure follow-up actions.

3. Ensuring better engagement, interaction, and follow-up for the review on the strengthening of ECOSOC involves several considerations:

a- Enhancing transparency and inclusivity in ECOSOC's decision-making processes, including through open consultations and participatory mechanisms.

b- Promoting regular dialogue and engagement with non-state actors, including civil society organizations, academia, and the private sector, to leverage their expertise and perspectives.

c- Strengthening the follow-up mechanisms to monitor the implementation of ECOSOC's decisions and recommendations.

d- Enhancing the participation of member states and stakeholders in ECOSOC's subsidiary bodies, commissions, and expert groups to foster collaboration and exchange of best practices.

e- Utilizing technology and digital platforms to facilitate virtual engagement and interactions, ensuring broader participation from diverse geographical locations.

f- Establishing monitoring and evaluation frameworks to assess the effectiveness and impact of ECOSOC's initiatives and actions.

g- Strengthening coordination and collaboration between ECOSOC and other UN bodies, specialized agencies, and regional organizations to leverage synergies and avoid duplication.

4. To mobilize the high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF) for maximum progress on the SDGs by 2030, key strategies include:

a- Prioritizing action-oriented discussions and thematic reviews that address the most critical and cross-cutting issues related to sustainable development.

b- Encouraging member states to present voluntary national reviews (VNRs) during the HLPF, sharing their experiences, challenges, and best practices in implementing the SDGs.

c- Promoting multi-stakeholder engagement and partnerships, including the active involvement of civil society, private sector, and academia in HLPF sessions and side events.

d- Facilitating knowledge sharing by showcasing innovative initiatives, solutions, and transformative actions that have contributed to SDG implementation.

e- Strengthening the linkages between the HLPF and other UN processes, such as the High-level Political Forum on Financing for Development, to promote coherence in global development efforts.

f- Encouraging the HLPF to provide policy guidance and recommendations to member states and relevant stakeholders based on the thematic reviews and discussions.

g- Enhancing the monitoring and review mechanisms to track progress on the SDGs, including the use of data and indicators for evidence-based decision-making.

5. The selection of annual themes for ECOSOC and the HLPF for the years 2025-2027 should follow the four-year cycle (2024-2027) of the HLPF. The themes should be selected based on a comprehensive analysis of progress, challenges, and emerging priorities within the sustainable development agenda.

a- Assessing progress and challenges: The selection of themes should take into account the progress made towards achieving the SDGs, identifying areas where significant challenges remain. Themes can be selected to address specific SDGs or cross-cutting issues that require attention.

b- Emerging priorities: Analyzing global trends and emerging issues can help identify thematic areas that are gaining importance within the sustainable development agenda. This may include topics such as climate change adaptation, digital inclusion, sustainable cities, or health and well-being.

c- Interlinkages and synergies: Considering the interlinkages between the SDGs is crucial. Themes can be selected to highlight the synergies and interdependencies between different goals, promoting an integrated and holistic approach to sustainable development.

d- Regional perspectives: Taking into account regional priorities and challenges can help ensure that the annual themes resonate with the specific needs and contexts of different regions around the world.

e- Stakeholder consultations: Engaging stakeholders, including member states, civil society organizations, private sector entities, and academia, in the selection process can provide valuable input and ensure that the chosen themes reflect diverse perspectives and expertise.

f- Comprehensive coverage: Over the four-year cycle, it is important to cover a wide range of SDGs and address different dimensions of sustainable development, including economic, social, and environmental aspects.

Regarding the set of SDGs to be reviewed in-depth each year, the selection should also consider the interlinkages and priorities identified. It can be beneficial to review SDGs that are particularly relevant to the chosen annual themes. Additionally, focusing on SDGs that require urgent attention and where progress is lagging can help mobilize efforts and resources for their achievement. The selection of annual themes and the in-depth review of SDGs should aim to provide a comprehensive assessment of progress, identify challenges, and promote targeted actions to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

1. Priorities for the reviews of the arrangements contained in General Assembly resolutions 75/290 A and 75/290 B and their annexes can vary based on stakeholder perspectives.

a- Access to quality education: This involves ensuring inclusive and equitable education for all, promoting lifelong learning opportunities, and addressing educational disparities.

b- Health and well-being: Prioritizing efforts to achieve universal health coverage, combatting communicable and non-communicable diseases, and strengthening health systems.

c- Sustainable cities and communities: Focusing on urban development, promoting sustainable infrastructure, ensuring access to basic services, and enhancing resilience in cities and human settlements.

d- Peace, justice, and strong institutions: Addressing issues related to governance, rule of law, peacebuilding, and promoting inclusive and accountable institutions.

e- Partnerships for sustainable development: Emphasizing the importance of multi-stakeholder partnerships, international cooperation, and resource mobilization to support sustainable development efforts.

2. To make use of the impetus generated by the SDG Summit 2023 and the preparatory process of the Summit of the Future to strengthen ECOSOC and accelerate the coordinated implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the following actions can be taken:

a- Strengthening ECOSOC's convening power by ensuring the active participation of member states, relevant UN entities, civil society organizations, private sector representatives, and academia in its sessions and discussions.

b- Utilizing the outcomes and commitments from the SDG Summit 2023 to guide ECOSOC's work and align its activities with the priorities identified during the summit.

c- Encouraging member states to integrate the outcomes of the Summit of the Future in their national development strategies and plans, fostering coherence between global and national efforts.

d- Promoting knowledge exchange, capacity-building initiatives, and technical assistance to support countries in implementing the 2030 Agenda and achieving the SDGs.

e- Strengthening ECOSOC's monitoring and reporting mechanisms to track progress, identify bottlenecks, and provide policy guidance to member states.

f- Enhancing collaboration and coordination between ECOSOC and other UN bodies, such as the UN Development Group, to ensure a coherent and integrated approach to sustainable development.

3. To ensure better engagement, interaction, and follow-up for the review on the strengthening of ECOSOC, several strategies can be adopted:

a- Enhancing the participation of member states, non-state actors, and stakeholders in ECOSOC's meetings, including through interactive dialogues, thematic discussions, and side events.

b- Promoting inclusivity and diversity in ECOSOC's decision-making processes, ensuring the voices of marginalized and vulnerable groups are heard and taken into account.

c- Strengthening the role of ECOSOC's subsidiary bodies, such as functional commissions and expert groups, in providing specialized expertise, conducting in-depth analysis, and generating policy recommendations.

d- Improving the accessibility and transparency of ECOSOC's work, including through the use of technology, webcasting, and online platforms to facilitate remote participation and virtual engagement.

e- Establishing mechanisms for systematic follow-up on ECOSOC's resolutions and decisions, including monitoring implementation progress, sharing best practices, and identifying areas for improvement.

f- Strengthening partnerships with regional and sub-regional organizations, civil society, and the private sector to leverage their expertise, resources, and networks in advancing sustainable development goals.

g- Enhancing coordination between ECOSOC and other UN bodies, such as the UN General Assembly and the UN Secretary-General's office, to ensure synergies and coherence in the overall UN system's work.

4. To mobilize the high-level political forum on sustainable development (HLPF) to achieve maximum progress on the SDGs by 2030, the following approaches can be considered:

a- Strengthening the political commitment and engagement of member states by encouraging high-level representation, including heads of state and government, during the HLPF sessions.

b- Fostering multi-stakeholder partnerships and engagement, including the private sector, civil society organizations, academia, and youth representatives, to leverage their expertise, resources, and innovative solutions for SDG implementation.

c- Promoting knowledge sharing and peer learning through thematic reviews, voluntary national reviews (VNRs), and side events to showcase best practices, lessons learned, and innovative approaches in achieving the SDGs.

d- Utilizing the HLPF as a platform to facilitate policy dialogue, sharing of experiences, and identifying policy gaps and challenges in SDG implementation.

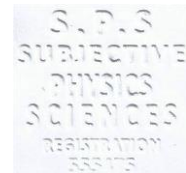
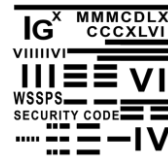
e- Enhancing the role of the HLPF in promoting integrated approaches to sustainable development, taking into account the interlinkages and interdependencies among the SDGs and their targets.

f- Strengthening the monitoring and review mechanisms of the HLPF, including the use of data and indicators, to track progress, measure impact, and identify areas where additional efforts are needed.



Sincerely,

**President/Chief Executive Officer of
Subjective Physics Sciences Organization
Prof. Abdolreza Shahrabi Farahani**



**Preparation and arrangement of Mr. Ali Shahrabi Farahani
(Responsible of the Electronic Letters, Requests and Notifications Unit)**

**Written Statement Submission by Women's Health and Education Center
(special consultative status with ECOSOC since 2008) for ECOSOC and
HLPF 2024
Resolutions 75/290A and 75/290B**

How to mobilize the forum to achieve maximum progress on the SDGs in the light of the fast-approaching target year of 2030?

Investing in Quality Education and Universal Health Care to Achieve UN's 2030 Agenda

The global movement towards education- and health-for-all will directly facilitate the United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda. As an enabler of several Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), education and health can become the driving force behind poverty reduction strategies, in the service of humanity, democratization of the resources and an inputs for regional development in social and economic development – especially relevant for universal health coverage and access.

Using global collaborative platforms, education and health can provide equitable access to and participation in the understanding of different cultures and customs across the world. As these platforms are now being designed and developed, the principle of equity and the diverse needs of the global communities needs to be built-in from the beginning. Education Sector and Health Sector, through inter-governmental cooperation programs strengthen international collaboration. It is the sharing and collaboration that secures increased transparency, reproducibility, and credibility of evidence-based knowledge. All these are of paramount importance to society.

Women's Health and Education Center (WHEC), aims to mobilize humanity's collective intelligence, which involves youth, educators, civil society, governments, businesses, corporations, and stakeholders. There is a rich diversity of ways of knowing, which relies on a broad and open-process. The 17 SDGs are integrated and education- and health-for-all is the backbone of the strategy – No One Left Behind. Our initiatives also address discrimination, poverty and interesting inequalities (including those based on disability and gender) are often *cross-cutting issues* in policy and programmatic design and bilateral and multilateral donors commonly provide technical assistance to support governments in achieving their goals in these areas.

Investments in Early Childhood Education and Healthcare: This can contribute significantly to reducing child poverty and breaking intergenerational cycles of poverty. Unsafe living, the chronic stress of poverty, and lack of adequate stimulation and learning opportunities during early years can diminish children's chances of success throughout their lives. Our advocacy projects and programs encourage UN Member States to take measures targeted at children. Standard operational child protection procedures are put in place since 2020 to establish the role and responsibilities of each sector that intervenes in the field of child protection. Overall, as the

countries emerge from the crisis, the design of recovery strategies are to introduce opportunities to begin building back better to overcome challenges to the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Harnessing the digital revolution for the benefit of public education and common good.

If harnessed properly, the digital revolution can be one of the most powerful tools for ensuring quality education for all, and transform the way teachers teach and learners learn. If not governed properly, it could exacerbate inequalities and undermine learning outcomes, as the pandemic made all too apparent. Countries should take rapid actions toward full educational connectivity to their populations. WHEC will continue to support country actions, and strengthen inclusive digital learning platforms and content, worldwide.

Quality education and universal health care are the most important investments that any country can make for its future and for its people. Investing in health and education is investing in people and in our collective future. This is a moral, political and economic imperative. **Science-Policy Brief**, published by 8th Multistakeholder session of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Forum, is submitted, to re-confirm that, upscaling the social protection responses and supporting mutual learning through the exchange of good practices with regard to socio-economic policies, the provision of basic services and social protection measures can help in this endeavor.

Open Science to Achieve United Nations 2030 Agenda

http://www.womenshealthsection.com/content/documents/B41_Luthra_Science_and_Technology_to_Educate_Sustainable_Development.pdf

Our e-Learning, e-Health and e-Government initiative: <http://www.WomensHealthSection.com> was launched on 24 October 2002, in collaboration with the Department of the Public Information of the United Nations (UN). It is serving with pride in 227 countries and territories, to about 12 to 13 million subscribers every year, worldwide. Our educational programs ensure that students are prepared for the future in both life and the workforce, with a focus on skilling, reskilling and upskilling – *Learn to do* and *Learn to Learn*.

Our first task is swift and targeted action to recover the learning losses inflicted by the pandemic, particularly on the marginalized groups. WHEC with its partners and with the support of UNESCO, is actively reimagining education systems and promoting to raise the status of education.

We must ensure that learning powers of individuals and societies, to reshape the present and lead us to a more just, sustainable, resilient, and peaceful future. WHEC's initiatives encourage schools to be *Health-Promoting* to improve both physical- and mental-health, to prevent gender and gun violence. Helping students, teachers and administrators and supporting them in their quest to make their lives better. It helps to improve the communities too. And that is our mission.

We recognize that the success of the Education & Health projects requires sound policies and planning as well as efficient implementation arrangements. Our common agenda.

Education and Health are human rights.





Major Groups and Other Stakeholders Statement ECOSOC and HLPF Review Consultations 20 February 2024

Q. 1 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?

HLPF Review statement

Distinguished colleagues, thank you for giving me the floor. My name is Lilei Chow, I'm the global technical lead on the SDGs for Save the Children, and I am representing the Major Groups and Other Stakeholders.

Pursuant to the review of Resolution 75/290 and relevant annexes, we welcome the opportunity to strengthen accountability and effectiveness of the follow up and review mechanism of the 2030 Agenda. Our recommendations can be clustered into those that are substantive in nature and secondly, procedural.

Firstly, on the substantive side, the Resolution should support better alignment and integration of the 2030 Agenda with other international frameworks, particularly concerning the environment, humanitarian action and human rights.

Sustainable development recognises and aligns with environmental, climate, human rights and other sectors. It is therefore important that the HLPF provides more space for the input from relevant sector mechanisms and agencies. This needs to be in both the HLPF as a whole and within VNRs.

We recommend:

- Stronger links with key international processes and agreements – the Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Universal Periodic Reviews (UPRs), CEDAW, etc.
- Better synergies with the Financing for Development process.
- Meaningful Involvement of all relevant UN bodies with the HLPF (the International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Trade Organization (WTO), UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) etc.) to promote greater policy coherence in implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Secondly, the Resolution should ensure that ECOSOC continue provide integrated policy guidance to implementation of:

- (a) Ministerial Declaration
- (b) lessons learned from VNRs.

The Secretary-General should report to ECOSOC on lessons learned from VNRs with recommendations for follow-up by countries, segments and forums of ECOSOC



Thirdly, the Resolution should recognise the centrality of the Pledge to Leave No One Behind.

In line with the 2030 Agenda, there is a responsibility for countries - governments and all stakeholders - to ensure no one is left behind in progress towards achieving the SDGs, and that the furthest behind are reached first. There has been a welcome increase in the amount of reporting on leaving no one behind in VNRs, but the pace of change has not been fast enough. We know who is being left behind, but we still lack the progress in collecting data and analysis of data that already exists.

We recommend that:

- Member states are encouraged to report on progress in collecting disaggregated data on groups agreed in the 2030 Agenda. The UN development system could be provided with additional resources to support Member States in collecting quality, disaggregated data on agreed groups.
- Member states are encouraged to report on efforts to reach agreed groups in VNRs, even where data is lacking.
- UN DESA is tasked with providing leave no one behind specific analysis of each year's VNRs.
- Thematic reviews integrate a specific leave no one behind segment within substantive discussions.

4. On the procedural side, we would welcome better reporting on civil society participation in implementation of the 2030 Agenda

Paragraph 89 of the 2030 Agenda has not been fully implemented. There are some mechanisms for Major Groups and Other Stakeholders to engage in follow up and review mechanisms, but this is not systematic. It remains unclear how much stakeholders are able to engage in VNRs, and there has been poor implementation of the call for reporting on stakeholder contribution towards implementation.

We recommend that:

- UN DESA, in collaboration with the Major Groups and other Stakeholders, is tasked with drafting a report on the engagement of civil society organisations in each year's VNRs'
- A space is created at the HLPF for the presentation of Voluntary Stakeholder Reviews, in a similar way to the space created for Voluntary Local Reviews
- The role of civil society within the HLPF is recognised and safeguarded in the Resolution. We have outlined how this can be done in our written submission.

5. Additionally, we recommend further opportunities for meaningful review, follow-up and learning.

VNR labs have been a welcome innovation and the 2020 resolution reaffirmed their role within the HLPF. There is a need to build on this progress, as they can be under-supported by member states and not well coordinated with one another. We would recommend the



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2024 resolution encourage more member states to engage and request UN DESA cluster issues under VNR labs to ensure a more systematic overview.

In addition, the Regional Forums on Sustainable Development that are held annually in the lead up to the HLPF can be further strengthened to promote learning and review, especially on regional specific issues. There could be opportunities to host more VNR labs/workshops at these forums, and also create opportunities for greater involvement of civil society for multi-stakeholder learning.

I thank you once again for the opportunity to present our recommendations and we hope to see these reflected in the Resolution.



Major Groups and Other Stakeholders Statement ECOSOC and HLPF Review Consultations 20 February 2024

Q. 2 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?

Good morning, I am an Organizing Partner of the Volunteers Stakeholder Group and will be speaking on behalf of the Major Group and Other Stakeholders Coordination Mechanism. The 'Major Groups and Other Stakeholders' include 21 diverse stakeholder constituencies that are an integral part of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs as enshrined in the UNGA Resolution 67/290. We continue to play a key role in galvanising action on the SDGs and reaching those farthest left behind.

- The Summit of the Future (SOFT) comes at a critical moment, in which more than ever before, we need to urgently remind United Nations (UN) Member States of the ambitious promises and commitments made in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- As stressed before, the SOFT is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to enhance cooperation on critical challenges and address gaps in global governance, particularly as we face particular harm against our internationally-agreed system and the purposes and principles under the UN Charter.

Critical Recommendations:

As such, the Major Groups and Other Stakeholders highlight the importance of:

- *Reassuring* the Pact for the Future will build on the SDG Summit and other SDG reviewing-related mechanisms with a special focus on new dimensions on sustainable development; financing for development; international peace and security; science, technology and innovation and digital cooperation (Global Digital Compact, e.i.); youth and future generations; and transforming global governance; and most importantly: strengthening the international system through multilateral and multi stakeholder cooperation, with a focus on the participation of civil society.
- *Emphasising* the need for the SOFT to serve as a platform on how global cooperation will enable to deliver on the SDGs by responding to new



opportunities and challenges, particularly those that as of today, are threatening the respect for human rights worldwide, as well as planetary environmental stability.

- *Expecting* for the SOFT to make use of current existing reviewing and accountability mechanisms such as the HLPF and other SDG-related spaces for the follow-up and monitoring of commitments as part of the Pact for the Future.
- *Recommending* that the outcomes of the SOFT should also rely on the HLPF and other SDG reviewing spaces for the strengthening of multi-stakeholder involvement from across sectors. Not only digging into the implementation and accountability towards the SDGs, but also looking ahead to a post-2030 process that will build upon our current achievements and setbacks.
- *Seeking* that the results of the SDG Summit and SOtF processes can strengthen the ECOSOC's Committees and Commissions, provided that they are fully integrated into the Pact's outcomes through recommendations and key resulting documents.
- *Ensuring* that reports of the Secretary-General and background documents include references to both the outcomes of the SDG Summit and the SOtF, and that these integrate in agendas during spaces such as side-events, parallel spaces, consultations, etc. of other processes that further interlinkages and common approaches.

In all of these efforts, we certainly expect for all civil society in its diversity and dimensions to be involved, informed and integrated into key-decision making spaces and follow-up mechanisms.

I thank you.



Major Groups and Other Stakeholders Statement ECOSOC and HLPF Review Consultations 20 February 2024

Q. 3 For the review on the strengthening of ECOSOC, how to ensure better engagement, interaction and follow-up to harness the Council's and ECOSOC system's full potential?

Thank you co-facilitators for the floor. I am Yugratna Srivastava - Organising Partner of the Major Group for Children and Youth and it is my pleasure to address you. As a self organised constituency with more than 10,000 youth organisations members, MGCY serves

facilitates youth engagement 50 intergovernmental and 200 multi stakeholder UN processes ranging from humanitarian affairs to environment, health and human rights. In my intervention, I am also capturing inputs from the Major Group and Other Stakeholders Coordination Mechanism on Question 3.

We express our gratitude to the co-facilitators for hosting these consultations and also for the accessible nature of the consultations with member states last week.

Colleagues, most of my generation was not born when Agenda 21 was adopted, yet we find ourselves inheriting its unfulfilled promises and looming challenges. We must work together to achieve the Agenda 2030.

First, to enhance implementation of 2030 Agenda implementation, we call for strengthened peer learning, best practice sharing on experiences related to the voluntary contributions, leveraging on existing frameworks like VNRs, regional forums, EGMs and other prep meetings throughout the ECOSOC cycle.

Second, ECOSOC and the UNGA must prioritise addressing the unique challenges faced by the most vulnerable communities to ensure no one is left behind. To facilitate this, we suggest restructuring ECOSOC's operational cycle to run from July to July, divided into four distinct groups:

- Partnership Forum and Coordination Segment: Scheduled for February, to foster collaboration and streamline coordination efforts.
- ECOSOC Forums Group: Including forums on FFD, STI, and and Youth happening annually, with the Development Cooperation Forum occurring biennially before the FFD.



- We especially suggest that the Youth Forum must happen in the early parts of the cycle so its outcomes can actually feed meaningfully into the subsequent sessions. The current nature of the forum which is jointly organised by youth constituencies and UN agencies is an example of system-wide success in the UN which must be continued and strengthened.
- Third group - Focused on the UNDS and other actors' roles in Agenda 2030, covering operational activities for development, humanitarian affairs, and meeting on transition from relief to development.
- And Fourth Group Dedicated to providing overarching policy guidance through the HLPF and the high-level segment of ECOSOC.

Third, to ensure inclusive participation we advocate for the early circulation of the programme of work, enabling consultation and participation within UN working hours.

Fourth, the need to move ahead as one UN cannot be higher. Young people are already moving beyond silos and taking action - and we call upon you to do so. In a space with dozens of intergovernmental and other processes, the imperative for policy and programmatic coherence, fostering intergenerational solidarity and an inclusive intergenerational pact, can't be higher. To this end, we call upon the ECOSOC-HLPF review to include specific languages that invite contributions from the UN system including COPs, MEAs and others to feed into the deliberations of the cycle, not just at the HLPF. We would also like to suggest activities such as technical dialogues and roundtables that can be led by DESA at other UN events to promote cooperation and be reflected on the review.

Fifth, we call for the enhancement of processes that allow MGOS and NGOs in consultative status to contribute meaningfully. The HLPF's inclusion of a Plenary Session with MGoS is a successful model for such a dialogue - a practice that could be expanded to ECOSOC meetings. Young people continue to organise their own sessions in leadup to the various events in ECOSOC cycle and member states must heed to those recommendations.

Sixth, we need to move beyond the talk and into action. We want to see discussions and inputs generated across the multiple foras in the ECOSOC cycle to meaningfully inform the HLPF and implementation of the 2030 Agenda. We cannot keep meeting every year to talk about what needs to be changed, we actually need to do it. We suggest that this is done through having designated agenda items or other technical dialogues around the HLPF focussed on implementation and follow-up of the ministerial declaration.



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Seventh, to streamline civil society participation, the UN Secretariat should refine the submission process, making it more manageable. For instance, organising CSO statements by agenda items could significantly enhance their visibility ensuring that valuable suggestions and information are easily accessible to both Member States and CSOs. We

These planetary, social and military crises do not just loom over us; they threaten the very fabric of our future and that of our descendants. It's a battle that my generation did not choose, but one we must fight with every ounce of our collective strength.



Major Groups and Other Stakeholders Statement ECOSOC and HLPF Review Consultations 20 February 2024

Q. 4 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?

Bette Levy, Soroptimist International, WMG on behalf of the MGOS Coordination Mechanism.

Those who participated in the Open-Ended Working Group & the Post 2015 negotiations had high hopes as we had collectively developed a plan where all 193 members, UN entities, MGOS, civil society, academics, researchers and private sector would transparently assess and report successes, challenges & gaps ... that hope was quickly squashed. Member states refused to give the process any ability to monitor or hold each other accountable, it was completely voluntary and to have no binding commitments or obligations. A number of countries have never reported even once.

In 2021, the opportunity to correct this, addressing how far behind achieving the SDGs had fallen but sadly there was even less political will to change ...the process just rubber stamped the exact same procedures without taking on board any of the recommendations from MGOS.

We ask that the 2024 HLPF review not just be pro forma but actually look at what might make it more effective, more action-oriented and accelerate the ever-closing chance to achieve the SDGs by 2030. To address issues such as the pandemic, the pushback against gender equality norms, the significant increase in gender based violence, the dramatic increase in climate related disasters, the raging economic inequalities, and conflicts all causing a significant increase in migration.

To do this however, requires political determination, cooperation, and the willingness to work with MGOS and others to completely overhaul and remove the structural barriers.



Our recommendations are in line with Resolution A/ 67/290 & A/75/290 B and include:

- More focus on systematic barriers in achieving the SDGs.
- A more systematic annual comprehensive review of all the SDGs
- A truly open policy space for meaningful participation of civil society, organized through the MGOS CM.
- Emphasizing policy coherence with human rights and sustainable development imperatives at HLPF.
- A space to actively review and act, rather than passively report.
- Increase in the role of regional forums and improve linkages between national, regional, and global levels.

For the **Thematic segment** we suggest, a non-siloed proposal where all SDGs are reviewed each year through four different pillars:

1. Cross-cutting (emphasizing the interconnected nature of all the SDGs and that goal 5 and 17 as cross-cutting goals)
2. economic (goal 2,3,8,10, 12)
3. social (goal 1,4,11, 16)
4. environmental (goal 6,7,9,13, 14, 15)

Each pillar would be divided by 5 levers of discussion, from the GSDR of 2019. Each having a panel from regional commissions representatives, UN experts, UN treaty bodies, mandate holders, civil society and academics.

1. Progress and systematic barrier to achieving the goals and
2. Concrete policy action recommendations in terms of governance
3. Economy and Finance
4. Science & technology
5. Countries in Special Situations (and take into consideration the 6th lever presented in GSDR 2022, i.e. capacity building across the five sessions)

The Ministerial Segment should allocate more time for individual countries, with every country reviewed individually, (e.g. 45 minutes per country – 15 minutes presentation and 30 minutes Q&A), which can create space for each UN member state to report at least once in every 5 year cycle.
(with reference to the resolution 75/290b paras 4, (a),(d) & (e))

We plead with member states that now is time to be forward thinking and reject doing business as usual as we are at great risk of not only leaving the furthest behind but rather the majority of the world !!!

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today.



Major Groups and Other Stakeholders Statement ECOSOC and HLPF Review Consultations 20 February 2024

Q. 5 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?

Thank you, my name is ___ and I deliver this message on behalf of the Major Groups and Other Stakeholders Coordination Mechanism.

When considering the annual themes for ECOSOC and the HLPF for 2025-2027 as well as specific themes and Goals in the upcoming years, we stress the need to focus on the urgent need to deliver on the 2030 Agenda. The themes being discussed should not happen in a vacuum but should take global political and social realities and emerging crises into account while focusing on the systemic barriers which hinder progress at the global level to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

The MGOS emphasises that discussions at the various fora should be based on facts and data and make the most of existing reports such as the UN Secretary-General report, the Global Sustainable Development Report (GSDR), Paragraph 89 Reports, as well as the outcomes of evaluations and other processes. Official reports are not given the attention and recognition that they require, nor are they reflected upon or adequately reviewed to inform annual themes for the ECOSOC and HLPF and during thematic discussions within those contexts.

Annual themes must place greater importance to cross-cutting issues and have the principle of Leaving No One Behind as a cross-cutting theme, while centralising the topics of gender equality, evaluation and monitoring, financing, and transforming our world at the core. Specific exploration of the barriers to sustainable development for marginalized groups should also be highlighted annually.

We also urge the following:

- Increased attention placed on discussions around Means of Implementation and financing.
- To Continue with one main theme for ECOSOC and HLPF



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- Continue the inclusion of a humanitarian affairs segment in line with main ECOSOC theme
- That subsidiary bodies should decide own themes, aligned with main theme
- Integration of better interlinkages with other processes such as the UPR.
- To continue to review a set of Goals and their interlinkages, including with other Goals with a view to facilitating an in-depth review of progress made on all 17 Goals over the course of its four-year cycle. Goal 17 on means of implementation shall be reviewed annually, including based on the outcome of Financing for Development follow-up.
- We propose that Goal 16 should be reviewed every year as the basis of justice and the rule of law underpins delivery of all other goals.
- Dedicating one year to crisis response and resilience within the four-year cycle addresses the need for an adaptive development agenda.

We propose:

- Establishing global consultative forums where diverse stakeholders can discuss pressing global issues and identify themes requiring focused attention.
- A thematic mapping exercise which can identify areas where multiple SDGs intersect, promoting holistic approaches to sustainable development. Adaptive feedback mechanisms can capture real-time inputs from stakeholders, ensuring inclusivity in theme selection.
- Ensuring the engagement and consultation of the Major Groups and Other Stakeholders Coordination Mechanism in the formulation of the Annual Themes for ECOSOC and HLPF.

Thank you



Major Groups and Other Stakeholders Statement ECOSOC and HLPF Review Informals 15 February 2024

Excellencies, Co-Facilitators,

Thank you for this opportunity to address you on behalf of the Major Groups and Other Stakeholders Coordination Mechanism, a group of 21 diverse stakeholder constituencies that are an integral part of the 2030 Agenda. We strongly emphasize the critical importance of stakeholder engagement and participation in ECOSOC related activities, which contribute to better informed decision-making and greater development outcomes.

The 2nd half of the 2030 Agenda is here. We have the opportunity to increase multi-stakeholder participation and inclusion while implementing the needed substantive and procedural changes to strengthen the HLPF. We urge Member States to be more ambitious than ever to ensure effective impact assessment and delivery of the SDGs.

The Summit of the Future (SOTF) has galvanized attention to the importance of the 2030 Agenda, adding in new dimensions like the Global Digital Compact. However, as can be seen in the case of the conduct of Summits, they lack comprehensive outcome processes for follow-up and accountability. This could be integrated into the work of the HLPF, or the General Assembly through an appropriate resolution. The outcomes of the SOTF can also galvanize strong stakeholder involvement, in particular, in areas such as implementation, monitoring and accountability and also assist post 2030 in bridging from the 2030 Agenda to what follows.

In terms of our overall ECOSOC review recommendations:

We believe that ECOSOC provides a valuable channel for dialogue with civil society on a range of pressing issues and we call for additional support to enable those communities systematically left behind to join the discussions.

This requires investment in the UN system to ensure that participation can be supported both in terms of direct support for travel but also for greater use of online engagement to bring diverse perspectives on key issues.

We believe that stakeholders should be fully engaged in each point of the ECOSOC calendar, including greater online participation such as during the Partnership Forum and the Coordination Segment.



We call for a better integrated annual cycle, including clear policy guidance on the implementation of:

(a) Ministerial Declaration

(b) lessons learned from VNRs. On this, it is important that there is a focus on the poorest and on marginalized populations. There should also be a recognition and utilization of citizen generated data to complement official statistics to measure progress especially for marginalized groups.

These recommendations must be linked more directly to implementation by each Member State so that the impact of new policies can be measured.

We also call for a stronger focus on the SG report to ECOSOC on lessons learned from VNRs with recommendations for follow-up by countries, segments and forums of ECOSOC.

In terms of HLPF in particular:

We call for Strengthened peer learning and sharing of best practices and experiences relating to implementation of 2030 Agenda, on a voluntary basis, building on regional forums, VNRs and expert and other preparatory meetings.

The HLPF should adopt a transformative approach, avoiding 'business as usual,' and address the root causes of challenges, structural problems and systemic inequalities hindering SDG progress

We strongly endorse the participation of the Major Groups and Other Stakeholders as established in the 2030 Agenda and highlight that the agenda will only be met if there is a 'whole of society' approach.

Governments should not act in isolation but rather work in partnership with community groups, NGOs, Indigenous Peoples, youth, older persons, local volunteers, community groups, LGBTI, communities discriminated on the basis of work and descent, local authorities, businesses, trade unions, groups deprived of education, and many other stakeholders.

Many of our organisations provide the practical expertise to deliver the SDGs, the knowledge of local needs and enable finance to reach frontline communities, we must not be left behind. It is only by working in partnership with Major Groups and Other Stakeholders and local communities that there will be any chance of reaching those furthest behind first! We propose that the VNRs should include specific review of progress since the previous presentation. Member states should be encouraged to demonstrate how policy changes have led to practical outcomes in each of the goals and targets. On VNR reports, it's not enough that Indigenous Peoples and marginalized populations are just mentioned in the Leaving No One Behind sections of some VNR reports. We strongly recommend that states adopt mechanisms to be



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able to generate data on ethnicity, among other issues, and report on specific interventions done in relation to the realization of the rights of vulnerable, marginalized, and excluded groups. Safe spaces for engagement in the SDG processes at the national and global level needs to be ensured. There should be zero tolerance for reprisals against civil society representatives and Indigenous Peoples speaking in relevant SDG processes on realities on the ground.

Finally, in light of the SDG Summit in September 2023, we call for a clear commitment to financing the 2030 Agenda with a strong focus on delivering a specific fund to support those communities who are most often left behind in direct partnership with them. There is also a need to strengthen follow up and accountability.

Major Groups and Other Stakeholders Coordination Mechanism Submission on Priority Areas for Reviews and Strengthening of ECOSOC and HLPF

The Major Groups and Other Stakeholders Coordination Mechanism (MGOS CM) offers the following responses and recommendations regarding the reviews of the arrangements contained in General Assembly resolutions 75/290 A and 75/290 B, and their annexes, as well as the impetus of the SDG Summit 2023 and the preparatory process of the Summit of the Future.

1. Resolutions Review (75/290 A and 75/290 B):

- We would like to emphasize the need for equal opportunities for Major Groups and Other Stakeholders (MGOS) to engage in both ECOSOC and the HLPF. Including by having standardized procedures for MGOS participation and interventions, which are vital to ensure inclusivity and effectiveness.
- Addressing vulnerability: ECOSOC and the Secretary-General should prioritize addressing challenges faced by the most vulnerable countries and communities, ensuring a platform of inclusiveness, transparency, and flexibility.
- Strengthening engagement: We support the structuring of ECOSOC into four groups to enhance engagement, interaction, and follow-up, including platforms for dialogue, coordination, and common action-oriented policy guidance.
- Making the update of Secretary-General Guidelines for Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) submission mandatory every two years is crucial. The Secretary-General should gather a group of experts to advise on VNRs, focusing on enhancing their quality and fostering action-oriented reports to accelerate SDG implementation.
- It is essential to highlight a set of guiding principles that should strengthen the comparability of the follow-up and review process of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. We should move beyond dialogue and explore concrete actionable pathways to agree recommendations and tackle the obstacles to implementation.

2. Utilizing the SDG Summit 2023 and Summit of the Future:

The SDG Summit 2023 and the Summit of the Future (SOTF) present crucial opportunities to strengthen ECOSOC and accelerate coordinated implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The outcomes of these summits should integrate into the work of the HLPF and the General Assembly through appropriate resolutions.

Integration ensures comprehensive follow-up mechanisms and accountability processes, crucial for advancing the 2030 Agenda's objectives. Recommendations stemming from the SDG Summit and SOTF should directly inform ECOSOC's agenda and operational frameworks, fostering stakeholder involvement and addressing evolving dimensions since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda.

3. Strengthening ECOSOC Engagement and Interaction:

Enhancing ECOSOC's engagement, interaction, and follow-up mechanisms is paramount to harnessing its full potential. Special attention must be given to addressing the challenges faced by the most vulnerable countries and communities. Structuring ECOSOC into four distinct groups with clear timelines and thematic focuses facilitates better coordination and participation. Early circulation of the program of work enhances transparency and allows for meaningful consultation and participation. Furthermore, streamlining processes for inputs from MGOS and NGOs ensures effective dialogue and collaboration between civil society, Member States, and ECOSOC bodies.

4. Mobilizing the HLPF for Maximum SDG Progress:

Mobilizing the HLPF to achieve maximum progress on the SDGs requires multi-stakeholder involvement and integrated policy guidance.

We call for strengthened peer learning and sharing of good practices and experiences relating to implementation of 2030 Agenda, on a voluntary basis, building on regional forums, VNRs and expert and other preparatory meetings throughout the ECOSOC annual cycle.

Lessons learned from Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) should inform the HLPF's deliberations and drive transformative approaches that address structural problems and systemic inequalities. Recognizing and utilizing citizen-generated data complements official statistics, particularly in measuring progress among marginalized groups. The Secretary General's guidance for VNRs should be updated to align with current lay of the land particularly noting that almost all countries are going into their second (or more) report presentation

There is a need for more time for VNR dialogues, the HLPF should consider hosting two separate sessions, one earlier in the year on technical thematic reviews and a longer session focused on VNRs to enable longer time for comparative exchange between countries.

The HLPF should adopt a transformative approach, avoiding 'business as usual,' and address the root causes of challenges and inequalities hindering SDG progress.

5. HLPF Theme Selection and SDG Review:

Maintaining one main theme for ECOSOC and HLPF ensures coherence and alignment with the 2030 Agenda's overarching objectives. Subsidiary body themes should align with the main ECOSOC theme to enhance thematic integration and comprehensive review processes. Additionally, HLPF program should find a way to formally review all inputs for greater benefit of the review, including that of civil society.

The HLPF should continue reviewing a set of SDGs and their interlinkages, focusing on Goal 17 on means of implementation annually. This approach facilitates in-depth reviews of progress made on all 17 Goals over the course of the four-year cycle, ensuring

comprehensive monitoring and evaluation of SDG implementation. We also propose that Goal 16 should be reviewed every year as the basis of justice and the rule of law underpins delivery of all other goals.

In conclusion, the Major Groups and Other Stakeholders emphasize the importance of inclusive, transparent, and accountable processes in reviewing and strengthening ECOSOC and HLPF frameworks. Integration of stakeholder perspectives, timely feedback mechanisms, and transformative approaches are essential for accelerating progress towards the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

HLPF REVIEW 2024

1. GA resolution 75/290 A: ECOSOC (Annex paragraphs for action). Recommendations for ECOSOC refer to substantive and organizational/procedural issues

| Paragraph | Recommendation | Comments |
|-----------|--|--------------------------------|
| 1 and 2 | General recommendations for enhancement of ECOSOC's role in implementation of SDGs | Substantive and organizational |
| 3 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue with one main theme for ECOSOC and HLPF - Continue adoption of themes of humanitarian affairs segment in line with main ECOSOC theme - Subsidiary bodies will decide own themes, aligned with main theme | Substantive |
| 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide integrated policy guidance to implementation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Ministerial Declaration (b) lessons learned from VNRs. - SG report to ECOSOC on lessons learned from VNRs with recommendations for follow-up by countries, segments and forums of ECOSOC - Focus on the poorest and most vulnerable | Substantive |
| 5 | ECOSOC and SG should address special challenges facing the most vulnerable countries | Substantive |
| 6 | ECOSOC to run from July to July and structured into four groups | Organizational |
| 7 | First group (Partnership Forum and Coordination segment) – to be held in February | Organizational |
| 8 | Second group (ECOSOC forums – FFD, STI, Youth) – held annually. Development Cooperation Forum every 2 years before FFD. | Organizational |
| 9 | Third group – segments on UN development system and other actors to implement 2030 Agenda (operational activities for development, humanitarian affairs, meeting on transition from relief to development) | Organizational |
| 10 | Fourth group - segments and forums that provide overall policy guidance for 2030 Agenda (HLPF and high-level segment of ECOSOC). | Organizational |
| 11 | Special sessions to address urgent development in economic, social, environmental and related fields, ad hoc meetings on humanitarian assistance | Substantive and organizational |

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| 12 | Platform of inclusiveness, transparency and flexibility; avoiding duplication and overlap | Organizational |
| 13 | Goal is to eradication of poverty and mainstream a gender perspective across its agenda, work programme, meetings and documentation. | Substantive |
| 14 | Early circulation of programme of work for consultation and participation within UN working hours | Substantive and organizational |
| 15 | Partnership Forum to meet for 1 day by early February, back to back with the Coordination Segment - engaging countries, the UN system, international financial institutions, international organizations, parliamentarians, local governments, NGOs , private sector, civil society scientists, academia, women, youth and other stakeholders . Partnership Forum will be organized in consultation with stakeholders and will focus on exchange of new ideas, expectations and priorities and discuss forward-looking actions by countries and all relevant stakeholders as well as innovative partnerships to advance 2030 Agenda. | Organizational |
| 16 | Coordination Segment will replace Integration Segment and the informal meeting of the Council with Chairs of subsidiary bodies and will be held annually for up to two days by early February, before the first session of a subsidiary body of the Council – address coordination matters arising from subsidiary bodies, principal organs and specialized agencies in economic, social, environmental and related fields, leading up to the HLPF and provide policy guidance to ensure coherence. | Organizational |
| 17 | Coordination Segment will formulate common action-oriented policy guidance for (i) functional and regional commissions and other subsidiary bodies; and (ii) by the UN system, including guidance on implementation of the ministerial declaration, avoiding overlap. | Substantive |
| 18 | Coordination Segment will examine key policy issues, lessons learned, best practices and recommendations from ECOSOC subsidiary bodies and regional commissions; provide guidance and coordination to subsidiary bodies, and UN system in implementation of the Ministerial Declaration ; provide guidance on preparations for the HLPF. | Substantive and organizational |
| 19 | ECOSOC may discuss items that have been previously considered by the Management segment. | Organizational |

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| 20 | Secretariat will prepare informal note for Coordination Segment to inform discussions. | Substantive |
| 21 | Heads of UN system entities, Chairs of subsidiary bodies and Executive Secretaries of regional commissions will be invited to participate; NGOs in consultative status <u>should</u> - and the private sector and other stakeholders involved in the policy and normative work of the UN system and the subsidiary bodies may - be engaged in the Coordination Segment, while retaining the intergovernmental nature of the Council. | Organizational |
| 22 | A non-negotiated factual summary will be prepared by PECOSOC in consultation with the Bureau. | Substantive |
| 23 | HLPF will continue to discharge functions provided for in GA resolutions 60/299 and 72/305 | Substantive and organizational |
| 24 | Operational activities for development segment will continue with its mandates | Substantive and organizational |
| 25 | One day meeting on transition from relief to development will be convened immediately preceding the humanitarian affairs segment and will replace the special event to discuss the transition from relief to development and alternate between Geneva and New York. Participation by civil society will be possible. | Substantive and organizational |
| 26 | Humanitarian Affairs Segment will continue with its mandates | Substantive |
| 27 | Management Segment will continue (focus on adoption of procedural decisions, consideration of recommendations of subsidiary bodies, as well as the introduction of reports and consideration of draft proposals submitted under relevant agenda items). | Substantive and organizational |
| 28 | Management Segment , meeting in June, will discuss key messages from subsidiary bodies of ECOSOC and UN system on recommendations to feed into HLPF, informed by existing report of SG (E/HLPF/year/4) | Substantive and organizational |
| 29 | SG will submit annual report of UN Chief Executives Board for Coordination to Management Segment | Organizational |
| 30 | ECOSOC may furnish information to the Security Council. | Substantive and organizational |
| 31 | ECOSOC should strengthen dialogue with Peacebuilding Commission ; convene annual joint meetings. | Substantive and organizational |
| 32 | ECOSOC should strengthen its oversight, guidance and coordination role of its subsidiary bodies. | Substantive and organizational |

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| 33 | President and Bureau of ECOSOC are invited to work with the bureau of subsidiary bodies and in consultation with delegations during the 2022 session of the Council. | Organizational |
| 34 | Engagement of civil society and relevant stakeholders should continue to be arranged. | Organizational |
| 35 | “While retaining its intergovernmental nature”, ECOSOC should seek to promote active participation of international and regional organizations, members of parliaments, academia, scientists, Non-governmental organizations, local governments, the private sector, women, youth and major groups and other stakeholders in accordance with GA resolutions 67/290 and 72/305 | |

2. GA resolution 75/290 B: HLPF (Annex paragraphs for action). Recommendations for HLPF refer to substantive and organizational/procedural issues

| Paragraph | Recommendation | Actions taken |
|-----------|---|--------------------------------|
| 1 – 5 | General principles and proceedings | Substantive and organizational |
| 6 | Strengthen peer learning and sharing of best practices and experiences relating to implementation of 2030 Agenda, on a voluntary basis, building on regional forums, VNRs and expert and other preparatory meetings | Substantive and organizational |
| 7 | Continue to review a set of Goals and their interlinkages, including with other Goals with a view to facilitating an in-depth review of progress made on all 17 Goals over the course of its four-year cycle. Goal 17 on means of implementation shall be reviewed annually, including based on outcome of FFD follow-up. | Substantive and organizational |
| 8 | Involvement of governments, UN system, international and regional organizations, parliamentarians, local governments, women, children and youth, persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, civil society, non-governmental organizations, business and the private sector, the scientific and academic community and “ other major groups and relevant stakeholders ” | Organizational |

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| 9 | Better balance between interlinkages across Goals and targets and ensuring in-depth reviews of individual SDGs. Each year, bear in mind areas where SDGs can have the greatest and most transformative impact across multiple Goals and targets. | Substantive |
| 10 | Strengthen science-policy interface; pay attention to Global Sustainable Development report; special attention to availability of data and strengthening capabilities for data collection and analysis | Substantive |
| 11 | Decision on themes for 2022, 2023 | Substantive and organizational |
| 12 | Decision on SDGs for in-depth review in 2022 and 2023 | Substantive and organizational |
| 13 | In 2022 and 2023, HLPF shall pay attention to impact of COVID-19 across all ISDGs | Substantive |
| 14 | In 2022 and 2023, maintain integrity of 2030 Agenda and ensure continuous action on the targets, allowing for updated targets to reflect a suitable level of ambition for 2030. | Substantive |
| 15 | In 2022 and 2023 HLPF shall promote and review implementation of the Political Declaration adopted at the 2019 SDG Summit, as well as ministerial declarations under auspices of ECOSOC | Substantive and organizational |
| 16 | HLPF could consider inputs from intergovernmental bodies and forums, findings, research, data and recommendations from UN system, expert preparatory process and expert and scientific sources such as the Global Sustainable Development report and the Technology Facilitation Mechanism that strengthen the science-policy interface. | Substantive |
| 17 | HLPF shall dedicate adequate time to review progress in countries in special situations(Africa, LDCs, LLDCs, SIDS, countries in conflict and post- conflict situations. | Organizational |
| 18 | Bearing in mind voluntary and country-led nature of VNRs, countries “may wish to” share best practices and experiences, successes, challenges, gaps and lessons learned, as well as next steps, informing the SDG Moment in September. | Substantive and organizational |
| 19 | Countries are encouraged to conduct a review once during the four-year cycle. | Organizational -which countries have not? |

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| 20 | ECOSOC should allocate as much time as possible to the VNRs. Participation of major groups and other relevant stakeholders in discuss of VNRs should continue to be ensured as mandated in resolution 67/290 and the 2030 Agenda. Countries conducting VNRs should be given priority for organizing forum side events. | Organizational |
| 21 | VNRs should be State-led, and provide a platform for partnerships, including through the participation of major groups and other relevant stakeholders . Role of parliaments acknowledged. | Organizational |
| 22 | Countries encouraged to strengthen evidence, science, evaluation and data basis for VNRs | Substantive |
| 23 | Countries should use SG's reporting guidelines for VNRs, which should be updated. | Substantive |
| 24 | Countries should participate in preparatory processes for VNRs | Organizational |
| 25 | UN system and other international and regional organizations and other stakeholders are invited to provide support to countries preparing their VNRs | Substantive and organizational |
| 26 | The UN system and other organizations and stakeholders should support countries in follow-up to VNRs | Substantive and organizational |
| 27 | VNRs should be used to raise awareness about the SDGs | Organizational |
| 28 | Role of regional forums in supporting preparation and follow-up of VNRs | Organizational |
| 29 | HLPF should continue to strengthen the attention given to outcomes of regional forums. | Organizational |
| 30 | HLPF should continue to strengthen attention to efforts to bolster local action | Organizational |
| 31 | HLPF should be informed by SG annual progress report which should include information on data gaps and how best to address them. GSDR to be presented every 4 years. ECOSOC should invite scientists preparing the GSDR to participate in the HLPF, including to discuss new and emerging issues. GSDR should be available in March to inform intergovernmental negotiations on the political declaration at the SDG Summit. | Substantive and organizational |
| 32 | Functional commissions should provide inputs on progress. All relevant stakeholders should be engaged. | Substantive and organizational |

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| 33 | Ministerial Declaration should be concise, focused, action-oriented and forward-looking, outlining priority areas for accelerated action. Only one declaration when SDG summit takes place. | Substantive |
| 34 | HLPF under auspices of the GA shall begin on the first day of the general debate or the Monday before the opening of the general debate. SDG moment (held under auspices of the GA) should highlight inspiring action on the SDGs | Organizational |
| 35 | Reaffirming participation of major groups and other relevant stakeholders . Countries could consider including major groups and other relevant stakeholders in their delegations at the forum. | Organizational |
| 36 | Major groups and other relevant stakeholders are called upon to report on activities pursuant to para. 89 of 2030 Agenda, and Secretariat shall continue to compile and make available the documents from major groups and other relevant stakeholders, as provided for in paragraph 15(d) of 67/290. | Substantive |

Resolutions cited in A/RES/75/290 A and B with specific references to “major groups and other stakeholders”:

- A/RES/72/305 on Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 68/1 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council, adopted on 23 July 2018 (paras. 20 and 21).
- A/RES/70/299 on follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level, adopted on 29 July 2016 (para.12).
- A/RES/70/1 on Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted on 25 September 2015 (paras. 84 and 89).
- A/RES/68/1 on review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 61/16 on the strengthening of the economic and Social Council (para. 23 – “major groups” only).
- A/RES/67/290 on format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development, adopted on 9 July 2013 (paras. 14, 15 and 15).

2. 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?

- The SDG political declaration made explicit references to localization and the importance of sustainable urbanization, as well as a clause calling for multilevel coordination. Building on this, the ECOSOC could benefit from enhanced multilevel governance mechanisms and multistakeholder follow up of the SDG Rescue Plan.
- Make use and follow up on the entry points of the 2024 GSDR, connecting them with all processes related to the HLPF, including the localization of the SDGs. Ensuring that local and regional governments are mainstreamed throughout the follow up of the GSDR and its key recommendations.

3. For the review on the strengthening of ECOSOC, how to ensure better engagement, interaction and follow-up to harness the Council's and ECOSOC system's full potential?

- Take into account the proposals of the Advisory Group on Local and Regional Governments of the UN Secretary General to enhance the institutional mechanisms to strengthen engagement of local and regional governments in intergovernmental processes.
- Consider the call to action of the Local Authorities Major Group to: "Define a special, formal and permanent status for the self-organized constituency of local and regional governments before the UN's principal policymaking bodies".
- Follow up on the recommendations stemming from the SDG Action Weekend of the 2023 SDG Summit on ensuring multi-stakeholder action is leading the way in the acceleration of the SDGs, including the High Impact Initiative on Localization, and the coalitions presented by the local government constituency during the SDG Summit.

4. 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?

- The HLPF can achieve maximum progress on the SDGs by establishing a stronger, meaningful link between the official proceedings of the HLPF and the special events led by other actors taking place within the framework of the forum, such as the Local and Regional Governments Forum. The Local and Regional Governments Forum has been held annually at the HLPF since 2018 and is the main mechanism for the review and follow up of the SDGs of the local and regional government constituency, facilitated by the Global Taskforce of Local and Regional Governments.

- Define a concrete and formal space to present, follow up and review Voluntary Local Review and Voluntary Subnational Reviews within the HLPF process as they contribute to revamping local-national relations for sustainable development, they strengthen the ownership of the SDGs at the local and regional levels, and they foster a whole-of-society approach from the ground up.

5. 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?

- It is recommended to adopt a comprehensive approach to reviewing the 2030 Agenda, building cross-cutting knowledge that avoids silos between stakeholders and specific SDGs in review, building on the SDG Rescue Plan and going beyond specific SDGs yearly review.
- Ensuring an inclusive consultation with the MGoS Coordination mechanism, whereby the major groups are fully involved in the work of the ECOSOC including the selection of the annual themes of the HLPF.



Inputs from the NGO Major Group on Priority Areas for Reviews and Strengthening of ECOSOC and the HLPF

1. What do stakeholders regard as priorities for the reviews of the arrangements contained in General Assembly resolutions 75/290 A and 75/290 B and their annexes?

ECOSOC and the HLPF should offer a substantive space for policy dialogue amongst all social groups and constituencies, within a firm rights-based framework. This implies that all concerned parties have the possibility - and time - to express their views openly and honestly, provide constructive feedback and respond in a meaningful and productive way.

We strongly endorse the participation of all stakeholders as established in the 2030 Agenda and highlight that the agenda will only be met if there is a 'whole of society' approach. Governments should not act in isolation but rather work in partnership with Major Groups & Other Stakeholders. The role of civil society within the HLPF must be recognised and safeguarded in the Resolution.

First on the substantive side, the Resolution should support better alignment and integration of the 2030 Agenda with other international frameworks, particularly concerning the environment, humanitarian action and human rights.

Sustainable development recognises and aligns with environmental, climate, human rights and other sectors. It is therefore important that the HLPF provides more space for the input from relevant sector mechanisms and agencies. This needs to be in both the HLPF as a whole and within VNRs.

We recommend:

- Stronger links with key international processes and agreements – the Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), Universal Periodic Reviews (UPRs), CEDAW, etc.
- Better synergies with the Financing for Development process.
- Meaningful Involvement of all relevant UN bodies with the HLPF (the International Monetary Fund (IMF), World Trade Organization (WTO), UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), The Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) etc.) to promote greater policy coherence in implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

Secondly, the Resolution should ensure that ECOSOC continues to provide integrated policy guidance to implementation of:

- a) The HLPF Ministerial Declaration, this should include clear next steps on major commitments
- b) Lessons learned from VNRs. The Secretary-General should report to ECOSOC on lessons learned from VNRs with recommendations for follow-up by countries, segments and forums of ECOSOC

Thirdly, the Resolution should recognise the centrality of the Pledge to Leave No One Behind.

In line with the 2030 Agenda, there is a responsibility for countries - governments and all stakeholders - to ensure no one is left behind in progress towards achieving the SDGs, and that the furthest behind are reached first. There has been a welcome increase in the amount of reporting on leaving no one behind in VNRs, but the pace of change has not been fast enough. We know who is being left behind, but we still lack the progress in collecting data and analysis of data that already exists.

2. 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?

The SDG Summit provided a crucial moment at the half-way point of the 2030 Agenda, for reflection on delivery and monitoring and we note that Member States agreed to make specific additional commitments to accelerate action on the SDGs.

There is no time to lose, we call for these additional commitments to feature at the HLPF with an annual 'commitment review' where member states can show progress on their key commitments.

We must now move beyond dialogue and explore concrete actionable pathways to agree recommendations and tackle the obstacles to implementation. To move in these directions, it is essential to highlight a set of guiding principles that should strengthen the comparability of the follow-up and review process of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, based on specific commitments.

In terms of the *Summit of the Future*, the 5 chapters provide an opportunity to bring additional dimensions to the implementation of the SDGs, including the clear link to financing and also digital governance.

On financing, we call for a clear commitment to financing the 2030 Agenda with a strong focus on delivering a specific fund to support those communities who are most often left behind in direct partnership with them.

On digital governance, the Global Digital Compact must be based on a rights-based approach to enhance data privacy and ensure individuals have a greater ability to control their own data.

3. For the review on the strengthening of ECOSOC, how to ensure better engagement, interaction and follow-up to harness the Council's and ECOSOC system's full potential?

We call for strengthened peer learning and sharing of best practices and experiences relating to implementation of the 2030 Agenda, on a voluntary basis, building on regional forums, VNRs and expert and other preparatory meetings throughout the ECOSOC annual cycle.

The Council should also make full use of digital technology to enable wider participation, this should include:

- a) A regular 'stakeholder survey' to gather inputs from ECOSOC accredited NGOs and all members of the Major Groups & other Stakeholders;
- b) Greater use of hybrid meetings to enable direct interaction with rights holders around the world in spite of challenges around travel costs and logistics.

4. 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?

We call for strengthened peer learning and sharing of best practices and experiences relating to implementation of 2030 Agenda, building on regional forums, VNRs and expert and other preparatory meetings throughout the ECOSOC annual cycle.

Lessons learned from Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) should inform the HLPF's deliberations and drive transformative approaches that address structural problems and systemic inequalities. Recognizing and utilising citizen-generated data complements official statistics, particularly in measuring progress among marginalized groups.

There is a need for more time for VNR dialogues, the HLPF should consider hosting 2 separate sessions:

- a) One session earlier in the year on technical thematic reviews
- b) A longer session focused on VNRs in July to enable longer time for comparative exchange and effective dialogue between countries.

We recommend that:

- Member states are encouraged to report on progress in collecting disaggregated data on groups agreed in the 2030 Agenda. The UN development system could be provided with additional resources to support Member States in collecting quality, disaggregated data on agreed groups.
- Member states are encouraged to report on efforts to reach agreed groups in VNRs, even where data is lacking.
- UN DESA is tasked with providing leave no one behind specific analysis of each year's VNRs.
- Thematic reviews integrate a specific leave no one behind segment within substantive discussions.

We would welcome better reporting on civil society participation in implementation of the 2030 Agenda

We recommend that:

- UN DESA, in collaboration with the Major Groups and other Stakeholders, is tasked with drafting a report on the engagement of civil society organisations in each year's VNRs'
- A space is created at the HLPF for the presentation of Voluntary Stakeholder Reviews, in a similar way to the space created for Voluntary Local Reviews

Finally, we recommend further opportunities for meaningful review, follow-up and learning.

VNR labs have been a welcome innovation and the 2020 resolution reaffirmed their role within the HLPF. There is a need to build on this progress, as they can be under-supported by member states and not well coordinated with one another. We would recommend the 2024 resolution encourage more member states to engage and request UN DESA cluster issues under VNR labs to ensure a more systematic overview.

In addition, the Regional Forums on Sustainable Development that are held annually in the lead up to the HLPF can be further strengthened to promote learning and review, especially on regional specific issues. There could be opportunities to host more VNR labs/workshops at these forums, and also create opportunities for greater involvement of civil society for multi-stakeholder learning.

5. 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?

It will be important to cluster goals on annual themes, these could be centred around key areas for delivery, such as the 5 Ps of People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnerships.

It is also essential to connect the themes of the HLPF with the need to shift towards urgent delivery of the 2030 Agenda. In the coming years, there must be a closer link to questions around Means of Implementation and financing.

Goal 17 on means of implementation should continue to be reviewed annually, including a close link to the outcomes of the FFD process.

We also propose that Goal 16 should be reviewed every year, since the basis of justice and the rule of law underpins delivery of all other goals. In sustainable development, the importance of political participation stems from Amartya Sen's capabilities approach, which emphasizes human freedom for enhancing fulfilling lives. In the face of increasingly challenging civic space and limits on fundamental freedoms, it is more important than ever that the core rights of all people and indeed all living beings are reviewed annually and strengthened.

MGOS Constituency Written Inputs for HLPF Review

Sendai Stakeholders Engagement Mechanism

1. 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?

Member States are prioritizing the review of arrangements to strengthen the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) with several key points in focus. They aim to delineate clear roles for ECOSOC and HLPF to prevent overlap and ensure efficiency. Coordination and collaboration between the two bodies are highlighted to enhance synergies and coherence in review processes. Prioritizing alignment of priorities and integrating findings from both ECOSOC and HLPF reviews are deemed essential for a comprehensive assessment of progress towards sustainable development goals. Additionally, member states emphasize active stakeholder engagement, capacity development, and robust accountability mechanisms to ensure inclusivity, effectiveness, and transparency in reviews.

Furthermore, member states stress the need for enhanced monitoring and reporting mechanisms, including standardized indicators and data collection methods. They call for mainstreaming cross-cutting issues like gender equality and climate change into reviews and providing capacity building support to enhance participation. Aligning outcomes with national development plans is highlighted for effective implementation, while promoting multi-stakeholder engagement, including civil society and private sector entities, is emphasized to leverage expertise and resources in advancing sustainable development goals. These priorities aim to enhance the effectiveness and coherence of ECOSOC and HLPF reviews towards achieving sustainable development objectives.

2. 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?

To capitalize on the momentum generated by the SDG Summit 2023 and the preparatory process of the Summit of the Future, strategic actions are required to strengthen ECOSOC and accelerate coordinated implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This entails integrating outcomes from both summits into ECOSOC's agenda to align with global priorities. Enhanced coordination between ECOSOC and stakeholders involved in the Summit of the Future promotes coherence in sustainable development strategies. Identifying specific action areas emerging from these summits allows ECOSOC to prioritize initiatives for targeted impact. Inclusive multi-stakeholder engagement within ECOSOC leverages networks

established during the summits, enhancing participation and resource mobilization. Integration of innovative policies and best practices identified in summit discussions fosters adaptive governance within ECOSOC. Capacity-building efforts within ECOSOC and member states facilitate the implementation of summit outcomes. Robust monitoring and accountability mechanisms ensure transparency and track progress on commitments made during the summits, ultimately advancing the collective efforts towards sustainable development goals.

3. For the review on the strengthening of ECOSOC, how to ensure better engagement, interaction and follow-up to harness the Council's and ECOSOC system's full potential?

Prioritizing meaningful youth engagement in ECOSOC and disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies involves establishing advisory groups and forums, ensuring representation in decision-making bodies, and providing capacity-building opportunities. Supporting youth-led initiatives with funding and technical assistance is crucial, along with enhancing accessibility through digital platforms. Integrating DRR priorities into the review process and fostering collaborative partnerships further strengthens efforts.

To comprehensively leverage the momentum from the SDG Summit 2023 and the Summit of the Future, additional strategies are proposed. These include forming a Summit Integration Task Force within ECOSOC, facilitating ongoing consultations, establishing thematic working groups, mobilizing financial commitments, promoting policy coherence, instituting regular progress reviews, and launching global advocacy campaigns. These measures ensure the effective integration of summit outcomes into ECOSOC's agenda, enhance coordination, and encourage global commitment to sustainable development objectives.

4. 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?

The strategy for meaningful youth engagement and disaster risk reduction (DRR) begins with integrating youth representatives into all High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) proceedings and establishing dedicated forums. Supporting youth-led initiatives in advancing Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly in DRR, through funding and technical assistance follows. Capacity-building programs for youth, integrating DRR across SDGs, and improving data collection on youth involvement and DRR progress are essential steps. Fostering partnerships between youth organizations and various stakeholders and conducting targeted advocacy campaigns are also crucial.

To enhance the strategy, inclusive regional consultations within the HLPF framework capture diverse perspectives and contextual challenges. Incorporating indigenous knowledge, mainstreaming gender perspectives, and strengthening monitoring mechanisms are vital. Encouraging youth-driven technological innovation, facilitating localized action plans, and integrating youth-led side events into the HLPF agenda further enrich the strategy. These

additions ensure regional nuances are considered, indigenous knowledge is valued, gender perspectives are mainstreamed, and innovative solutions are encouraged, leading to more comprehensive and effective youth engagement and DRR efforts in achieving the SDGs.

5. 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?

The selection of annual themes for ECOSOC and the HLPF for 2025-2027, aligning with the four-year cycle of the HLPF (2024-2027), necessitates careful consideration of global priorities, emerging challenges, and the interconnectedness of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a focus on SDGs 4, 5, 10, 12, 13, 16, and 17. To ensure a comprehensive approach, several measures can be implemented.

Establishing global consultative forums with diverse stakeholders allows for discussions on pressing global issues and identifies themes requiring focused attention. A thematic mapping exercise can identify areas where multiple SDGs intersect, promoting holistic approaches to sustainable development. Adaptive feedback mechanisms capture real-time inputs from stakeholders, ensuring inclusivity in theme selection.

Dedicating one year to crisis response and resilience within the four-year cycle addresses the need for an adaptive development agenda. Cross-sectoral integration promotes collaboration between sectors to address systemic global challenges. Incorporating youth-driven priorities ensures themes resonate with the aspirations of the younger generation.

Designating specific years for in-depth reviews of SDGs with strong interlinkages allows for nuanced examinations of progress. Utilizing data-driven decision-making processes evaluates the impact and relevance of previously selected themes, ensuring a dynamic and responsive approach. These measures enhance the selection process, aligning annual themes with global priorities and fostering comprehensive sustainable development strategies

Women's Major Group

The Women's Major Group Written Inputs to the ECOSOC / HLPF Review

1. 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?

We believe this review process should prioritize the alignment and integration of the 2030 Agenda with other international frameworks, especially those pertaining to environmental sustainability, humanitarian efforts, and human rights, and the UN treaty body system.

We believe ECOSOC should provide comprehensive policy guidance for the implementation of HLPF outcomes, including but not limited to the Ministerial Declaration, and lessons learned from the VNRs. In this process, the learning should be through multiple venues, both ECOSOC & HLPF issues brought to other UN spaces, such as the treaty body system, Conferences of Parties, etc., but also outcomes from those processes should feed into ECOSOC & HLPF processes as well. A review of all these processes at the HLPF will be very helpful for the comprehensive and holistic nature of the Agenda.

This review process should reiterate and strengthen the fundamental significance of the Pledge to Leave No One Behind. As per the 2030 Agenda, it is imperative for countries, including governments and all stakeholders, to ensure that progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) does not leave anyone behind, prioritizing the needs of the most marginalized and disadvantaged individuals and communities.

Regarding procedural matters, there should be a stronger focus on meaningful, effective and inclusive civil society participation organized by the MGoS CM in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, ensuring transparency and accountability in decision-making processes.

Finally, WMG believes that we should create additional opportunities for meaningful review, follow-up, and learning. The Regional Forums on Sustainable Development, conducted annually in anticipation of the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF), should be enhanced to facilitate regional-specific discussions and learning exchanges. This could involve organizing more VNR labs/workshops during these forums and fostering greater involvement of civil society for multi-stakeholder learning initiatives.

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2. 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?

It will be important to ensure that the commitment to the Pact for the Future entails building upon the outcomes of the SDG Summit and other mechanisms for reviewing SDG progress. This emphasis will particularly focus on enhancing sustainable development in new dimensions, financing for development, international peace and security, science, technology, and innovation including digital cooperation through the Global Digital Compact. We should pay special attention engaging youth and future generations, transforming global governance, and bolstering the international system through collaborative efforts involving multiple stakeholders, notably civil society participation.

Highlighting the significance of the Pact as a platform for global cooperation in achieving the SDGs is crucial to address emerging challenges and opportunities that currently undermine human rights worldwide and environmental stability.

Expectations for the Pact include utilizing existing review and accountability mechanisms like the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) for monitoring commitments.

We should ensure that reports by the Secretary-General and background documents incorporate references to both the SDG Summit and the Pact's outcomes. These references should be integrated into agendas of related events and consultations, promoting interconnectedness and common approaches across various processes.

3. For the review on the strengthening of ECOSOC, how to ensure better engagement, interaction and follow-up to harness the Council's and ECOSOC system's full potential?

We recommend that ECOSOC and the UNGA prioritize addressing the specific challenges faced by the most vulnerable communities to ensure no one is marginalized.

To ensure inclusive participation, we advocate for the early circulation of the work program, allowing for consultation and participation of the MGoS and civil society in the development processes of the work program. The Action Teams that have collaborated to bring together the Action Segments in this year's ECOSOC Partnership Forum is a great example of such inclusive participation.

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We also emphasize the importance of unified action within the UN. Policy and programmatic coherence, fostering intergenerational solidarity, and an inclusive intergenerational pact are crucial. We recommend that the ECOSOC-HLPF review process incorporate specific language inviting contributions from the broader UN system, including Conferences of the Parties (COPs), Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), and others, throughout the cycle, not solely during the HLPF.

We call for the improvement of processes allowing meaningful and effective contributions from Major Groups and Other Stakeholders (MGOS) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) with consultative status. The inclusion of a Plenary Session with MGOS at the HLPF is a successful model that could be expanded to ECOSOC meetings.

We stress the importance of moving from discussion to action. Inputs generated across various fora within the ECOSOC cycle should meaningfully inform the HLPF and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. This can be facilitated through designated agenda items or technical dialogues around the HLPF focused on implementation and follow-up of the ministerial declaration.

Lastly, to streamline civil society participation, the UN Secretariat should refine the submission process across policy spaces, making it more manageable. Organizing civil society statements by agenda items could enhance their visibility, ensuring that valuable suggestions and information are easily accessible to both Member States and civil society organizations.

4. 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?

We ask that the 2024 HLPF review not just be proforma but actually look at what might make it more effective, more action-oriented and accelerate the ever-closing chance to achieve the SDGs by 2030. To do this however, requires political determination, cooperation, and the willingness to work with MGoS & others to completely overhaul and remove the structural barriers of HLPF.

Our recommendations are in line with Resolution A/67/290 & A/75/290 B and include:

- More focus on systematic barriers in achieving the SDGs.
- A more systematic annual comprehensive review of all the SDGs
- A truly open policy space for meaningful participation of civil society, organized through the MGOS CM.
- Emphasizing policy coherence with human rights and sustainable development imperatives at HLPF.
- A space to actively review and act, rather than passively reporting.

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- Increase in the role of regional forums and improve linkages between national, regional, and global levels.

For the **Thematic segment** we suggest, the non-siloed proposal where all SDGs are reviewed each year through four different pillars and that Goal 5 & 17 be cross cutting across all 17 SDGs.

The **Ministerial Segment** should allocate more time for individual countries and be reviewed individually, (for 45 minutes - a 15 minutes presentation and 30 minutes Q&A), creating space for each UN member state to report at least once in every 5 year cycle.

5. **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?**

Women's Major Group believes that it is only through a non-siloed, comprehensive and holistic review, each year at HLPF, we can monitor and guide the implementation of Agenda 2030 in the spirit it was shared in "Transforming Our World" resolution (A/RES/70/1) The approach we suggest for this process is as follows:

Each year, all SDGs will be reviewed through four different pillars:

- Cross-cutting (emphasizing the interconnected nature of all the SDGs and that goal 5 and 17 as cross-cutting goals)
- economic (goal 2,3,8,10, 12)
- social (goal 1,4,11, 16)
- environmental (goal 6,7,9,13, 14, 15)

Each pillar would be divided by 5 levers of discussion, from the GSDR of 2019. Each having a panel from regional commissions representatives, UN experts, UN treaty bodies, mandate holders, civil society and academics.

1. Progress and systematic barrier to achieving the goals and
2. Concrete policy action recommendations in terms of governance
3. Economy and Finance
4. Science & technology
5. Countries in Special Situations
(additionally, the 6th lever presented in GSDR 2022, i.e. capacity building, should be an element that should be taken across all sessions)