

## **CANZ Statement**

**March 7, 2024**

### **ECOSOC & HLPF Review**

I thank you Excellency.

Allow me at the outset to thank the both of you for preparing this elements paper. The points contained greatly contributed to guiding the reflections of our delegations.

CANZ supports many of the points identified and wishes to underline a few which we consider as priorities for this year's review process:

#### On the section on alignment of ECOSOC with other multilateral entities:

- We consider that partnerships are essential for the achievement of the SDGs. ECOSOC, as the most open of the UN charter bodies, therefore has a preeminent role to play in cooperating with other multilateral entities, including the IFIs, to achieve the SDGS.
- With this in mind, this review process should consider dedicating a part of one or a few of its segments to dialogues with these major partners. These dialogues would ideally include high-level representation and could be structured around the SDGs being examined that year.

#### On the section of the document concerning alignment of the Council with its subsidiary bodies:

- We would like to insist that the entirety of the ECOSOC system should work with the same objective, namely providing clear and coherent policy guidance.
- Where relevant, the outcomes of the subsidiary bodies should be shared amongst them so as to increase complementarity and reduce duplication.
- The reports and resolutions of the subsidiary bodies should also be clear, concise and focused around the SDGs being examined that year.

- Finally, we urge the subsidiary bodies, the Secretariat, and Member States to pursue the implementation of the recommendations found in the Review of ECOSOC's subsidiary bodies conducted by Bulgaria in 2022.

On additional points to be added to the agenda of ECOSOC:

- We consider it useful that the issue of Internally Displaced People (IDPs) be added to the agenda of ECOSOC, specifically as a standing item on the agenda of the meeting on Transition from Relief to Development.

Chair,

Turning now to the HLPF.

On the section on HLPF programme:

- We reaffirm the need, while respecting the intergovernmental nature of the forum, that major groups and other stakeholder participation be guaranteed and further strengthened with a view to crafting solutions which are supported by all.

On the section on strengthening of the VNRs:

- We welcome the suggestion contained in the paper which encourages Member States to focus their VNR presentations not only on the progress achieved, but also on the gaps and challenges to achieving the SDGs.
- We also support the point on more interactive VNRs to strengthen peer learning and the sharing of good practices.
- Thirdly, we fully support the idea of greater involvement of the UN resident coordinator system to support VNR follow-up at the national level.

Turning away from the elements paper, we have an additional point to make.

In line with our collective desire to see the decisions we make as Member States implemented and to see an Economic and Social Council which is agile and builds upon its successes, we

propose that the bureau of ECOSOC prepare a report on the implementation of this year's review with the objective of informing deliberations at the next review of ECOSOC and the HLPF in 3 years time.

Such a report, to be prepared by the bureau, would assess the implementation of this year's resolution and, if relevant, make concrete recommendations. Doing so would respond to a much-needed accountability function which would allow Member States to have a realistic picture of progress achieved.

Allow me in closing to reiterate that CANZ's engagement in this process is underlined by our desire to see an Economic and Social Council which is **relevant, impactful, and which occupies a central role in policy development.**

We are participating in this process with an open mind and genuinely look forward to hearing the proposals and ideas advanced by other delegations.

I thank you.