#### Statement from MGOS CM

Thank you Chair.

My name is Latiyah from the LGBTI Stakeholder Group, I am delivering this message on behalf of the Major Groups and Other Stakeholders Coordination Mechanism.

The MGOS would like to thank the co-facilitators for recognizing the elements paper as a basis for the informal consultations on a zero-draft.

- Despite DESA's submission of background documents and information briefs for this
  review, assessment, and analysis regarding past recommendations for implementing
  Resolutions 75/290 A and B seem lacking. The level of implementation,
  effectiveness, successful strategies, deficiencies, and necessary adjustments remain
  unaddressed, raising concerns about the novelty, clarity, specificity, and actionability
  of new recommendations formulated by States to enhance the operational
  efficiency of ECOSOC and HLPF.
- The annual report on the synthesis of submissions by ECOSOC functional commissions and other intergovernmental bodies receives insufficient attention. How will inputs from these bodies be better leveraged? Reports from regional fora before the HLPF and other submissions to the HLPF are also overlooked, with minimal references to their recommendations in HLPF or Ministerial Declarations.
- Given the Secretariat's liquidity crisis, States should scrutinize the feasibility of implementing effective reform and organizational strategies within ECOSOC, HLPF, and the Secretariat and prioritize meeting their financial obligations per the Financial Regulations.

### We suggest the following for the HLPF on VNR processes:

- Encourage each country to submit two VNRs by 2030, and for those already with two, to submit at least one more. Improve the quality and structure of VNRs with evidence-based analysis and disaggregated data for a comprehensive assessment of leaving no one behind. Advocate for a reconsideration of the presentation structure of VNRs, allocating more time for each review!
- Advocate for enhanced engagement and preparation for VNR processes at regional and sub-regional levels, modeled after UN ESCAP, integrating interactive VNR sessions into regional and sub-regional platforms for stakeholders to effectively engage in the process and contribute. Support stronger post-VNR follow-up, including national dialogues to advance and enhance SDG delivery. Call for a national plan with practical next steps for implementation agreed upon by the government.
- Parallel and shadow reports should be officially recognized by the HLPF and
  prominently published and easily accessible on the official UN website. Additionally,
  these reports should be discussed during Voluntary National Review (VNR)
  presentations or special side events, providing a platform for alternative
  perspectives and enhancing transparency and accountability in the review process.

 Adopting a "whole of society" approach to VNRs and incorporating written inputs from all stakeholders, including MGOS contributions, is critical for a comprehensive understanding of achievements and challenges, promoting transparency, ownership, and accountability, and enriching the review process.

### Comments on:

# (a) Identifying gaps in implementation

We concur with the identified gaps, especially concerning civil society engagement in ECOSOC meetings. This inclusivity must be extended to academia as well. Additionally, efforts to enhance active and meaningful youth participation should be paralleled with similar opportunities for other stakeholders.

## (b) Efficiency and revitalizing

Bolstering the efficiency of bodies like ECOSOC should not come at the cost of diminishing the participation of NGOs with consultative status.

# **Engagement and participation**

It is crucial to ensure the inclusion of all stakeholders, utilizing the full potential of the NGO consultative relationship, especially during preparatory phases, where CSOs and other stakeholders can significantly contribute with evidence-based inputs.

# Alignment between the Council and the ECOSOC system

(Bullet 1) Discussions and decisions across all ECOSOC segments, forums, functional commissions, and other subsidiary bodies, must guarantee continuous involvement of civil society and other stakeholders.

(Bullet 4) Efforts toward revitalizing certain ECOSOC subsidiary bodies, including reviewing and updating their working methods and functions, should incorporate an evaluation of the implementation of ECOSOC resolution 1996/31.

On the interlinkages and alignment of ECOSOC with other UN bodies: (Bullet 1) Emphasise ECOSOC's role in fostering enhanced cooperation and complementarity with other UN bodies, particularly concerning social issues and other specified areas.

### Review of HLPF

In deepening the effectiveness of the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs:

(Bullet 1) Ensure that ministerial-level participation is complemented with high-level involvement of other stakeholders.

### **HLPF Programme**

(Bullet 1) We endorse increasing attention to systematic barriers hindering the achievement of the SDGs and ensuring that no one is left behind.

(Bullet 3) We agree with leveraging ECOSOC functional commissions, regional commissions, etc., to contribute to thematic reviews.

(Bullet 5 & 6) We strongly support the **full implementation of provisions outlined in previous GA resolutions to strengthen the contributions of the Major Groups and Other Stakeholders** regarding thematic reviews and VNRs, while maintaining the intergovernmental nature of the forum. We look forward to collaborating with Cofacilitators and ECOSOC members toward this end. Additionally, we advocate for facilitating ongoing dialogues among governments, civil society, and other stakeholders to promote collaboration and share best practices, reinforcing the implementation of sustainable policies.

Thank you.