

20th July 2016

H.E. Oh Joon
President,
United Nations Economic and Social Council
New York

Your Excellency,

We, as members of various local, national, regional and global civil society organisations, social movements, constituencies, platforms, major groups and other stakeholders from different parts of the world, would like to congratulate you on your leadership of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). We appreciate the efforts made in designing the HLPF 2016 programme and allowing for the effective participation of all relevant stakeholders.

We also take this opportunity to commend the contributions of member states, especially those who volunteered themselves for review at HLPF 2016. Many of these member states have had some form of consultation at the country level involving different stakeholders, and have posted their review documents in the public domain, reflecting the principles agreed in paragraph 74 of 'The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development'.

As this is the first HLPF after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, it offers an opportunity to reflect on successes, learnings, and ways to strengthen the HLPF process. We would like to share the following observations and recommendations for your thoughtful consideration.

1. Programme design - The national voluntary reviews are the basis for recommendations and decision-making by the HLPF, and the programme should allow their findings to guide discussions and the sharing of experiences throughout the HLPF. Part of the mandate of the HLPF is the follow up and review of implementation of the 2030 Agenda and other sustainable development frameworks. Accountability is needed to drive effective international cooperation. *We recommend that the HLPF programme in 2017 and in forthcoming years should begin with the Ministerial Segment where member states conduct their reviews and adopt the ministerial declaration, followed by the expert level thematic roundtables and dialogues.* This would allow the discussions taking place at the expert level to be informed by inputs from the national reviews. The early release of the draft agenda of the HLPF would provide participants the opportunity to better prepare responses, thereby increasing the overall quality of stakeholder participation.

2. Modalities - The modalities for the HLPF in general - and especially the reviews of national voluntary reports at the global level - *should encourage interactive dialogue and debate. More time should be given for member states to engage with each country report, with inputs from major groups and other stakeholders.* This modification in format would enrich the quality of discussions and create spaces for constructive engagement, problem-solving and the exchange of good practice.

Further, we recommend that the HLPF be made more inclusive and accessible by providing closed captioning, international sign interpretation, and accessible format website and documentation for visually impaired participants.

3. National Reviews - The HLPF rests upon - and should aim to reinforce - national democratic ownership of the reporting frameworks by all stakeholders. National review processes need to be strengthened to be more inclusive, transparent, effective, and participatory, as well as better able to capture successes and learnings, and to make corrective adjustments, when necessary. *National reviews should make the best use of already available information, including data from other UN reporting mechanisms as well as inputs from thematic experts. Additional sources of information like parallel reports should also be considered as inputs and made available on the HLPF website as part of review materials for the respective country.*

Moreover, the UN secretariat could request member states to volunteer to conduct national voluntary reviews over the next 4-year cycle, creating a schedule that facilitates better preparation. Parliaments should play a key role in national reviews. Guidelines for the effective participation and engagement of all relevant actors at the national level should be developed at the HLPF in consultation with all relevant stakeholders.

We remain committed to making the 2030 Agenda a reality. We view our participation in implementation, as well as in monitoring and review of all sustainable development frameworks, as essential for its success. An enabling environment that allows civil society the full realisation of the core freedoms of expression, association, and peaceful assembly, should be ensured so that civil society can play its rightful role in policy formulation and implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Indeed, the promise to leave no one behind cannot be realised without the voices of the peoples, especially those living in poverty and the most vulnerable.

We appreciate your readiness to engage with us to enhance the HLPF.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.

Yours Sincerely,

Cc: H.EMogensLykketoft, President of the 70th UN General Assembly
 H.E Peter Thomson, President-elect of the 71st UN General Assembly.
 H.E. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General, United Nations
 All Permanent Representatives to the United Nations

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List of CSOs who have endorsed this letter:

Organisation	First name	Surname	Country
:At-sik:hata:Nation of :Yamasee-Moors	:Nanya-Ahk:Heru	-Eil	Global /International
AARP	Erica	Dhar	USA
Abibiman Foundation	Kenneth	Amoateng	Ghana
ABIODUN ADEBAYO WELFARE FOUNDATION	Musiliu Adebayo	Ojo	Global/International

ACT Alliance	Isaiah	Toroitich	Global
Action pour le Développement	Souleymane	Camara	Guinee
ADD International	Mosharraf	Hossain	Global
Africa Global Wealth creation	Prof. Jared Akama	Onyari	Global/International
Africa Youth Coalition Against Hunger Sierra Leone	Peter John	Amara	Sierra Leone
AFRICA YOUTH FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT	VICTORIA	UBANI	NIGERIA AFRICA
African Journalists Network for TICAD	Ernest	Moloi	Global
African Youths Organization	Prince Bright Sunday	Akinola	Nigeria
AfrihealthOptonet Association [CSOs Network]	Dr. Uzodinma	Adirieje	Nigeria
AfroLeadership	Charlie Martial	Ngounou	Cameroon
Ageing Nepal	Ageing Nepal endorses the letter	Ageing Nepal endorses the letter	Nepal
AHDIS	DIOUF	AMACODOU	SENEGAL
AHJASA	Omar	Nuñez	Honduras C.A.
All Together in Dignity - ATD Ireland	Gerald	Doherty	Ireland
Amis des Etrangers au Togo (ADET)	DOSSE	SOSSOUGA	Togo
Amnesty International	Savio	Carvalho	Global
Anti-Corruption and Transparency Support Initiative	Edidiong	Sambo	Nigeria
ARTICLE 19	David	Banisar	Global/International
ASAP	Iro	Sam-Woruka	Global/International
Asia Development Alliance (ADA)	Anselmo	Lee	Asia
Asociación Nueva Vida Pro-Niñez y Juventud	César	Artiga	El Salvador
Association Camerounaise pour la prise en charge des personnesÂgées (ACAMAGE)	Paulette	METANG	CAMEROUN
Association for promotion sustainable development. Hisar. India	Mange Ram	Adhana	India
Association pour le DeveloppementDurable ,ADD.	SokAppadu	SoobarajNayr oo	Republic of Mauritius.

Association YOUTHLEAD	DZAHINI	KwakutseElagbe	TOGO.
Banda Ahenkro Widows Association	SieKwasi	Owusu Williams	Ghana
Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication	AHMBazlur	Rahman	Bangladesh
BASAB BD	Mehedi	Hasan	Bangladesh
Behinderung und Entwicklungszusammenarbeit (bezev)	Gabriele	Weigt	Global/International
Better Community Life Initiative	Chibundu	Uchegbu	Nigeria
Botswana Guardian	Ernest	Moloi	International
Burundi Child Rights Coalition	Mignonne	Ndorukwigira	Burundi
CAFOD	Diego	Martinez-Schütt	UK
Care of the Ageing, Needy and the Underprivileged 'CANU' Association Cameroon	Suh Cheo	Cyprain	Cameroon
Caritas Sierra Leone	Edward	John-Bull	Sierra Leone
CBM	Elizabeth	Lockwood	Global/International
CEGODEM	Jairo Iván	Matus Contreras	Nicaragua
Center for Community Advancement and Family Empowerment(CECAFE)	Sam	Slewion	Liberia, West Africa
Center for Human Development & Management	AmirulAlam	Shiplu	Bangladesh
Center for Peace and Development Effectiveness	Samuel	Chanchan	Global
Center for Reproductive Rights	Meera	Shah	Global/International
CENTRE FOR SOCIO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (CSED)	KINGSLEY	OZEGBE	GLOBAL/INTERNATIONAL
Centro de Investigacion para la AccionFemenina	Laura	Breton	Dominica Republic
CERPD (Centre d'Etudes de Recherche pour une Population Dynamique)	Aho Richard	TOSSOU	Benin
Christian Aid	Helen	Dennis	UK
CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation	Jeffery	Huffines	Global/International
CNCD-11.11.11	Veronique	Rigot	Belgium

Coalition of Caregivers and Advocates for the Elderly(COCAEL)	Slewion	Togba	Liberia, West Africa
Coalition of Civil Society Organizations in the Central African Region	Coalition of Civil Society Organizations in	Central African Region	Cameroon
Community Development Initiative	Kabir Kura	Hamisu	Nigeria
Concord Sweden	Hanna	Hansson	Sweden
Confederación Colombiana de ONG	Liliana	Rodríguez Burgos	Colombia
CONGAD	DIOUF	AMACODOU	SENEGAL
Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd	Winifred	Doherty	International
Congrès Mondial Amazigh	Belkacem	Lounes	international
Convite AC	Luis Francisco	Cabezas	Venezuela
CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness/Asia Pacific Research Network	Tetet	Lauron	Global/regional
CSYM HUDUMA8Christian Spiritual Ministry Tanzania	Nicodemus	SiayiSoko	Global
CULTURAL CONSERVATION ACT (CCA)	Charles	UWIRAGIYE	Global
DDolly Foundation	Rosina	Teye	Ghana
Destiny Shapers	Nicholas	Kaponda	Zambia
Development & Integrity Intervention Goal Foundation	Oliver	ChimaAjah	Nigeria
Dynamic Youth Development Organisation	Emem	Frank	Nigeria
Economic Justice Network Sierra Leone	Peter John	Amara	Sierra Leone
EDUCON	Zdenka	Stara	Czech Republic
Ekumenická akademie (Ecumenical Academy)	Karolína	Silná	Czech Republic
Elder for Calgary and surrounding area (past Presiding Elder for the WGIP)	Doreen	Spence	Canada
Emonyoyefwe International	Luke	Kapchanga	Kenya
End Water Poverty	Megan	MacGarry	Global/ International
ENDA Tiers Monde	Jean-Philippe	THOMAS	International
European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN)	Fintan	Farrell	European

Excellent World Foundation	Michael	Enahoro	Nigeria
EXCUBITUS - DerechosHumanosenEducación.	Alexis	Ramirez	Venezuela
Family Farming Platform - Sierra Leone	Pauline Joyce	Baihinga	Global/International
Fantsuam Foundation	John	Dada	NIGERIA
Federation of Environmental and Ecological Diversity for Agricultural Revampment and Human Rights (FEEDAR & HR)	TCHARBUAHBOK ENGO	NFINN	Cameroon
Fima/ Apapf, Amam international	Ndumwe	Christophe	R D Congo
Foundation For Environmental Rights, and Development FENRAD-NIGERIA	Comrade Nelson	NnannaNwafor	Nigeria,west Africa
FOUNDATION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THE EARTH (FOCONE)	PATRICK	CHIEKWE	GLOBAL/INTERNATIONAL
Franciscans International	Odile	Coirier	Global/International
FRANK Water	Jon	Shepherd	Global/International
GCAP Burkina	Nakelintouba	NIKIEMA	Burkina Faso
GCAP Burundi	Aboubakar	Akilimali	Burundi
GCAP Global/Africa	Kyerewa	Asamoah	International
GCAP Liberia	James Sayon	Roberts	Liberia
GCAP Rwanda Coalition	Rene	NIYONTEZE	Rwanda
Gender and Water Alliance (GWA)	Shaila	Shahid	Bangladesh
Gender Education, Research and Technologies (GERT)	Kostadinka	Samsorova	Bulgaria
GHANA ASSOC. OF PRIVATE VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN DEVELOPMENT (GAPVOD)	FRANK	BOALYE-DANKWA	GHANA
Global Agenda for Total Emancipation (GATE)	Tim	Aniebonam	Nigeria
Global Call to Action against Poverty	James Sayon	Roberts	Liberia
Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP)	Ingo	Ritz	Global
Global Campaign for Education	Camilla	Croso	Global/International
Global Ecovillage Network	Rob	Wheeler	Global/International

Global Forum For Development- GLOFORD Uganda	Morris Chris	Ongom	Uganda
Global Forum for Media Development (GFMD)	Bill	Orme	Global/International
Global Participe	Ivan	KIBANGOU NGOY	Global/International
Global Peace and Development Organization	Samuel	Chanchan	Global
GOLD ONG	Joël	HOUNGUE	Bénin
Grassroots Civil Society Network of Liberia	McWillian	Tugbe	Liberia
Gray Panthers	Jack	Kupferman	USA
HELPAGE International Global Network	Sylvia	Beales	Global/international
HelpAge Programme RDC	Anatole	Bandu	Democratic Republic of Congo
Human Rights First Rwanda Association	Louis	Busingye	Rwanda
IFOAM - Organics International / Farmers Major Group	Gabor	Figeczky	Global
Inspirator Muda Nusantara	Stevie	Harison	Indonesia
Institute for Planetary Synthesis, Association of World Citizens	Lisinka	Ulatowska	Global
Integrated Development initiatives IDI	Sumana	Chakma	Global
International Agency for Prevention of Blindness	Johannes	Trimmel	Global/International
International association for community development	Charlie	Mcconnell	Global/International
International Association of World Peace Advocates	Amb. Emmanuel	Nkweke	Nigeria
International Center for Accelerated Development	Kevin	Anthony	International
International Council for Adult Education	Katarina	Popovic	Global/International
International Disability Alliance	Orsolya	Bartha	Global
International Disability and Development Consortium	Elizabeth	Lockwood	Global/International
International Federation on Ageing	Jane	Barratt	Global/International
International Movement ATD Fourth World	Cristina	Diez	Global

International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA)	Susan	Somers	Global/International
IWAC (International Women's Anthropology Conference)	Joan P	Mencher	USA
Jeunes Verts Togo	EssokInam	Pedessi	Togo
Jharkhandis Organisation for Human Rights (JOHAR)	Ramesh	Jerai	India
JJ Personality	Jeffrey	R Lalramdina	India
Jongo Farmers Nigeria	Tajudeen	Azeez	Global/International
KapoSeba Sangha KSS	Keranmoy	Chakma	Global
Kehys (Finnish NGDO Platform to the EU)	Rilli	Lappalainen	Finland
Kenya Small Scale Farmers Forum (KESSFF)	Justus Lavi	Mwololo	Regional
Kepa	Timo	Lappalainen	Finland
Kiribati Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (KANGO)	David	Teaabo	Kiribati
KOO- Coordination office of the Austrian Bishops Conference for International Development and Mission	Heinz	Hödl	Austria
Kopin	Michelle	CallejaChehab	Malta
Korea Civil Society Forum on International Development Cooperation (KoFID)	JaeKwang	Han	Republic of Korea
Korea Civil Society Network on SDGs	Doun	Moon	South Korea
Korea Federation for Environmental Movement	Hyelyn	Kim	Republic of Korea
Lake Victoria Sunset Birders	Hezbone	Okoth	Kenya
Lesotho Youth Coalition	Khotso	Masheane	International
LIGHT FOR THE WORLD	Sabine	Rehbichler	International
Mother of Hope Cameroon (Mohcam)	Adah	Mbah	Cameroon
Nana Sahab Development Society (NSDS)	Mujeeb	Rehman	Pakistan
Narasha Community Development Group	Jackson	Shaa	Kenya
National Civil Society Council of Liberia	Christopher	Toe	Liberia

National Confederation of Dalit Adivasi Organisations (NACDAOR)	Sukanta	Behera	India
National Youth Council of Ireland	Valerie	Duffy	Ireland
Network of African Youths for Deveelopment	Paul	Shaw	Africa
New Future Foundation	Blakely	Queen Mother Delois	United States
NGO Federation of Nepal/Nepal SDGs Forum	DayaSagar	Shrestha	Nepal
Nickpoint Media Trust	Nicholas	Waigwa	Kenya
Nigeria Network of NGOs	Oluseyi	Oyebisi	Nigeria
Nonviolence International	David	Kirshbaum	international
NSINDAGIZA	Elie	MUGABOWIS HEMA	GLOBAL
OceanCare	Sigrid	Lueber	Switzerland
Ohaha Family Foundation	John	Ede	Nigeria
OkogunOdigieSafewomb International Fondation (OOSAIF)	Justina	Okogun	Global/international
ONG ALSEM	Fotso	Aude	GABON
ONG Carbone Guinée	Ibrahimasory	sylla	Guinea
ONG DémocratieDans le Monde	WAÏDI	Latifatou	Bénin
ONG PADJENA (Participation Active des DirigeantsJeunes Elites NiantL'Aboulie)	Jean-Claude Paul	DEGBE	BENIN
OrganizaciónVenezolana de Jóvenes para las NacionesUnidas	Jhon	Esteban	RepúblicaBolivarian a de Venezuela
P&D Factor	Graça	CampinosPoças	Global/International
Pacific Women's Watch (New Zealand) Inc.	Beverley	Turner	New Zealand
Pakistan Development Alliance	Zia	ur Rehman	Pakistan
Pakistan NGOs Forum	Mohammad	Ismail	Pakistan
Papua New Guinea Education Advocacy Network (PEAN)	Priscilla	Kare	International
Paradigm Shift Foundation	Jack	Kafwanka	Global
Participatory Research Action Network- PRAN	NurulAlam	Masud	Bangladesh
Peace and Life Enhancement Initiative International	Olugbenga	Odukoya	Global/International
People's Watch	Henri	Tiphagne	Global/International

Philippine Social Enterprise Network	Gomer	Padongg	The Philippines
PlataformaVenezolana de Redes de OSC	Lorena	Liendo Rey	Venezuela
Portuguese NGDO Platform	Pedro	Cruz	Portugal
Povod	Robert	Križanič	Slovenia
PRISM (People's Right to Information and Development Implementing Society of Mizoram)	Jeffrey	R Lalramdina	India
Projonma Academy	Mohammad Shahidur	Rahman	Bangladesh
Public Services International	Sandra	Vermuyten	Global
Rainbow Warriors Core Foundation	Milton	Ponson	Global
Regions Refocus	Anita	Nayar	Global
Religions for Peace Latin America and the Caribbean	Elias	Szczytnicki	Region Latin America and the Caribbean
Réseau des jeunes pour les OMD	Rado	RAKOTOARIN ALA	Madagascar
Rio Monte	Ann-Lis	Svensson	International
Rutgers	Yvonne	Bogaarts	Netherlands
Sanayee Development Organization - SDO	Raz Mohammad	Dalili	Afghanistan
ShantinibasAgraniKalyanSamiti SAKS	Pranab	Chakma	International
Sierra Leone Coalition 2030	Edward	John-Bull	Sierra Leone
Siglo XXIII - SERR	Marta	benavides	El Salvador
Sinergia	Deborah	Van Berkel	Venezuela
SMILES AFRICA INTERNATIONAL	PURPOSE	ISERHIENRH IEN	NIGERIA/AFRICA
Social Justice Ireland	Seán	Healy	Ireland
Social Watch Czech Republic	Tomas	Tozicka	Czech Republic
Society of Catholic Medical missionaries	Celine	Paramunda	International
Somos Mas Decididos Civil Association	Alejandra	Contreras Casso Lopez	Mexico
Soroptimist International	Francesca	Fletcher Williams	Global
Southwest Native Cultures	Terry	Sloan	United States
Stakeholder Group on Ageing	Erica	Dhar	Global

TALLER SALUD	Nirvana	Gonzalez-Rosa	PUERTO RICO
Tanzania Association of Non-Governmental Organizations	Finland	Bernard	Tanzania
Temple of Understanding	Grove	Harris	USA
The Environmental Pillar	Michael	Ewing	Ireland
The Hunger Project Mexico	Ana Lucia	Marquez	Mexico
The Norwegian Forum for Development and Environment	Ingvild	Øgstad	Norway
The Seed Institute	Joselyne	Chepleting	Kenya
Think Centre	Samydorai	Sinapan	Singapore
Tinker Institute on International Law and Organizations	Dr. Catherine	Tinker	Global/International
Together 2030	Marggie	Simo	Global
Transparency International	Craig	Fagan	Global
Triglav Circle	Barbara	Baudot	Global/International
Trócaire	Lorna	Gold	Global/International
Uganda Peace Foundation	George	Hashaka	Uganda
UNANIMA International	Michele	Morek	Global / International
Unicef	VIVIENNE	PARRY	Ireland
Union de Jeunes pour la Paix et le Developpement"UJPD/asbl"	Mireille	Munezero	Burundi
Union des Amis Socio Culturels d'Action en Developpement (UNASCAD)	Joseph	SEVERE	Haiti
universal rights group	RAJ	PRAYAG	international
Universal Rights Network	Kim	Gleeson	Global/International
UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN, NIGERIA	ADESOLA	OGUNNIYI	"Global/International"
Volunteer Groups Alliance	Adjmal	Dulloo	Global
VSO Interbational	Mwangi	Waituru	International
WaterAid UK	Margaret	Batty	Global
Welfare Foundation	Simon	Gabritchidze	Georgia
Welthungerhilfe	Richard	Haep	Germany
Whale and Dolphin Conservation	Christopher	Butler_Stroud	International
Wild Migration	Margi	Prideaux	Global/International
WiLDAF	AfiwaKafui	KUWONU	regional, Global/International

WOMEN ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT NETWORK (WEDEN)	BABARA	OGISI	GLOBAL/INTERNATIONAL
Women for Human Rights, single women group	Lily	Thapa	Nepal
Women United for Economic Empowerment	Iniobong	Frank	Nigeria
Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights (WGNRR)	Lara	Cousins	Global
Women's Initiative for Self-Actualization	Unyime	Ekpoudia	Nigeria
Workers and Trade Unions Major Group	Matthew	Simonds	International
World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA)	Mari	Ullmann	Global/International
World Vision	Arelys	Bellorini	Global
Youth for Peace and Development	Kudzanai Marshal	Mutomba	Zimbabwe
Youth Power Initiative	Joy	TikuEnighe	Global/International
Youth Without Borders - Tunisia	Ahmed	ALLOUCH	Tunisia
Zo Inpui	Vanlal	Duhsaka	International
ZoRO	Vanlal	Duhsaka	Global/International