Co-Facilitators’ elements paper for the consultations on the Political Declaration of the SDG Summit

The following elements are based on the inputs shared by participants at the informal consultations held on 3 February. The paper is intended to be indicative, giving a sense of priorities, areas of focus, as well as gaps. It is meant to serve as food for thought for further deliberations. The proposal draws on the general expression at the informals that the framework of the 2019 declaration was a useful point of departure. Comments are invited on priority areas and recommendations, points that may be missing and other aspects.

The Political Declaration will be a consensual, concise, action-oriented, transformative and ambitious document, reaffirming the commitment towards a just, equitable, sustainable, inclusive and prosperous world by 2030, as stated in General Assembly Resolution 70/1 of September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.”

It will acknowledge efforts and commitments from several ongoing processes (Water Conference, Transforming Education Summit, Sendai Mid Term Review, LDC5, COPs, HLPF, FfD). It will also build on the lessons from the VNRs and peer learning at the HLPF.

[Our Shared Resolve]

- A clear political message renewing and reaffirming the leaders’ full collective commitment to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as a plan for action for people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnership, with a view to leaving no one behind – our roadmap for overcoming crises.

- Commitment for ambitious and transformative action, determination and international solidarity.

- Commitment to upholding the UN Charter and international law, the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and international human rights treaties.

- Reaffirm the strong commitments made through the UN75 Declaration.

- Reaffirm the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.

- Maintain the integrity of the 2030 Agenda and reflect the indivisible and interlinked nature of the SDGs, as well as the necessary balance between its economic, social and environmental dimensions.

- Underscore the urgency of action and commit to focus on the reversal of negative trends, the immediate acceleration of SDG implementation and on breakthroughs that steer towards transformative and systemic change, while also addressing the gaps and challenges.
- Commitment to leave no one behind and reaching the furthest behind first, and create conditions for reaching all SDGs.
- Commitment to carry out durable global, regional, and national partnerships for Sustainable Development Goals that engage all relevant stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector, academia, and youth.

[Our Changed World]

- The COVID-19 pandemic has reversed hard-won development gains and hampered progress towards achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, leading to loss of lives and impacting health and education, food security, economic growth and employment.
- Ongoing impacts of COVID-19, other multiple interlinked crises affecting the world including the triple planetary crisis of climate change, nature and biodiversity loss, conflicts, humanitarian crises, cost of living crisis, food, financial and energy crises, and growing impact of disasters.
- Crises have hit vulnerable populations the most, especially affecting countries in special situations.
- Crises have also created deep challenges for MICs.
- Recognition that while progress has been made on many targets since 2015, the SDGs were not on track even before COVID-19. The world has drastically changed since 2019, it is more behind on SDG targets then it was four years ago. [Placeholder for data and analysis from the SDG Progress Report and GSDR].
- Recognition of interlinkages between poverty and the threats from climate change, biodiversity loss, conflict.
- Note ongoing SDG financing gaps.
- Also note positive progress: recognize efforts at all levels since 2015 to realize the vision of the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals. Positive trends such as continuing mobilization behind the SDGs, the increasing number and quality of VNRs, initiatives/commitments and stakeholder commitments at the Summit.
- Recognize efforts by the UN system and regional commissions, regional forums, contributions of major groups and other stakeholders.
- Welcome the efforts of the UN development system to implement the reforms championed by the UN Secretary General and endorsed by the UNGA.

[Turning Our World toward 2030] (organized around major headings/themes as in 2019)

- Respond to the multiple crises facing our world today and turn the tide, while addressing their multiple and far-reaching negative impacts. Place the world on a path to achieve sustainable development.
- Eradication of poverty and leaving no one behind (universal social protection, multidimensional policies, alignment with human rights).
- Accelerate implementation at all levels (governments and all relevant stakeholders; unlock new commitments; adopting innovative policies based on scientific inputs)

- Strengthen national implementation (integrating SDGs, bolstering local action to accelerate implementation)

- Strengthen institutions for more integrated solutions [accountable and transparent institutions]

- Acting on SDGs and systems with greatest impact across the goals taking account of the latest context specific evidence of SDG trade-offs and synergies (GSDR). Implementation and follow-up/review of the 2030 Agenda to be guided by science, data and evidence

- Address means of implementation
  - financing for development
  - climate finance, capacity building,
  - science, technology, and innovation
  - digital transformation for sustainable development – bridge the digital divide
  - investing in data and statistics
  - multi-stakeholder partnerships

- Placeholder for FFD Forum Outcomes

- Address inequalities and exclusion, reaching the furthest behind (empowering women and promoting gender equality, and engaging young people).

- Inclusive and sustainable economic growth

- Protect the environment (biodiversity, climate change, sustainable consumption and production)

- Addressing disasters and building resilience

- Commit to building and sustaining peace

- Reform and re-energize the global institutions to support the implementation of the SDGs (international financial architecture, role of the UN)

- Solving challenges through international cooperation and enhancing the global partnership

- Strengthening the high-level political forum.

- Placeholder to reflect the July HLPF and the ECOSOC Youth Forum