



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

5 April, 2016

Excellency,

Please find attached communication from Her Excellency Lois M. Young, Permanent Representative of Belize and His Excellency Ib Petersen, Permanent Representative of Denmark, in their capacity as co-facilitators for the informal consultations on the Follow-up and Review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, at the global level.

The next informal meeting on this matter is scheduled to take place tomorrow, Wednesday, 6 April 2016, at 3 pm in Conference Room 4.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mogens Lykketoft', written in a cursive style.

Mogens Lykketoft

To All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York



PERMANENT MISSION OF DENMARK
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



Excellency,

April 5th, 2016

Please find attached guiding questions for informal consultations between Member States on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda at the global level to be held tomorrow, April 6th at 3 pm in Conference Room 4.

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

Lois M. Young
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
Belize

Ib Petersen
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
Denmark

H.E. Mogens Lykketoft,
President of the United Nations General Assembly, 70th Session



PERMANENT MISSION OF DENMARK
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



April 5th, 2016

Guiding questions on behalf of the co-facilitators for the informal consultations between Member States on April 6th, 3pm in CR4 on the follow-up and review at the global level of the 2030 Agenda

The following questions attempt to focus discussions at the informal consultation between Member States on April 6th at 3pm. They are based on the discussions during the brainstorming session at expert level, which was held on March 31st as well as an informal consultation with Stakeholders on April 1st, and seek to clarify views further on a number of important issues raised by Member States. In the questions below, “SG’s report” refers to the Report of the Secretary-General on the Critical Milestones towards Coherent, Efficient and Inclusive Follow-up and Review at the Global Level.

- **Themes**

Given the objective of establishing a multi-year programme of work for the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) under the auspices of ECOSOC for its 2017, 2018 and 2019 sessions, what are Member States’ suggestions of possible themes for these sessions? Do Member States view the thematic focus of the HLPF (A/RES/67/290 para. 7.c.) and the mandated thematic reviews of the SDGs (A/RES/70/1 para 85) as being one and the same in the context of a theme for the aforementioned sessions of the HLPF?

- **Inputs to the HLPF**

Given the number of possible inputs from commissions, committees, inter-governmental bodies and other forums that are said to feed in to the HLPF as well as inputs from outside of the UN, do Member States see the need for a simple template for such inputs (A/70/684 para. 54)? Do Member States agree that an online database consolidating all inputs would be useful (A/70/684 para 55)? Would such inputs have to be synthesized by the Secretariat? Do Member States consider that such inputs should have different status than or comparable status to the Global Sustainable Development Report and the SDG-Progress Report?

- **Guidelines and Organizational Arrangements for Voluntary National Reviews**

Would it be useful for the Voluntary National Reviews if this process took forward the proposal for voluntary common reporting guidelines for Voluntary National Reviews, as put forward in the annex to the SG's report on Follow-up and Review? Would it be useful to encourage a Member States to conduct reviews at the HLPF at least twice before 2030? While accommodating for lessons learnt, what organizational arrangements can be elaborated for State-led reviews to be carried out by the HLPF? Should the HLPF provide feedback on the National Voluntary Reviews? If so, what form/format would such feedback be useful?

- **Regional reviews**

What provisions, additional to paragraphs 80 and 81 of the 2030 Agenda, may be useful to support sub-regional or regional reviews, where appropriate, in contributing to the HLPF?

- **Countries in special situation**

What further guidance can be given to elaborate effective linkages between the HLPF and the follow up and review of processes/conferences including in regard to countries in special situation as provided for in paragraph 82 of the 2030 Agenda as well as taking into account resolution 67/290?

- **Outputs**

Apart from the Ministerial Declaration of the HLPF, would Member States find a Summary of the HLPF by the ECOSOC President to be a useful output (A/70/684 para 114)? Could other forms of outputs from the HLPF be useful for Member States? If so, which?

- **Coherence between the ECOSOC and the HLPF**

In light of paragraph 85 of the 2030 Agenda which provides that thematic reviews of progress on the SDGs will be supported inter alia by reviews by the functional commission of the ECOSOC which should reflect the integrated nature of the Goals as well as the interlinkages between them, could aligning the annual themes of the ECOSOC with the annual themes of the HLPF facilitate that support? What about the suggestion of merging the ECOSOC High Level Segment (or aspects thereof) with the Ministerial segment of the High Level Political Forum (e.g. A/70/684 para. 30) and/or convening the Development Corporation Forum prior to the HLPF? Would it be helpful to clarify the institutional responsibilities for the HLPF held under the auspices of the General Assembly and for the HLPF held under the auspices of the ECOSOC? Member States may wish to comment on other aspects of institutional guidance that may be needed to ensure coherence.