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## Political Declaration SDG-Summit

Input on scope and substance

New York, le 03 février 2023

Déclaration de la Suisse

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*Unofficial translation*

Thank you, your Excellencies, and good morning dear colleagues.

We congratulate the PRs of Ireland and Qatar on their appointment as co-facilitators and assure them of our full support in this endeavor. Switzerland welcomes the early start of these discussions and is confident that it will lead to a well-structured, ambitious and constructive outcome.

The Political Declaration should serve to reaffirm Member States' shared commitment for the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the highest level and focus on the overarching lines. In 2023, as we reach the halfway point to 2030, this should include in particular a reflection on what has been achieved so far – despite all setbacks and obstacles. Pointing out progress seems important to us for a hopeful outlook and boost at the half-way point. Nevertheless, we also have a responsibility to have an honest look at the major and pressing challenges that need to be addressed as a priority in the remaining 8 years.

We, therefore, believe that the PD should encompass three dimensions, namely:

1. Taking stock of current realities and context;

2. Highlighting challenges and gaps that prevent transformative change and hindering the achievement of the SDGs and;
3. Providing guidance and recommendations on the course to be followed.

Switzerland considers it particularly important that data and statistics as well as scientific findings form the backbone of the PD. The Global Sustainable Development Report 2023 and the SDG Progress Report should therefore be the main sources.

There should be an even stronger focus on the transformation pathways as well as the synergies and trade-offs between different SDGs and targets while maximizing co-benefits. The multiple challenges, such as the triple planetary crisis (climate change, biodiversity loss & pollution), can only be overcome and lead to a more sustainable world if we recognize these interlinkages and take them into account when developing future solutions. It is important to take into account all three dimensions of sustainable development (environment, economy and society). Efforts on all levels must prioritize those furthest left behind or at risk of being left behind and be guided by a human rights perspective.

Regarding the scope, we fully support the objective of having an impactful and action-oriented declaration. The PD should be short and concise and identify the necessary means to accelerate implementation of the SDGs. It is imperative that we avoid the document getting bogged down in too much detail resulting in a document that is longer than the 2030 Agenda itself. The 2019 PD provides a good guiding framework and should serve as a model. The PD should also be built on the outcomes of the other most recent HL summits and dialogues on climate and the

environment, health/Covid-19 and Financing for Development. The implementation of existing resolutions and action agendas must be prioritized (as opposed to providing additional policy guidance).

The debate on FfD and the commitments of the Funding Compact are important. We need more and higher quality funding and we all need to work together on this.

The PD should clearly highlight that the 2030 Agenda is a universal agenda that concerns all sectors and actors of society. Hence, the PD should emphasize the importance of inclusiveness and partnerships, as well as a systemic approach and stressing that the contribution of governments, civil society, businesses and academia should be strengthened. The role of sub-national actors is crucially important and the 2023 PD should link to the 2019 PD's focus on "local action".

Thank you.