



MAJOR GROUPS & OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

Major Groups and Other Stakeholders Written Comments to the SDG Summit Political Declaration "Elements Paper"

At a time when humanity and life on the planet are under threat, we welcome the Co-Facilitators' commitment to ensuring that the Political Declaration will be ambitious, action-oriented, transformative and implementable. We commend your commitment to consult with the Major Groups and Other Stakeholders, as mandated and integral to the achievement of the SDGs. We appreciate that the Political Declaration will acknowledge the member states responsibilities and obligations from related processes leading up to the SDG Summit (ie: CSocD, CSW, the Water Conference, CPD, Science, Technology, and Innovation Forum, Youth Forum, Transforming Education Summit, Sendai Mid Term Review, LDC5, COPs, HLPF, and FfD).

We cannot afford to remain half hearted in our pursuit of the 2030 Agenda. The structures critical for SDG implementation and action are falling apart with the demise of public trust; surging social, political and economic inequalities; and shrinking democratic spaces, further exacerbating unequal power relations.

[\[Our Shared Resolve\]](#)

The Political Declaration should clearly pledge to alter the 'business as usual' approach, demonstrating clear resolve to advancing human rights and ensuring fair, impartial and balanced financing, scientific and technological support for regions, peoples and priorities left behind. We need resolve to emphasize the political commitment to ensure availability of all necessary resources to achieve the SDGs by 2030. Additionally, when reaffirming commitments, we encourage a full comprehensive reaffirmation of all the commitments in the 2030 Agenda.



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[Our Changed World]

While we appreciate the focus on the MICs, we call for continuous attention to that LDCs and that they are also specifically addressed to continue the policy coherence between the processes (LDC5 - Doha).

With the heightened intensity of regression on human rights, gender equality, democracy, and labour rights, as well as the increasing inequality, discrimination and closing of democratic spaces. These issues should be in the Declaration and their interconnection with poverty, climate change, biodiversity loss and conflicts.

[Turning Our World toward 2030]

While we appreciate the focus on implementation at national and local levels, implementation must encompass global issues of aid, finance, trade, technology transfer, social protection and capacity building through education. Asymmetric, global power relations, inequalities within and among countries, negative international spillovers, unsustainable debt patterns, and preventing illicit finance flows, asset stealth, profit shifting and tax evasions to secure state fiscal space must be addressed.

While we welcome the focus on universal social protection as a key tool for poverty eradication, we strongly call for decent work and minimum living wages as essential components of leaving no one behind.

Science, Technology And Innovation have an integral role in disentangling complex issues by addressing the intricate interplay of natural and human factors that still hinder progress on the SDG agenda. A rights-based approach to STI is crucial in ensuring inclusive access of all people in all their diversity to the benefits of scientific advancements and promoting gender equality and making this world sustainable and equitable. ing progress on the ground.

Member States should be encouraged to co-produce actionable knowledge to promote long-term sustainability, locally and globally. This can be done by mobilizing knowledge systems such as indigenous and local knowledge; investment in the creation and use of high-quality, comparable, safely disaggregated and citizen-generated data, and ensuring



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the full and meaningful participation of marginalized groups (persons with disabilities, women, children, youth, older persons, indigenous peoples, LGBTI populations and others) without discrimination.

It is more important than ever for Member States to fulfill their commitments to full and meaningful participation and involvement of civil society in partnerships and promotion of conducive environments. This is not only beneficial to promote joint, evidence-based understanding and actions, but to foster trust, confidence and multi-stakeholder collaborations at local, national, regional and global levels.

The focus on global institutions and international cooperation to ensure effective SDG implementation will be missing a key component if the role of civil society and the major groups and other stakeholders in the UN sustainable development processes are not clearly recognized and acknowledged. The essence of partnerships requires broader and meaningful civil society participation in parallel with the immediate reversal of corporatization of our deliberative processes. This will ensure progress toward an inclusive, efficient and responsive multilateralism. And for this, we urge you to include clear commitments in terms of guaranteeing human rights and freedoms, protecting civil liberties, trade union leaders, human rights defenders, promoting social dialogue, unlocking funding for community-led initiatives, in particular for under-represented groups who face highest risks of exclusion, and a renewed pledge to reach those furthest behind first on the basis of first hand evidence.

We believe in the multilateral system, to serve We, The Peoples, through the power of member states to make transformative change and global policy at the United Nations. We therefore urge all governments to come forward with a political declaration that reflects the ambition and resources to achieve the SDGs by 2030 and to not leave anyone or any group behind in the process.