



Permanent Mission of
The Republic of Angola to the United Nations

STATEMENT BY

**H.E. AMBASSADOR FRANCISCO JOSÉ DA CRUZ
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**AT THE ECOSOC
HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM 2023**

**GENERAL DEBATE
17-20 July 2023 @ CR4**

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HIS EXCELLENCY AMBASSADOR FRANCISCO JOSE DA CRUZ,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ANGOLA
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*“Building momentum towards the 2023 SDG Summit:
Transformation for accelerating implementation of the SDGs
”*

**Excellencies
Distinguished delegates,**

The Republic of Angola aligns itself with the statement delivered by Cuba on behalf of the G77+China, as well as the statement delivered by Tanzania in the name of the African Group. Please allow us to make the following remarks in our national capacity.

Even before the current cascading crises, African countries were already facing challenges in implementing the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, which have

disrupted economic activities, placed severe pressure on health and social protection systems and further burdened government budgets, straining public finance and limiting policy space.

However, these challenges should not overshadow the progress made by the African countries over the past two decades in mobilizing domestic resources to finance crucial investments, including infrastructure and essential service delivery, to strengthen socio-economic progress and promote inclusive growth.

The current global energy and food crises have taken their toll on African countries, increasing prices and exacerbating an already fragile economic situation in a continent facing the negative impact of climate change.

The ongoing geopolitical and security challenges, the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic and the escalating risks of climate change pose a serious threat to the African

continent's development by throwing more people into poverty, widening inequalities, and increasing social and economic vulnerabilities. We need to take decisive action to overcome these challenges and secure a brighter future for all.

**Excellencies
Distinguished delegates,**

Angola is committed to the implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted in September 2015 by the United Nations General Assembly, to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) based on integrate three dimensions of sustainability - social, economic and environmental - with the goal of leaving no one behind.

The Government of Angola has two main development policy instruments, namely the Long-Term Strategy Angola 2050, and the National Development Plan (PDN), which brings together the set of programs, projects and activities to promote the development of the country in line with the

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union's Agenda 2063.

Angola is changing its development paradigm, seeking for solid partnerships with the private sector and civil society, as well as international development partners to implement its National Development Plan.

At this moment, the country is defining the priorities for the next National Development Plan 2023-2027 based on "sustainable social, economic and environmental impact". This new Plan is set to be an integrated response to the SDGs based on three development pillars, namely:

1. human capital (with education at the forefront);
2. infrastructure; and
3. economic diversification (with agribusiness and tourism at the forefront).

The Government of Angola's main short- and medium-term challenges for the implementation of the SDGs will be balancing the need to keep the macro-economy under control, especially maintaining the fiscal accounts and external accounts at appropriate levels, and the stability of the national currency's purchasing power, while supporting the economic recovery and the social programs to combat poverty and unemployment, exacerbated by the COVID-19 health crisis and climate change impact.

To conclude, it is imperative to continue strengthening the long-standing partnership between the United Nations and Africa to address these challenges, including through better alignment of UN system support to the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities with the continent's priorities on all issues related to nexus to governance and the peace-development.

I thank you.