

PERMANENT MISSION OF ROMANIA  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



MISSION PERMANENTE DE LA ROUMANIE  
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**Statement by**  
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**VICE-PRIME MINISTER,**  
**MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT OF ROMANIA**

General Debate

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**Mister President,**

**Distinguished Delegates,**

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Romania aligns itself with the declaration of the European Union. I would like now to present to you some remarks in my national capacity.

The second year of the implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development reveals the indivisible nature of the three dimensions of sustainable development.

The Sustainable Development Goals are the core of the 2030 Agenda. The multiple interlinkages between the Goals and targets, adopted by all of us, within a transparent and inclusive process, two years ago, generate the indivisible nature of actions.

After the last year session, when we have considered that No One is Left Behind – the fundamental principle of the 2030 Agenda - the current session is addressing the central scope of our Agenda - "Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world".

The success of the implementation of such a complex Agenda requires the interlinkages between goals should be addressed in a holistic and coherent approach at all levels, focusing on synergies. The Paris Agreement, the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction complement the 2030 Agenda.

As Vice-Prime Minister of the Government of Romania and Minister of Environment, I want to emphasize the central role of the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) in the implementation of the SDGs.

The HLPF offers the occasion to form new cross-sector alliances of civil-society organizations in many countries in order to jointly develop analyses and recommendations for actions to implement the 2030 Agenda.

I want also to underline the important role of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) in advancing the environmental dimension of the 2030 Agenda. This year session of UNEA will address the overarching theme of pollution. Additional to the UNEA Resolutions, the utmost important will be the adoption of a Political Declaration on Pollution, linked to the SDGs, to prove that humanity can work together to eliminate the threat of pollution and the destruction of our planet.

Romania contributed with fifty thousand US Dollars to the budget of this year session of UNEA, a special session changing the cycle of the UN Environment Assembly from even to odd years, accordingly to UNEP budgetary and financial cycles. Our contribution aims to offer the possibility of a proper organization and wide participation of delegates from developing countries.

Distinguished Delegates,

Romania is in the process of preparing the implementation of the SDGs with their related targets. The Programme of the Romanian Government states from its vision the principle "Leave No One Behind" and gives priority to the implementation of the national plans in all three dimensions of sustainable development. We are also working together with the EU countries on implementation of the new European Consensus on Development.

At the Office of the Prime-Minister, it was established a Department for Sustainable Development, working close with the Inter-ministerial Committee on Sustainable Development, led by myself. We are in the phase of mapping the

SDGs, working on synergies in the implementation the 2030 Agenda and Paris Agreement commitments. Romania will present the Voluntary National Review to the High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development next year.

When it comes to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the Government has to take the leadership and overall responsibility. The Government should rely also and consult the civil society representatives, nongovernmental organizations, with a special emphasis on youth, women, children and adolescents, persons with disabilities, private sector, and scientific community, through interactive cooperation, partnerships and joint projects.

Last but not least, I want to stress the importance of regional dimension of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Our pan-European region established, this year, in Geneva, under the auspices of UNECE (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe), the annual Regional Forum for Sustainable Development.

Thank you for your attention.