

20th July 2016

H.E. Oh Joon
President,
United Nations Economic and Social Council
New York

Your Excellency,

We, as members of various local, national, regional and global civil society organisations, social movements, constituencies, platforms, major groups and other stakeholders from different parts of the world, would like to congratulate you on your leadership of the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). We appreciate the efforts made in designing the HLPF 2016 programme and allowing for the effective participation of all relevant stakeholders.

We also take this opportunity to commend the contributions of member states, especially those who volunteered themselves for review at HLPF 2016. Many of these member states have had some form of consultation at the country level involving different stakeholders, and have posted their review documents in the public domain, reflecting the principles agreed in paragraph 74 of 'The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development'.

As this is the first HLPF after the adoption of the 2030 Agenda, it offers an opportunity to reflect on successes, learnings, and ways to strengthen the HLPF process. We would like to share the following observations and recommendations for your thoughtful consideration.

1. Programme design - The national voluntary reviews are the basis for recommendations and decision-making by the HLPF, and the programme should allow their findings to guide discussions and the sharing of experiences throughout the HLPF. Part of the mandate of the HLPF is the follow up and review of implementation of the 2030 Agenda and other sustainable development frameworks. Accountability is needed to drive effective international cooperation. *We recommend that the HLPF programme in 2017 and in forthcoming years should begin with the Ministerial Segment where member states conduct their reviews and adopt the ministerial declaration, followed by the expert level thematic roundtables and dialogues.* This would allow the discussions taking place at the expert level to be informed by inputs from the national reviews. The early release of the draft agenda of the HLPF would provide participants the opportunity to better prepare responses, thereby increasing the overall quality of stakeholder participation.

2. Modalities - The modalities for the HLPF in general - and especially the reviews of national voluntary reports at the global level - *should encourage interactive dialogue and debate. More time should be given for member states to engage with each country report, with inputs from major groups and other stakeholders.* This modification in format would enrich the quality of discussions and create spaces for constructive engagement, problem-solving and the exchange of good practice.

Further, we recommend that the HLPF be made more inclusive and accessible by providing closed captioning, international sign interpretation, and accessible format website and documentation for visually impaired participants.

3. National Reviews - The HLPF rests upon - and should aim to reinforce - national democratic ownership of the reporting frameworks by all stakeholders. National review processes need to be strengthened to be more inclusive, transparent, effective, and participatory, as well as better able to capture successes and learnings, and to make corrective adjustments, when necessary. *National reviews should make the best use of already available information, including data from other UN reporting mechanisms as well as inputs from thematic experts. Additional sources of information like parallel reports should also be considered as inputs and made available on the HLPF website as part of review materials for the respective country.*

Moreover, the UN secretariat could request member states to volunteer to conduct national voluntary reviews over the next 4-year cycle, creating a schedule that facilitates better preparation. Parliaments should play a key role in national reviews. Guidelines for the effective participation and engagement of all relevant actors at the national level should be developed at the HLPF in consultation with all relevant stakeholders.

We remain committed to making the 2030 Agenda a reality. We view our participation in implementation, as well as in monitoring and review of all sustainable development frameworks, as essential for its success. An enabling environment that allows civil society the full realisation of the core freedoms of expression, association, and peaceful assembly, should be ensured so that civil society can play its rightful role in policy formulation and implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Indeed, the promise to leave no one behind cannot be realised without the voices of the peoples, especially those living in poverty and the most vulnerable.

We appreciate your readiness to engage with us to enhance the HLPF.

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

Yours Sincerely,

Cc: H.EMogensLykketoft, President of the 70th UN General Assembly
H.E Peter Thomson, President-elect of the 71st UN General Assembly.
H.E. Ban Ki-moon, Secretary General, United Nations
All Permanent Representatives to the United Nations

Contact person for this letter: Savio Carvalho, Amnesty International.
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List of CSOs who have endorsed this letter:

| Organisation | First name | Surname | Country |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| :At-sik:hata:Nation of :Yamasee-Moors | :Nanya-Ahk:Heru | -Eil | Global /International |
| AARP | Erica | Dhar | USA |
| Abibiman Foundation | Kenneth | Amoateng | Ghana |
| ABIODUN ADEBAYO WELFARE FOUNDATION | Musiliu Adebayo | Ojo | Global/International |

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|---|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| ACT Alliance | Isaiah | Toroitich | Global |
| Action pour le Développement | Souleymane | Camara | Guinee |
| ADD International | Mosharraf | Hossain | Global |
| Africa Global Wealth creation | Prof. Jared Akama | Onyari | Global/International |
| Africa Youth Coalition Against Hunger Sierra Leone | Peter John | Amara | Sierra Leone |
| AFRICA YOUTH FOR PEACE AND DEVELOPMENT | VICTORIA | UBANI | NIGERIA AFRICA |
| African Journalists Network for TICAD | Ernest | Moloi | Global |
| African Youths Organization | Prince Bright Sunday | Akinola | Nigeria |
| AfrihealthOptonet Association [CSOs Network] | Dr. Uzodinma | Adirieje | Nigeria |
| AfroLeadership | Charlie Martial | Ngounou | Cameroon |
| Ageing Nepal | Ageing Nepal endorses the letter | Ageing Nepal endorses the letter | Nepal |
| AHDIS | DIOUF | AMACODOU | SENEGAL |
| AHJASA | Omar | Nuñez | Honduras C.A. |
| All Together in Dignity - ATD Ireland | Gerald | Doherty | Ireland |
| Amis des Etrangers au Togo (ADET) | DOSSE | SOSSOUGA | Togo |
| Amnesty International | Savio | Carvalho | Global |
| Anti-Corruption and Transparency Support Initiative | Edidiong | Sambo | Nigeria |
| ARTICLE 19 | David | Banisar | Global/International |
| ASAP | Iro | Sam-Woruka | Global/International |
| Asia Development Alliance (ADA) | Anselmo | Lee | Asia |
| Asociación Nueva Vida Pro-Niñez y Juventud | César | Artiga | El Salvador |
| Association Camerounaise pour la prise en charge des personnesÂgées (ACAMAGE) | Paulette | METANG | CAMEROUN |
| Association for promotion sustainable development. Hisar. India | Mange Ram | Adhana | India |
| Association pour le DeveloppementDurable ,ADD. | SokAppadu | SoobarajNayr oo | Republic of Mauritius. |

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| Association YOUTHLEAD | DZAHINI | KwakutseElagbe | TOGO. |
| Banda Ahenkro Widows Association | SieKwasi | Owusu Williams | Ghana |
| Bangladesh NGOs Network for Radio and Communication | AHMBazlur | Rahman | Bangladesh |
| BASAB BD | Mehedi | Hasan | Bangladesh |
| Behinderung und Entwicklungszusammenarbeit (bezev) | Gabriele | Weigt | Global/International |
| Better Community Life Initiative | Chibundu | Uchegbu | Nigeria |
| Botswana Guardian | Ernest | Moloi | International |
| Burundi Child Rights Coalition | Mignonne | Ndorukwigira | Burundi |
| CAFOD | Diego | Martinez-Schütt | UK |
| Care of the Ageing, Needy and the Underprivileged 'CANU' Association Cameroon | Suh Cheo | Cyprain | Cameroon |
| Caritas Sierra Leone | Edward | John-Bull | Sierra Leone |
| CBM | Elizabeth | Lockwood | Global/International |
| CEGODEM | Jairo Iván | Matus Contreras | Nicaragua |
| Center for Community Advancement and Family Empowerment(CECAFE) | Sam | Slewion | Liberia, West Africa |
| Center for Human Development & Management | AmirulAlam | Shiplu | Bangladesh |
| Center for Peace and Development Effectiveness | Samuel | Chanchan | Global |
| Center for Reproductive Rights | Meera | Shah | Global/International |
| CENTRE FOR SOCIO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (CSED) | KINGSLEY | OZEGBE | GLOBAL/INTERNATIONAL |
| Centro de Investigacion para la AccionFemenina | Laura | Breton | Dominica Republic |
| CERPD (Centre d'Etudes de Recherche pour une Population Dynamique) | Aho Richard | TOSSOU | Benin |
| Christian Aid | Helen | Dennis | UK |
| CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation | Jeffery | Huffines | Global/International |
| CNCD-11.11.11 | Veronique | Rigot | Belgium |

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| Coalition of Caregivers and Advocates for the Elderly(COCAEL) | Slewion | Togba | Liberia, West Africa |
| Coalition of Civil Society Organizations in the Central African Region | Coalition of Civil Society Organizations in | Central African Region | Cameroon |
| Community Development Initiative | Kabir Kura | Hamisu | Nigeria |
| Concord Sweden | Hanna | Hansson | Sweden |
| Confederación Colombiana de ONG | Liliana | Rodríguez Burgos | Colombia |
| CONGAD | DIOUF | AMACODOU | SENEGAL |
| Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd | Winifred | Doherty | International |
| Congrès Mondial Amazigh | Belkacem | Lounes | international |
| Convite AC | Luis Francisco | Cabezas | Venezuela |
| CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness/Asia Pacific Research Network | Tetet | Lauron | Global/regional |
| CSYM HUDUMA8Christian Spiritual Ministry Tanzania | Nicodemus | SiayiSoko | Global |
| CULTURAL CONSERVATION ACT (CCA) | Charles | UWIRAGIYE | Global |
| DDolly Foundation | Rosina | Teye | Ghana |
| Destiny Shapers | Nicholas | Kaponda | Zambia |
| Development & Integrity Intervention Goal Foundation | Oliver | ChimaAjah | Nigeria |
| Dynamic Youth Development Organisation | Emem | Frank | Nigeria |
| Economic Justice Network Sierra Leone | Peter John | Amara | Sierra Leone |
| EDUCON | Zdenka | Stara | Czech Republic |
| Ekumenická akademie (Ecumenical Academy) | Karolína | Silná | Czech Republic |
| Elder for Calgary and surrounding area (past Presiding Elder for the WGIP) | Doreen | Spence | Canada |
| Emonyoyefwe International | Luke | Kapchanga | Kenya |
| End Water Poverty | Megan | MacGarry | Global/ International |
| ENDA Tiers Monde | Jean-Philippe | THOMAS | International |
| European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN) | Fintan | Farrell | European |

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|---|-------------------|---------------|----------------------|
| Excellent World Foundation | Michael | Enahoro | Nigeria |
| EXCUBITUS - DerechosHumanosenEducación. | Alexis | Ramirez | Venezuela |
| Family Farming Platform - Sierra Leone | Pauline Joyce | Baihinga | Global/International |
| Fantsuam Foundation | John | Dada | NIGERIA |
| Federation of Environmental and Ecological Diversity for Agricultural Revampment and Human Rights (FEEDAR & HR) | TCHARBUAHBOK ENGO | NFINN | Cameroon |
| Fima/ Apapf, Amam international | Ndumwe | Christophe | R D Congo |
| Foundation For Environmental Rights, and Development FENRAD-NIGERIA | Comrade Nelson | NnannaNwafor | Nigeria,west Africa |
| FOUNDATION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF THE EARTH (FOCONE) | PATRICK | CHIEKWE | GLOBAL/INTERNATIONAL |
| Franciscans International | Odile | Coirier | Global/International |
| FRANK Water | Jon | Shepherd | Global/International |
| GCAP Burkina | Nakelintouba | NIKIEMA | Burkina Faso |
| GCAP Burundi | Aboubakar | Akilimali | Burundi |
| GCAP Global/Africa | Kyerewa | Asamoah | International |
| GCAP Liberia | James Sayon | Roberts | Liberia |
| GCAP Rwanda Coalition | Rene | NIYONTEZE | Rwanda |
| Gender and Water Alliance (GWA) | Shaila | Shahid | Bangladesh |
| Gender Education, Research and Technologies (GERT) | Kostadinka | Samsorova | Bulgaria |
| GHANA ASSOC. OF PRIVATE VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN DEVELOPMENT (GAPVOD) | FRANK | BOALYE-DANKWA | GHANA |
| Global Agenda for Total Emancipation (GATE) | Tim | Aniebonam | Nigeria |
| Global Call to Action against Poverty | James Sayon | Roberts | Liberia |
| Global Call to Action Against Poverty (GCAP) | Ingo | Ritz | Global |
| Global Campaign for Education | Camilla | Croso | Global/International |
| Global Ecovillage Network | Rob | Wheeler | Global/International |

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| Global Forum For Development-GLOFORD Uganda | Morris Chris | Ongom | Uganda |
| Global Forum for Media Development (GFMD) | Bill | Orme | Global/International |
| Global Participe | Ivan | KIBANGOU NGOY | Global/International |
| Global Peace and Development Organization | Samuel | Chanchan | Global |
| GOLD ONG | Joël | HOUNGUE | Bénin |
| Grassroots Civil Society Network of Liberia | McWillian | Tugbe | Liberia |
| Gray Panthers | Jack | Kupferman | USA |
| HELPAGE International Global Network | Sylvia | Beales | Global/international |
| HelpAge Programme RDC | Anatole | Bandu | Democratic Republic of Congo |
| Human Rights First Rwanda Association | Louis | Busingye | Rwanda |
| IFOAM - Organics International / Farmers Major Group | Gabor | Figeczky | Global |
| Inspirator Muda Nusantara | Stevie | Harison | Indonesia |
| Institute for Planetary Synthesis, Association of World Citizens | Lisinka | Ulatowska | Global |
| Integrated Development initiatives IDI | Sumana | Chakma | Global |
| International Agency for Prevention of Blindness | Johannes | Trimmel | Global/International |
| International association for community development | Charlie | Mcconnell | Global/International |
| International Association of World Peace Advocates | Amb. Emmanuel | Nkweke | Nigeria |
| International Center for Accelerated Development | Kevin | Anthony | International |
| International Council for Adult Education | Katarina | Popovic | Global/International |
| International Disability Alliance | Orsolya | Bartha | Global |
| International Disability and Development Consortium | Elizabeth | Lockwood | Global/International |
| International Federation on Ageing | Jane | Barratt | Global/International |
| International Movement ATD Fourth World | Cristina | Diez | Global |

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| International Network for the Prevention of Elder Abuse (INPEA) | Susan | Somers | Global/International |
| IWAC (International Women's Anthropology Conference) | Joan P | Mencher | USA |
| Jeunes Verts Togo | EssokInam | Pedessi | Togo |
| Jharkhandis Organisation for Human Rights (JOHAR) | Ramesh | Jerai | India |
| JJ Personality | Jeffrey | R Lalramdina | India |
| Jongo Farmers Nigeria | Tajudeen | Azeez | Global/International |
| KapoSeba Sangha KSS | Keranmoy | Chakma | Global |
| Kehys (Finnish NGDO Platform to the EU) | Rilli | Lappalainen | Finland |
| Kenya Small Scale Farmers Forum (KESSFF) | Justus Lavi | Mwololo | Regional |
| Kepa | Timo | Lappalainen | Finland |
| Kiribati Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (KANGO) | David | Teaabo | Kiribati |
| KOO- Coordination office of the Austrian Bishops Conference for International Development and Mission | Heinz | Hödl | Austria |
| Kopin | Michelle | CallejaChehab | Malta |
| Korea Civil Society Forum on International Development Cooperation (KoFID) | JaeKwang | Han | Republic of Korea |
| Korea Civil Society Network on SDGs | Doun | Moon | South Korea |
| Korea Federation for Environmental Movement | Hyelyn | Kim | Republic of Korea |
| Lake Victoria Sunset Birders | Hezbone | Okoth | Kenya |
| Lesotho Youth Coalition | Khotso | Masheane | International |
| LIGHT FOR THE WORLD | Sabine | Rehbichler | International |
| Mother of Hope Cameroon (Mohcam) | Adah | Mbah | Cameroon |
| Nana Sahab Development Society (NSDS) | Mujeeb | Rehman | Pakistan |
| Narasha Community Development Group | Jackson | Shaa | Kenya |
| National Civil Society Council of Liberia | Christopher | Toe | Liberia |

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| National Confederation of Dalit Adivasi Organisations (NACDAOR) | Sukanta | Behera | India |
| National Youth Council of Ireland | Valerie | Duffy | Ireland |
| Network of African Youths for Deveelopment | Paul | Shaw | Africa |
| New Future Foundation | Blakely | Queen Mother Delois | United States |
| NGO Federation of Nepal/Nepal SDGs Forum | DayaSagar | Shrestha | Nepal |
| Nickpoint Media Trust | Nicholas | Waigwa | Kenya |
| Nigeria Network of NGOs | Oluseyi | Oyebisi | Nigeria |
| Nonviolence International | David | Kirshbaum | international |
| NSINDAGIZA | Elie | MUGABOWIS HEMA | GLOBAL |
| OceanCare | Sigrid | Lueber | Switzerland |
| Ohaha Family Foundation | John | Ede | Nigeria |
| OkogunOdigieSafewomb International Fondation (OOSAIF) | Justina | Okogun | Global/international |
| ONG ALSEM | Fotso | Aude | GABON |
| ONG Carbone Guinée | Ibrahimasory | sylla | Guinea |
| ONG DémocratieDans le Monde | WAÏDI | Latifatou | Bénin |
| ONG PADJENA (Participation Active des DirigeantsJeunes Elites NiantL'Aboulie) | Jean-Claude Paul | DEGBE | BENIN |
| OrganizaciónVenezolana de Jóvenes para las NacionesUnidas | Jhon | Esteban | RepúblicaBolivarian a de Venezuela |
| P&D Factor | Graça | CampinosPoças | Global/International |
| Pacific Women's Watch (New Zealand) Inc. | Beverley | Turner | New Zealand |
| Pakistan Development Alliance | Zia | ur Rehman | Pakistan |
| Pakistan NGOs Forum | Mohammad | Ismail | Pakistan |
| Papua New Guinea Education Advocacy Network (PEAN) | Priscilla | Kare | International |
| Paradigm Shift Foundation | Jack | Kafwanka | Global |
| Participatory Research Action Network- PRAN | NurulAlam | Masud | Bangladesh |
| Peace and Life Enhancement Initiative International | Olugbenga | Odukoya | Global/International |
| People's Watch | Henri | Tiphagne | Global/International |

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| Philippine Social Enterprise Network | Gomer | Padongg | The Philippines |
| PlataformaVenezolana de Redes de OSC | Lorena | Liendo Rey | Venezuela |
| Portuguese NGDO Platform | Pedro | Cruz | Portugal |
| Povod | Robert | Križanič | Slovenia |
| PRISM (People's Right to Information and Development Implementing Society of Mizoram | Jeffrey | R Lalramdina | India |
| Projonma Academy | Mohammad Shahidur | Rahman | Bangladesh |
| Public Services International | Sandra | Vermuyten | Global |
| Rainbow Warriors Core Foundation | Milton | Ponson | Global |
| Regions Refocus | Anita | Nayar | Global |
| Religions for Peace Latin America and the Caribbean | Elias | Szczytnicki | Region Latin America and the Caribbean |
| Réseau des jeunes pour les OMD | Rado | RAKOTOARIN ALA | Madagascar |
| Rio Monte | Ann-Lis | Svensson | International |
| Rutgers | Yvonne | Bogaarts | Netherlands |
| Sanayee Development Organization - SDO | Raz Mohammad | Dalili | Afghanistan |
| ShantinibasAgraniKalyanSamiti SAKS | Pranab | Chakma | International |
| Sierra Leone Coalition 2030 | Edward | John-Bull | Sierra Leone |
| Siglo XXIII - SERR | Marta | benavides | El Salvador |
| Sinergia | Deborah | Van Berkel | Venezuela |
| SMILES AFRICA INTERNATIONAL | PURPOSE | ISERHIENRH IEN | NIGERIA/AFRICA |
| Social Justice Ireland | Seán | Healy | Ireland |
| Social Watch Czech Republic | Tomas | Tozicka | Czech Republic |
| Society of Catholic Medical missionaries | Celine | Paramunda | International |
| Somos Mas Decididos Civil Association | Alejandra | Contreras Casso Lopez | Mexico |
| Soroptimist International | Francesca | Fletcher Williams | Global |
| Southwest Native Cultures | Terry | Sloan | United States |
| Stakeholder Group on Ageing | Erica | Dhar | Global |

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| TALLER SALUD | Nirvana | Gonzalez-Rosa | PUERTO RICO |
| Tanzania Association of Non-Governmental Organizations | Finland | Bernard | Tanzania |
| Temple of Understanding | Grove | Harris | USA |
| The Environmental Pillar | Michael | Ewing | Ireland |
| The Hunger Project Mexico | Ana Lucia | Marquez | Mexico |
| The Norwegian Forum for Development and Environment | Ingvild | Øgstad | Norway |
| The Seed Institute | Joselyne | Chepleting | Kenya |
| Think Centre | Samydrori | Sinapan | Singapore |
| Tinker Institute on International Law and Organizations | Dr. Catherine | Tinker | Global/International |
| Together 2030 | Marggie | Simo | Global |
| Transparency International | Craig | Fagan | Global |
| Triglav Circle | Barbara | Baudot | Global/International |
| Trócaire | Lorna | Gold | Global/International |
| Uganda Peace Foundation | George | Hashaka | Uganda |
| UNANIMA International | Michele | Morek | Global / International |
| Unicef | VIVIENNE | PARRY | Ireland |
| Union de Jeunes pour la Paix et le Developpement"UJPD/asbl" | Mireille | Munezero | Burundi |
| Union des Amis Socio Culturels d'Action en Developpement (UNASCAD) | Joseph | SEVERE | Haiti |
| universal rights group | RAJ | PRAYAG | international |
| Universal Rights Network | Kim | Gleeson | Global/International |
| UNIVERSITY OF IBADAN, NIGERIA | ADESOLA | OGUNNIYI | "Global/International" |
| Volunteer Groups Alliance | Adjmal | Dulloo | Global |
| VSO Interbational | Mwangi | Waituru | International |
| WaterAid UK | Margaret | Batty | Global |
| Welfare Foundation | Simon | Gabritchidze | Georgia |
| Welthungerhilfe | Richard | Haep | Germany |
| Whale and Dolphin Conservation | Christopher | Butler_Stroud | International |
| Wild Migration | Margi | Prideaux | Global/International |
| WiLDAF | AfiwaKafui | KUWONU | regional, Global/International |

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| WOMEN ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT NETWORK (WEDEN) | BABARA | OGISI | GLOBAL/INTERNATIONAL |
| Women for Human Rights, single women group | Lily | Thapa | Nepal |
| Women United for Economic Empowerment | Inibong | Frank | Nigeria |
| Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights (WGNRR) | Lara | Cousins | Global |
| Women's Initiative for Self-Actualization | Unyime | Ekpoudia | Nigeria |
| Workers and Trade Unions Major Group | Matthew | Simonds | International |
| World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA) | Mari | Ullmann | Global/International |
| World Vision | Arelys | Bellorini | Global |
| Youth for Peace and Development | Kudzanaï Marshal | Mutomba | Zimbabwe |
| Youth Power Initiative | Joy | TikuEnighe | Global/International |
| Youth Without Borders - Tunisia | Ahmed | ALLOUCH | Tunisia |
| Zo Inpui | Vanlal | Duhsaka | International |
| ZoRO | Vanlal | Duhsaka | Global/International |