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| **Monday, 2 December 2019** | | | | |
| **10:00 – 10:15** | **Opening Remarks** | | | |
|  | *Ms. Marion Barthelemy - Director, Office of Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development, UNDESA*  *Orsolya Bartha - Steering Group of the Major Groups & other Stakeholders’ Coordination Mechanism and Organizing Partner of the Stakeholder Group for Persons with Disabilities* | | | |
| **10:15 – 11:15** | **HLPF: Introduction and Engagement** | | [Informative Session] | |
|  | The meeting of the high-level political forum on sustainable development in 2020, convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, will be held from 7 July - 16 July 2020. The HLPF is the main United Nations platform on sustainable development and it has a central role in the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs at the global level.  The Major Groups and other Stakeholders (MGoS) were integral to the development and adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Since its adoption, MGoS have been actively working towards its implementation, through projects, initiatives, advocacy, knowledge-sharing, and monitoring of the 2030 Agenda. This informative session will address a number of preliminary questions:   * What is the HLPF and how was it created? * How was the MGoS Coordination Mechanism formed and what is its mandate? * What opportunities exist for MGoS representatives to engage and participate at the HLPF? * How does the MGoS prepare for the HLPF?    *Irena Zubcevic - Chief, Office of Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development, UN DESA* *Frances Zainoeddin - Steering Group of the Major Groups and other Stakeholders’ Coordination Mechanism and Representative of the Stakeholder Group on Ageing* | | | |
| *11:30 – 11:45* | *Break* | | | |
| **11:45 – 13:00** | **Opportunities & Challenges for CSO Representatives** | | [Interactive Session] | |
|  | The participants of the workshop are about to embark on the Voluntary National Review process of their respective countries at regional, national and local level. As part of an interactive dialogue, each of this session’s participants will be asked to identify what they foresee to be the main opportunities and challenges for civil society organisations in the VNR process. Participants will be encouraged to past experiences or current visions of how they see that the VNR process will unfold. This session will help to guide and frame the remaining sessions during the course of the workshop.   * What do you foresee to be the key opportunities in your country’s VNR process? * What do you think will the main obstacles to achieving your objectives in this process? * What previous experiences can you share to overcome these obstacles?   *Robie Halip - Steering Group of the MGoS CM & Representative of the Indigenous Peoples Major Group*  *Donovan Guttieres - Steering Group of the MGoS CM and Organizing Partner of the Major Group for Children & Youth* | | | |
| *13:00 – 14:00* | *Break* | | | |
| **14:00 – 15:00** | **VNRs and VLRs: Introduction, Engagement and Follow-up (1)** | | [Informative Session] | |
|  | The voluntary national reviews aim to facilitate the sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned, with a view to accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The VNRs also seek to strengthen policies and institutions of governments and mobilize multi-stakeholder support and partnerships for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. The voluntary local reviews (VLRs) complement the VNR process and provide a mechanism for local governments and additional stakeholders to engage in the follow-up and review process. This two-part session will provide a comprehensive introduction to address the following questions:   * What are the VNRs? What is the cycle of VNRs? * What are its objectives and what are the steps of engagement that stakeholders can take? * What is the role MGoS Coordination Mechanism’s VNR Task Group? * What materials do I need to be aware of from the outset of the VNR/ VLR process?  *Joop Theunissen, Deputy Chief, Office of Intergovernmental Support and Coordination for Sustainable Development, UN DESA* *Orsolya Bartha - Steering Group of the Major Groups and other Stakeholders’ Coordination Mechanism and Organizing Partner of the Stakeholder Group for Persons with Disabilities* | | | |
| *15.00 – 15:15* | *Break* | | | |
| **15:15 – 17:00** | **VNRs and VLRs: Introduction, Engagement and Follow-up (2)** | [Interactive Session] | | |
|  | Written and oral advocacy opportunities for these CSO representatives are largely coordinated through the 18 Major Groups and Stakeholders Groups. Some of the primary advocacy opportunities during the HLPF include making 2-minute interventions during the official thematic sessions or asking a question to a country following its VNR presentation. In 2019, over 2,000 CSO representatives registered to attend the 2019 HLPF and so collaborating with multiple contributors, who have different interests, under the pressure of time, can be challenging.  This interactive session will place participants in the HLPF scenario an hour before the relevant official session is about to begin. The theme of the session will be disclosed at the beginning of the exercise. In small groups, the participants will be tasked to collectively write a 2-minute intervention which represents the issues of all the CSOs in the group. Remote inputs, from CSO representatives who cannot attend the HLPF will also need to be incorporated into the text. The exercise will provide participants with practical insight into what happens at the HLPF in addition to the necessity to respect every contributor’s input.  *Orsolya Bartha - Steering Group of the Major Groups and other Stakeholders’ Coordination Mechanism and Organizing Partner of the Stakeholder Group for Persons with Disabilities* | | | |
| **Tuesday, 3 December 2019** | | | | |
| **10:00 – 11:15** | **VNR Member State & Multi-Stakeholder Perspectives** | | | [Panel Discussion] |
|  | As part of its follow-up and review mechanisms, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development encourages member states to conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national and sub-national levels, which are country-led and country-driven. These national reviews are expected to serve as a basis for the regular reviews by the HLPF. Representatives from UN Member States that will present VNRs at the 2020 HLPF will be invited to a panel discussion on civil society engagement in the VNR process. The discussion will address questions such as:   * *Which initial steps can Member States take to identify stakeholders in the VNR process?* * *What kind of consultation process can Member States undertake to engage stakeholders?* * *What was the experience of governments regarding stakeholder consultation and what will they do differently in the future to strengthen national consultations?* * *What happens after the presentation of the VNR with regard to stakeholder feedback, national-level follow-up and ongoing periodic consultations?* * *Which best practices can stakeholders adopt to contribute to the VNR preparation and follow-up process?* | | | |
| *11:30 – 11:45* | *Break* | | | |
| **11:45 – 13:00** | **Regional Forums on Sustainable Development: Engagement & Follow-up** | | | [Strategy Session] |
| As part of Agenda 2030, the UN General Assembly welcomed the cooperation of regional and sub-regional commissions and organisations in contributing to the global follow-up and review process, including the HLPF. In response to this mandate, each of the Regional Commissions convenes a Regional Forum on Sustainable Development to follow up and review implementation of sustainable development in their region.  Following a brief introduction to the work of the Regional Commissions and Regional Forums on Sustainable Development, participants will be invited to join a regional discussion group (ECA, ECE, ECLAC, ESCWA, ESCAP) to identify obstacles and opportunities for CSO coordination at the regional-level. Each group will be invited to share the main obstacles with the peer groups to discuss and offer possible solutions based on their experiences.   * What are the UN Regional Commissions and Regional Forums on Sustainable Development? * How does the work of the Regional Forums contribute to implementation of Agenda 2030? * What mechanisms exist in each region for follow-up and review of the national VNRs? * What do CSO representatives view as the most challenging aspects of regional-level activity? * How can we strengthen the interplay between the global and the regional processes, including the role of the Regional Sustainable Development Forums? | | | |
| *13:00 – 14:00* | *Break* | | | |
| **14:00 – 15:15** | **2020 HLPF Theme & Multi-Stakeholder Perspectives** | | | [Strategy Session] |
|  | At every HLPF from 2016 to 2019 an official session has been dedicated to the perspectives of society. The 3-hour session, guided by the annual theme of the HLPF, is organised in collaboration with the MGoS Coordination Mechanism. The theme of the upcoming 2020 HLPF is *‘Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development’* and so this session promises to offer an interactive dialogue about thematic issues and processes, as well as cross-cutting and emerging issues relevant to the follow-up and review process.  The 2019 Global Sustainable Development Report identified six entry points that offer the most promise for achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 namely: *Human well-being and capabilities; Sustainable and just economies; Food systems and nutrition patterns; Energy decarbonization with universal access; Urban and peri-urban development; Global environmental concerns*  This session will offer an opportunity break into smaller group dynamics to share thoughts on the 2020 theme in addition to other critical themes. | | | |
| *15:15 – 15:30* | *Break* | | | |
| **15:30 – 17:00** | **The Road to the 2020 HLPF** | | | [Strategy Session] |
| As of today, there are eight months to go until the 2020 HLPF begins. Participants will be asked during the *‘Opportunities & Challenges for CSO Representatives’* session at the beginning of the workshop to begin to create a draft document of next-steps in the build-up to the 2020 HLPF. As part of this session, each participant will be given two-minutes to present some of their key ideas to the group. This knowledge exchange will help each participant to develop their own ‘next-steps document’ as well as foster opportunities for collaboration between individuals and organisations.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | | | |