## Session 11 – Individual Presentations

## Azerbaijan

## Azerbaijan has a vibrant volunteering sector that is contributing to implementing the 2030 agenda. What is the government doing to support volunteering (through legislation, policy, government volunteering schemes) and how volunteering can be recognised and measured, and reflected in VNRs?

1. It is a fact that it is only possible to achieve sustainable development with meaningful involvement of all rights holder groups, including marginalized social, economic and caste based groups, women, older and young people, , persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, LGBTQI people, migrants and refugees. Given this background and the very well documented context of shrinking space, what steps have you taken to secure designated, accessible and well-resourced spaces for MGoS in the co-design, implementation and monitoring of national policies, including through people led data collection?
2. How is the Government of Azerbaijan ensuring efforts to collect disaggregated data on people in vulnerable situations and marginalized communities and groups to ensure realizing the 2030 Agenda for them? What groups do you include in this disaggregation?

## Afghanistan

1. How is your country addressing structural barriers to guarantee women’s human rights, such as redistributing the sexual division of labor? How are you institutionalizing differentiated criteria to made sure that gender equality is cross-cutting bearing in mind other conditions such as sex, gender, sexual orientation, age, disability, ethnicity, race, local communities, indigenous peoples, religion, disability, immigration status, geographic location, and other relevant characteristics? Are you integrating social, environmental and economic measures in access to resources, land, sexual and reproductive health and rights, among other crucial agendas, especially from a public perspective and not delivered by private actors?
2. We find that there is an inherent disconnect between the ambition in this agenda and the actions of governments at national level. For example, we see many countries have imposed austerity policies to curb fiscal problems, which has had an adverse impact on human rights and social welfare, and in essence contradicts the spirit of the SDGS. In this context, what concrete actions is the Government of Afghanistan taking to address the structural imbalances that have generated deep and persistent inequalities, and to reverse austerity?

## Belize

1. It is a fact that it is only possible to achieve sustainable development with meaningful involvement of all rights holder groups, including marginalized social, economic and caste based groups, women, older and young people, , persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, LGBTQI people, migrants and refugees. Given this background and the very well documented context of shrinking space, what steps have you taken to secure designated, accessible and well-resourced spaces for MGoS in the co-design, implementation and monitoring of national policies, including through people led data collection?
2. How is the Government of Belize ensuring efforts to collect disaggregated data on people in vulnerable situations and marginalized communities and groups to ensure realizing the 2030 Agenda for them? What groups do you include in this disaggregation?
3. SDGs calls for strengthening community-level institutions and participatory decision making including through improving capacity of different stakeholders and rightsholders at the national level. Are there institutional processes in place to engage different stakeholders at national level to engage in and validate the national reviews and follow up different aspects of the agenda on the basis of the findings? What efforts are underway at national level to follow up on the findings of these reviews?

## Denmark

1. **Facing challenges**

Denmark is at a good starting point in comparison to other countries in terms of the implementation of the SDGs, which is also emphasized in the Danish VNR report. However, as is also described in the VNR report and other reports, that Denmark still has challenges with different goals including on goal 12 on sustainable consumption and production.

Could the minister of finance explain how the government will work to further identify the specific challenges in Denmark and advance on these challenges?

1. **Leave no on behind**

The VNR report describes how Denmark has a unique society with equal access to education and healthcare, where remedy for illness or misfortune do not depend on your economic or social status. This contributes to Denmark’s fulfillment of the principle of ‘leaving no one behind’.

However, as in most other societies there are vulnerable groups in Denmark at risk of being left behind. As an example it is documented that persons with psycho-social disabilities or intellectual disabilities have remarkably shorter life expectancy, respectively 10-12 years and 15-20 years. Moreover, data shows that 33.000 women in Denmark experience domestic violence every year. And there is a blind spot in Denmark when it comes to reporting violence committed on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity as hate crimes.

Could the Minister of Finance explain specific initiatives the government will take to ensure that vulnerable groups are fully included and not discriminated against in the implementation of the SDGs and that no groups are left behind?

1. **Involvement of Danish Civil Society**

In the Danish VNR report it is described how the government encourages civil society and academia to challenge and criticize the government in order to motivate further improvement on the implementation of the SDGs.

Could the Danish minister of finance elaborate on how the Danish government envisions future involvement of civil society and academia such as establishing formal hearing processes or other mechanisms to deliver input?

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