

الجمهورية الجزائرية الديمقراطية الشعبية

PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF ALGERIA

Statement of H.E. M. Sofiane Mimouni, Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations

The general debate of the High-Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development

Under the theme

"Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development "

Madam President,

At the outset, I would like to express my gratitude to You, Madam President, for convening this meeting at these hard times.

As we are entering the last decade for achieving the 2030 agenda in its entirety, the High-Level Political Forum and the theme chosen for this year "Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development" are very timely and relevant.

This forum will indeed provide us with the opportunity to share best practices and exchange experiences while all countries endeavor to reach sustainable development through policies that ensure harmonization between the economic, social, and environmental requirements.

Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, we are far from achieving sustainable development by 2030, and the spread of COVID-19 pandemic has deeply exacerbated the situation.

This pandemic risks reversing gains made in recent years and has revealed the extent of inequalities of our world, especially access to basic services. It has proven, once again, the necessity of combating inequalities among and within countries, bridging the developmental divide and strengthening international cooperation to reach sustainable development.

Madam President,

Algeria is pleased to be among the countries that achieved most of the MDGs before the envisaged term and reiterates its commitment to providing an adequate national response that ensures reaching SDGs by 2030.

The Voluntary National Review presented last year shows the clear vision of Algeria on reaching sustainable development and proves the commitment of Algerian authorities to achieve sustainable development and assure the well-being of Algerian citizens. The "sustainable development report 2019: Transformations to achieve the SDGs", illustrates this commitment.

The Algerian government strives to create conditions ensuring the full and effective participation of all citizens in the development of their country. I will highlight some elements relating to the energy transition, environment protection, health, and knowledge economy which are key elements for reaching sustainable development and building back better in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Algeria pays particular attention to energy transition and the development of renewable energies. In this regard, a Ministry in charge of renewable energies and energy transition was recently created and a program of more than 3 billion USD was

launched, amidst the COVID-19 crisis, for the development of solar energy. Furthermore, a National School of Renewable Energies, Environment, and Sustainable Development was officially created, last June, to support the political decision-maker with guidelines and recommendations to adopt science and evidence-based policies.

In the field of environment and in order to reverse the trend of deforestation, the Algerian government, in collaboration with the FAO, has decided to revive the green dam. For this purpose, a coordinating body in charge of the rehabilitation of the Green Dam and the fight against desertification has been created.

In the health area, the COVID-19 pandemic revealed the need for closer coordination between the various sectors as well as planning that takes into account the various health-related indicators. A National Health Security Agency has been set up which contributes to the development of the national policy aimed at achieving universal health coverage.

Aware of the importance of technology and the burden of services in the balance of payments, the Algerian government has raised the development of the knowledge economy and start-ups to be one of its top priorities. A national fund has been set up to ensure the development of this sector. To face COVID-19 pandemic, local start-ups have played an important role in providing the necessary services. Thus, they have enabled the national authorities to avoid resorting to import them.

Moreover, to share its experience and bring its aid and assistance especially to African countries, Algeria created an Agency for International Cooperation for Solidarity and Development in charge of the implementation of the national policy for international cooperation.

These are some examples of Algeria's firm commitment to achieve the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to ensure well-being and prosperity for all through a development strategy that guarantees economic growth in harmony with nature.

Madam President

Before concluding, I would like to stress that an integrated and comprehensive approach that ensures the mobilization of all resources and the participation of all citizens is, in our view, crucial and decisive to reach sustainable development and ensure that no one is left behind.

My delegation aligns itself with the statement delivered by Guyana on behalf of the Group of 77 and China.

I thank You