

THE PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

6 May 2016

Excellency,

Please find attached communication including zero draft resolution on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda at the global level, from Her Excellency Lois M. Young, Permanent Representative of Belize and His Excellency Ib Petersen, Permanent Representative of Denmark, in their capacity as co-facilitators for the informal consultations on the Follow-up and Review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, at the global level.

The first reading of the draft resolution will take place on Thursday, 12 May 2016 at 3p.m in the Economic and Social Council Chamber.

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

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All Permanent Representatives and Permanent Observers to the United Nations New York





Excellency,

May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Please find attached a zero draft for the resolution on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda at the global level.

A first reading of the zero draft is scheduled for Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> of May at 3pm in the Economic and Social Council Chamber. Guided by our mandate we aim to have a draft resolution ready for adoption by end May.

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

Lois M. Young Ambassador Permanent Representative Belize

Ib Petersen Ambassador Permanent Representative Denmark

H.E. Mogens Lykketoft, President of the United Nations General Assembly, 70<sup>th</sup> Session The General Assembly,

PP1. *Recalling* its resolutions 66/288 of 27 July 2012, 67/290 of 9 July 2013, 68/1 of 20 September 2013,

PP2. *Recalling also* its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015 on the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development,

PP3. *Recalling further* its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development" wherein Member States committed to engage in systematic follow-up and review of the implementation of the Agenda in accordance with agreed guiding principles and asserted that the high-level political forum will have a central role in overseeing a network of follow-up and review processes at the global level, working coherently with the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and other relevant organs and forums, in accordance with existing mandates,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General;<sup>1</sup>

2. Decides that, for purposes of the thematic reviews of progress on the Sustainable Development Goals at the high-level political forum, the sequence of themes for each four-year cycle of the forum shall reflect the integrated, indivisible, interlinked nature of the sustainable development goals and three dimensions of sustainable development, including cross-cutting issues as well as new and emerging issues, and will serve as the lens through which to review all 17 goals;

3. *Further decides* that the high-level political forum under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, without prejudice to the integrated, indivisible, interlinked nature of the sustainable development goals, will discuss a set of goals at each session representing the three dimensions of sustainable development, with a view to facilitating an in-depth review on progress of all goals over the course of a four-year cycle, with the goal 17 discussed annually;

4. *Decides* therefore that for the remainder of the current cycle of the highlevel political forum under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council the themes and sets of goals shall be:

**2**017

Theme: Ensuring food security on a safe planet by 2030 Set of focus goals: 1, 2, 6, 13, 14, 15 and 17

**2**018

Theme: Making cities sustainable and building productive capacities

Set of focus goals: 7, 8, 9, 11, 12 and 17

**2**019

Theme: Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness Set of focus goals: 3, 4, 5 10, 16 and 17

5. Decides further that the Economic and Social Council should align its annual themes with the corresponding annual themes of the high-level political

forum on sustainable development under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council to foster coherence;

6. *Takes note of* the preparations for the voluntary national reviews for the high-level political forum under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council in 2016 and *encourages* that experience gained from this and future sessions should be taken into consideration so as to ensure that the reviews are afforded appropriate organizational arrangements, bearing in mind that their aim is to facilitate the sharing of experiences including successes, challenges and lessons learnt;

7. *Requests* the President of the Economic and Social Council to encourage voluntary national reviews from developed and developing countries, including countries in special situations;

8. *Encourages* Member States to consider carrying out two voluntary national reviews at the high-level political forum between now and 2030;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to update, as appropriate, the voluntary common reporting guidelines as provided for in the annex to the report on critical milestones towards coherent, efficient and inclusive follow-up and review at the global level<sup>2</sup>, and to make them available to Member States as a reference tool in the preparation for voluntary national reviews.

10. *Reaffirms* that follow-up and review at the regional and subregional levels can contribute to follow-up and review at the high-level political forum and *reiterates* that Member States should identify the most suitable regional forum in which to engage;

11. Also reaffirms that the meetings of the forum shall devote adequate time to and will provide for effective linkages with the follow-up and review arrangements of all relevant United Nations conferences and processes, including on least developed countries, small island developing States and landlocked developing countries as well as recognize the challenges faced by African countries and countries in conflict and post-conflict situations;

12. *Reiterates* its decision in resolution 67/290 that the forum shall be open to the major groups, other relevant stakeholders and entities having received a standing invitation to participate as observers in the General Assembly in accordance with the modalities set out in the same resolution; and *further encourages* in this regard, that in the organization of the meetings of the high-level political forum innovative arrangements including web-based interfaces should be considered so as to support the effective, broad and balanced participation by region and by type of organization;

13. *Reaffirms* that the high-level political forum shall be informed by the quadrennial Global Sustainable Development Report and the annual Sustainable Development Goals Report prepared by the Secretary-General in cooperation with the United Nations system and *recalls* that the intergovernmentally agreed conclusions and recommendations of the annual Economic and Social Council forum on financing for development and an annual summary of discussions by the co-chairs of the Multistakeholder forum on science, technology and innovation for sustainable development goals, as well as other relevant reports and documents, shall feed into the high-level political forum;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> A/70/684

14. *Reiterates* the call to major groups and other stakeholders to report on their contributions to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and *encourages* the private sector and civil society to inform the United Nations of their commitments to implement the sustainable development goals as part of their contribution to follow-up and review;

15. Underscores that all inputs shall be made available and easily accessible in a user-friendly format utilizing and enhancing where necessary, existing web-based platforms with linkages as appropriate;

16. *Encourages* coherence of the General Assembly and its main committees, the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council and other intergovernmental bodies and forums with the work of the high-level political forum toward the follow-up and review of the implementation of the Agenda and in this context *encourages* that quadrennial comprehensive policy review takes into account the 2030 Agenda and sustainable development goals;

17. *Requests* in this regard the Secretary-General to review the organization of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs to ensure that the Department as a whole can effectively provide support to the 2030 Agenda and the high level political forum in a cohesive, coordinated and collaborative manner;

18. *Invites* the Economic and Social Council to consider scheduling its engagement with various intergovernmental bodies in order to support their contribution to the high-level political forum and *decides* to convene the biennial Development Cooperation Forum prior to the high-level political forum;

19. *Decides* to merge the three-day ministerial segment of the high-level political forum under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council with the high-level segment of the Council;

20. Decides, bearing in mind the different roles of the high-level political forum when meeting under the auspices of the General Assembly and when meeting under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, that when meeting in the same year they shall be closely coordinated to avoid duplication, ensure coherence and provide for mutually reinforcing linkages; and *decides further* for these purposes that the high-level political forum shall only have one negotiated political declaration for that year.

21. *Reaffirms* its decision as provided in resolution 67/290 that the outcome of the high-level political forum under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council will result in a negotiated ministerial declaration for inclusion in the report of the Council to the General Assembly, except as otherwise provided, and *invites* the President of the Economic and Social Council to prepare a factual summary of the meeting;

22. Decides to review progress in implementing the present resolution and General Assembly resolution 67/290 on the format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development at its seventy-fourth session, in order to benefit from lessons learned in the first cycle of the high-level political forum as well as from other processes under the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council related to the follow-up and review of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.