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The Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Department for Social and Economic Affairs (DESA), and has the honour to attach herewith, Nigeria's Executive Summary of Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) of Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, scheduled to hold in New York from 17 - 19 July 2017.

The Permanent Mission of Nigeria to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Department for Social and Economic Affairs (DESA) the assurances of its highest consideration. *eee*



New York, 30 May, 2017

United Nations Department for Social and Economic Affairs,
United Nations Secretariat,
New York,
NY 10017.



NIGERIA VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT – SUMMARY REPORT

1. Introduction

This report provides information on progress and status of implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Nigeria. It highlights key policy, institutional and regulatory measures put in place to create necessary enabling environment for mainstreaming of SDGs in national policies, plans and programmes, and its coherent coordination.

The report is the outcome of wide and in-depth consultations organized by the Office of the Senior Special Assistant to the President on SDGs (OSSAP-SDGs) with a wide array of stakeholders drawn from line ministries, civil society organizations, organized private sector, academia, development partners, youth groups, women organizations, persons with disability and media organizations.

2. Key Successes to Celebrate

i. Establishment of multi-layer and multi-cluster institutional frameworks for enhanced coordination and SDGs mainstreaming process

- a. The President has appointed a Senior Special Assistant to the President (SSAP) on SDGs whose office is responsible for ensuring horizontal and vertical coherence between development policies, plans and strategies. Similarly, an Inter-Ministerial Committee on the SDGs has been established and operational guidelines for the same developed to guide the coordinated engagement with Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs). Similar structures being established at the sub-national (State) level.
- b. To fully harness the resources and ideas of, and effectively engage other stakeholders, a Private Sector Advisory Group (PSAG) and a Donors' Forum on the SDGs have recently been inaugurated. The CSOs Group on SDGs are already working towards some SDGs targets, with giant stride on inclusive education, in collaboration with the Joint Association of Persons with Disability (JONAPWD) and Women 2030 in Nigeria.

- c. To enhance the legislative and oversight roles of Parliamentarians on SDGs implementation process, two select committees on SDGs have been established in the Senate and House of Representatives.
- d. As part of the national SDGs advocacy and campaign programme, the OSSAP-SDGs has entered into partnership with the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) to train graduating youths to become SDGs champions in their local communities and areas of national service they are deployed upon graduation.

ii. Existence of good policy and planning framework: The recently-launched Economic Recovery and Growth Plan (ERGP), on which the current medium- and short- terms budgeting frameworks are based is, to a large extent, aligned to the SDGs. Similarly, many of the current State Development Plans (SDPs), including the Benue, Taraba, Yobe, Kaduna, Ebonyi, Kano, Jigawa, Anambra, Delta, to mention but a few, are aligned to the SDGs. The alignment aid planning, monitoring and evaluation of SDG implementation, an SDGs data mapping exercise has been concluded and a data supply responsibility framework agreed upon.

iii. Upscaling the Conditional Grants Scheme (CGS): The CGS, a counterpart contributory mechanism which incentivizes subnational governments to mobilize resources to accelerate progress in SDGs core areas and is acclaimed as a best practice in implementing the global development agenda is currently being up scaled.

iv. Identifying and targeting the poor and vulnerable people: This has been achieved through establishment of a "National Social Register" for poor and vulnerable households. There is a monthly conditional cash transfer of five thousand naira (N5,000) to such households as part of a national social safety net programme.

3. Key Lessons Learnt

- i. Technology-based, open and transparent progress tracking and reporting systems for nationally agreed targets against set benchmarks is critical for the success of the SDGs implementation.
- ii. It is necessary to devise innovative and adaptive practices and programme delivery mechanisms to overcome bureaucratic bottlenecks often associated with the implementation of national policies and programmes.
- iii. Without necessarily downplaying the role of official development assistance and debt financing through debt relief gains, domestic resource mobilization and new sources of financing, are critical to successful resourcing of SDGs implementation in the country.

Effective global and national partnerships are therefore, vital for the SDGs implementation process.

4. Main Challenges

i. Reliance on oil and gas sector; dwindling agricultural production and productivity; and limited value addition in the agricultural sector to grow the economy, create jobs, address poverty and ensure food security remain critical challenges. Dwindling in agricultural productivity is mainly due to climate change; desertification; natural and man-made disasters; unresponsive land tenure and a general low utilization of mechanized farming.

ii. Infrastructural deficit and technological gaps: A major challenge to SDGs attainment is infrastructural deficit and technology gaps, which hinder service provision and application of science, technology and innovation in many spheres of life.

iii. The economic recession and humanitarian crises: Economic recession in the country due to fluctuating oil price in the international market and the humanitarian crisis in the North East of the country present unique challenges to achieving the SDGs.

5. Major Areas the Country Needs Support

i. Given the current economic recession, the country will need support in mobilizing adequate financial and other resources, including from domestic sources, and through traditional (North – South, South – South and triangular cooperation) partnerships. However, the country has advanced on curbing illicit financial flow and asset recovery which will enhance effort on resource mobilization for implementation of the SDGs.

ii. Technology transfer and capacity building on *inter alia*, data, information and performance management will be needed to support SDGs implementation.