Statement delivered by Arelys Bellorini on behalf of World Vision and Together 2030.

Thank You, Amb. Co-Facilitator:

I would like to briefly raise specific points today regarding the Zero Draft. We will present specific suggested language to you and the Delegations for your consideration.

**Intergovernmental space for children in the SDGs**

First and foremost, I wish to refer paragraph 74 f) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development where it refers to HLPF building on existing platforms and processes, where they exist in order to carry out its follow up and review mandate. We wish to call the attention that no mechanism exists in the ECOSOC eco-system on children. Consequently, if this gap is not addressed, the HLPF will have reports from several functional bodies, Forums and others which would have address progress on other marginalized population groups. However, none on children.

We ask that this gap be addressed in the Zero Draft by calling on ECOSOC to ensure that specific meetings or forums be held to take stock on how children are faring in SDGs implementation, to enable identifying gaps, review practices and contribute to shared learning. Such meetings or forums would also enable early identification of emerging issues and challenges that could be addressed in a timely fashion.

**Number of voluntary national reviews (OP 8)**

On voluntary national reviews, we recommend that the resolution encourages Member States to consider carrying out **at least three** voluntary national reviews at the high-level political forum between now and 2030. The current proposal is too prescriptive and goes against the voluntary nature of national reviews at the HLPF.

**Participation**

The language on OP 14 is an extract of Para 12 of Resolution 67/290 and does not properly cover the breadth of the commitment towards the enhanced consultative role and participation of the major groups and other relevant stakeholders at the international level.

**Proposed themes and sub-set of Goals (OP 4):**

We are concerned that the proposed themes and sub-set of Goals to be reviewed from 2017-2019 do not properly reflect the interlinkages and cross-cutting nature of the goals and tend to isolate them accordingly to the pillars of sustainable development. This may lead to unbalanced Ministerial Declarations that do not reflect the commitments of the 2030 Agenda. We recommend that the themes and sub-set of Goals to be reviewed are revised, going beyond the mere artificial allocation of goals accordingly to the sustainable development pillars.

Thank You