

# Process for Major Groups and other Stakeholders' (MGoS) Engagement in the Voluntary National Review (VNR) Sessions

# Objective

- deliver at **least 1 collaborative statement**, which includes specific, targeted **questions**, at each VNR session
- a VNR session can be either individual country presentations or presentation of a group of countries => MGoS aims to define statements/questions for each country and they will **adjust these statements in light of presentation format**.
- however MGoS aim to deliver the **maximum number of collaborative statements** in order to enter into dialogue with Member States

# Context

- Past experience shows that each VNR session varies.
- The UN Secretariat assures MGoS that there will be time allocated to deliver at least 1 collaborative statement => the **final decision remains in the hands of the Chair of the session** (several or no statement possible by MGoS).
- **Time will be extremely tight**
- speakers will have to **represent a broad range of views** with often only one statement accommodated per VNR country

# Mandate of VNR Task Group

## Aims of the process

- **remote participation and collaborative input** in drafting MGoS statements for each VNR country is made possible
- engagement of **key actors within VNR countries**
- connecting and engaging in dialogue with **CSOs organisations** prior to the HLPF (those that are engaged in national implementation processes and VNR preparation)
- bring national issues highlighted by civil society at the **grassroots level to the HLPF**
- statements at the HLPF are **delivered by representatives of the national civil society**
- **Liasing with UN Secretariat** on the process

# Process and steps of engagement

1. objective is to prepare the draft statements and identify speakers **prior to HLPF.**
2. **survey** to collect comments and to formulate very clear questions country by country (open until 16<sup>th</sup> of June)
3. Contributors are invited to participate in writing the **collaborative statement online** (June to 8th of July).
4. **connect all who have inputted to the same country** and invite them to work together
5. statements will be developed on a country by country basis and contributors will be **guided by members of the Steering Group.**

## Process and steps of engagement

6. Simple **guidelines** => guidance for drafting the VNR questions/statements
7. Any statement has to be delivered within **2 minutes (300 words)**.
8. In case statements have not been finalized for any reason prior to HLPF, there will be time and location allocated to clarify all outstanding issues **during the first week of HLPF**.
9. Contributors will be asked whether they volunteer to **deliver the statement** and agree to the rules of speakers (developed separately).
10. The engagement process will be led by members of the Steering Group, and in the case of any disputes on content **Steering Group** members will work to seek a resolution.

**Aspirations and Criteria  
regarding MGoS  
collaborative statements  
and speakers**

# Confidentiality

- Be ensured that this is a safe space
- all your information and responses will be treated confidentially
- Your replies will only be used to compile the statements

# Collaborative statements

- As there are limited speaking opportunities = all statements delivered must be a **collaboration between different groups**.
- this doesn't mean that the statements are automatically delivered on behalf of the entire MGoS => but **on behalf of those who are working together on the statement**
- because: there are sensitive/political issues that are not equally shared/endorsed among all MGoS members
- = > helps the **system remain open** and prevents it from becoming a reductive mechanism.
- important to allow also input to country statements from **transversal/cross-cutting and thematic viewpoints as well as interlinkages**.

# Generic statement

- If there is **no MGoS input received** nor anyone present of VNR Country
- MGoS Steering Group defines a **generic statement**, drawing on inputs in relation to **interlinkages**
- Provides questions on behalf of MGoS
- **survey outcome is basis of the content**
- one SG-Member will deliver it
- = >ensure that **all allocated speaking opportunities are filled in**

# Speakers

- On agreement by the statement drafting groups, **members of the group** present and in particular **nationals of the VNR country** and **engaged within the local/national process** will have priority to deliver the statement.

=> ensure diversity (of constituencies).

# Role of VNR Task Group and Steering Group

- **VNR Task Group** is responsible for the facilitation of the process and content of MGoS engagement
- **Steering Group** as the decision-making body has the responsibility to work with the MGoS members to maximize their engagement opportunity.
- **Steering Group** is accountable and responsible for deciding on strategic steps as well as for answering any outstanding questions and resolving necessary disputes.

THANK YOU!