



THE PRESIDENT
OF THE
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

24 April 2020

Excellency,

I have the pleasure to transmit herewith, a letter dated 24 April 2020, from H.E. Mr. Kaha Imnadze, Permanent Representative of Georgia, and H.E. Mr. Jean-Claude do Rego, Permanent Representative of Benin, the co-facilitators for the intergovernmental negotiations for the review process of the Economic and Social Council and the High-level Political Forum as per General Assembly resolution 67/290 of 9 July 2013, entitled, "Format and organizational aspects of the high-level political forum on sustainable development", resolution 70/299 of 29 July 2016, entitled, "Follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level", as well as resolution 72/305 of 23 July 2018, entitled, "Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolution 68/1 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council".

Further to the virtual consultation held on 8 April 2020, the aforementioned letter conveys the zero draft of the resolution for the HLPF/ECOSOC Review to be discussed in a virtual consultation to be convened on 8 May 2020 at 10 a.m. Technical details for the meeting will be provided via subsequent correspondence.

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

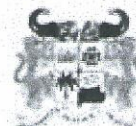
A handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of a stylized, flowing script that ends in a small loop.

Tijjani Muhammad-Bande

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



Permanent Mission of Georgia
to the United Nations



Permanent Mission of the Republic
of Benin to the United Nations

24 April 2020

Excellencies,

We are writing in our capacity as the co-facilitators for the intergovernmental negotiations for the review process of Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and the High-level Political Forum on sustainable development (HLPF).

We wish to express our gratitude for your active engagement and support during our Virtual Informal Consultations held on 8 April 2020. Further to our meeting and based on views expressed by delegations in their written inputs, we have gathered that there is broad agreement among Member States that we should postpone the in-depth review process to a later stage. As announced during the informal consultations, we have the honor to circulate herewith a zero draft of the resolution that we propose for adoption during this General Assembly session. As proposed, the attached draft addresses only immediate provisions including themes for ECOSOC and HLPF for the cycle 2021-2023 and sub-set of Goals together with areas of acceleration to be reviewed during the second HLPF cycle.

We will convene the next virtual informal consultations on 8 May 2020 at 10 am. In this regard we encourage Member States to come prepared to express their views on the zero draft resolution. The technical details for the virtual meeting will be provided by the Secretariat of United Nations in due course through an e-mail.

We reaffirm our commitment to an open, inclusive and transparent process, and count on your active participation and support.

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

Kaha Imnadze
Permanent Representative of Georgia
to the United Nations

Jean-Claude do Rego
Permanent Representative of Benin
to the United Nations

To: All Permanent Representatives
And Permanent Observers of the United Nations
New York

Zero draft resolution

Review of the implementation of General Assembly resolutions 67/290 and 70/299 on the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the global level and resolution 72/305 on the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 67/290 of 9 July 2013 and 70/299 of 29 July 2016;

Recalling also its resolution 72/305 of 28 July 2018 and all previous related resolutions on strengthening the Economic and Social Council;

Reaffirming its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, and reaffirming our unwavering commitment to achieving this Agenda and utilizing it to the full to transform our world for the better by 2030;

Reaffirming further its resolution 74/4 of 15 October entitled “Political declaration of the high-level political forum on sustainable development convened under the auspices of the General Assembly” (Political declaration of the SDG Summit) and our pledge to launch a decade of action and delivery for sustainable development;

1. *Recognizes* the central role of the high-level political forum under the auspices of the General Assembly and ECOSOC in overseeing follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at global level and the role that the Charter of the United Nations and the General Assembly have vested in the Economic and Social Council as a principal organ for coordination, policy review, policy dialogue and recommendations on issues of economic and social development;
2. *Decides*, bearing in mind the threat to human health, safety and well-being caused by the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, which continues to spread globally, to conduct the reviews of the high-level political forum and the Economic and Social Council in conjunction with each other during its seventy-fifth session after the most acute aspects of the COVID 19 crisis have been addressed and the United Nations has resumed its normal operations;
3. *Decides* to define the thematic focus of the high-level political forum on sustainable development under the auspices of ECOSOC, and that of the Economic and Social Council, for the cycle 2021-2023 as follows:

For 2021: “Human well-being and the SDGs: Recovering after the COVID-19 crisis”;

For 2022: “Achieving sustainable and just economies and promoting sustainable urban development”;

For 2023: “Universal access to energy in harmony with nature”;

4. *Also decides* that the high-level political forum will conduct the following in-depth reviews of the Sustainable Development Goals and areas of acceleration for the same cycle 2021-2023:

- a. For 2021: Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 16 and 17; and, as areas for acceleration: Human health, well-being and capabilities; and Sustainable food systems and healthy nutritional patterns;
- b. For 2022: Goals 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16 and 17; and, as areas for acceleration: Sustainable and just economies; and Promoting sustainable urban and peri-urban development;
- c. For 2023: Goals 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 and 17; and, as areas for acceleration: Achieving energy decarbonisation; universal access to sustainable energy and securing the global environmental commons.