



**Statement by H.E. Ambassador Ronaldo Costa Filho,  
Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations,  
Head of Delegation of Brazil to the HLPF 2020**

**17 July 2020**

Madam President,

When we decided, last November, that the theme for this year's session of the High-Level Political Forum would be "Accelerated action and transformative pathways", we could hardly guess it would prove so right a choice. In the midst of arguably the biggest global crisis in many decades, the call to realize the decade of action to deliver the global goals becomes even more urgent. At the same time, the dire circumstances impose the reassessment of our previous standing, demanding that we not only get back on track, but also build back better.

Reassessing the past to better understand the present and build a brighter future. Combining short-term and long-term reconstruction measures, so that nobody is left behind, and the entire country is brought onboard. That is exactly what Brazil is doing at the moment. Take our economic policy for instance. The federal government has been expending resources in order to keep firms afloat, aid the vulnerable and preserve jobs in an amount that is as significant as that of OECD countries, and twice the average of the sums mobilized by other emerging countries. In the meantime, structural economic reform remains at the top of the agenda. In the coming months, we plan to restructure our tax system and the civil service.

As for the environment, Brazil has re-established, last February, the National Council for the Amazon. Chaired by the Vice-President and comprised of delegates from a wide range of government agencies, it represents a major boost to the coordination effort needed to tackle the myriad challenges facing that continent-sized region. Besides strengthening the state capacity to enforce the law and combat illegal deforestation and forest fires in the Amazon, the Council aims to promote the development of bioeconomy, whose potential to lift people out of poverty and stimulate economic progress is the best way to meet the SDGs and achieve sustainable development in the region. Once again, short- and long-term measures are combined, to the benefit of sustainability.

Madam President,

Brazil has spared no effort in standing by its commitment to the Agenda 2030 and the SDGs. The Brazilian government has been working on initiatives that aims to carry on the process of internalizing and implementing the targets for the 17 SDGs, as well as to identify the programs of the Federal Government and promote actions that contribute the most to meet those targets.

This is an additional building block in an already solid construction. Over the past few years, Brazil has made great strides in elaborating national indicators for the SDGs, as well as measuring the state of their implementation in our country. There has also been an effort to make these accomplishments public, and to engage the wider public, making it easier for government officials, the private sector and civil society alike to keep track of where we stand in our national process of implementing the 2030 Agenda.

In conclusion, in the challenging times we live in, when so many different areas demand our attention and policy trade-offs are as pressing as ever, the 2030 Agenda provides a balanced roadmap for our recovery efforts. The HLPF, in this context, gains an extra relevance as a space where member states can share their challenges and positive developments in overcoming the pandemic that we are all faced with. Brazil looks forward to continuing engagement on these issues as we concentrate in recovering from the current crisis.

Thank you.