



**Major Groups and other Stakeholders Questions and Answers as part of the Voluntary National Review of Slovenia at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council**

New York, 31 July 2020

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**Question 1 – Together, how can government and civil society create an effective and durable advisory body to ensure an inclusive and open dialogue to further realize the SDGs?**

Answer – In addition to the ministries, Slovenian public institutions and centers, non-governmental organizations, interest groups, research and scientific institutions, private sector stakeholders, youth organizations, local actors and other relevant individuals and groups actively participated in the preparation of the Second Voluntary National Review in achieving Sustainable Development Goals. This ensured the inclusiveness of the entire creation process of the review.

Stakeholders were involved in both the design process and the preparation of the report. They also had the opportunity to actively participate in regional and thematic workshops, where the main challenges of individual goals of sustainable development in Slovenia were discussed. Slovenia through Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy cooperated with SLOGA a platform for non-governmental organizations in the process of preparing the report under contract No. C1541-20X100004, dated 29.1.2020. A virtual consultation with young people was also held. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, not all planned workshops could be carried out. Nevertheless, we estimate in terms of transparency and stakeholder involvement in the reporting process the progress was made since 2017.

Slovenia has also established a transparent review and harmonization of indicators of the Sustainable Development Goals with the website <https://slovenia2030.si>. It serves to raise awareness and monitor activities, documents and indicators related to 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In Slovenia the public is involved in decision-making processes when formulating policies, strategic documents and legislation. Ensuring the legitimacy of the decisions taken and reducing the democratic deficit by enabling the participation of the widest possible circle of participants in the preparation of decisions, represent the starting point for the adoption of regulatory quality and effective regulations and their implementation of policies within

respective area. Civil society has already and will continue to have all the possibilities for the constructive cooperation, namely by receiving proposals and opinions for regulation or amendment of a particular issue and by presenting recommendations for regulation in the preparation process and during its adoption.

The Second Voluntary National Review on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals reflects the situation and progress made on each individual sustainable development goal. The sustainable policy of the Republic of Slovenia is shaped by all the people in our country. The Government of the Republic of Slovenia cooperates with non-governmental organizations in a specially established Council of the Republic of Slovenia for the Promotion of the Development of Volunteering, Voluntary and Non-Governmental Organizations. The President of the Council is representative of non-governmental organizations. We therefore believe that the establishment of a special consultative body for Agenda 2030 is not feasible.