

VNR 4 years from beginning no much advance

Thank you Chair;

The HLPF has become a fair where VNR countries come to share tourism-style videos without identifying the real challenges to achieving the SDGs. We, the women are tired of these narratives highlighting all the good work they are supposedly doing. The narratives miss the fact that millions continue to be left behind! We find the VNR process still exclusive both at the national and UN level.

We also find the VNR process to lack genuine monitoring and accountability framework. And we are deeply disappointed that even within this space, there is limited time allocated to express our comments and questions in country presentations; which fails to give sufficient voice to the diversity of civil society.

The WMG has been surveying the involvement of gender equality and feminists organisations in VNR process. And the results over the last 4 years shows the opposite of what governments are saying: that women and feminist for the most part are not meaningfully engaged!

Our recommendations:

Have open calls for participation in VNR processes for all citizens and stakeholders particularly women's groups and networks;

Establish mechanisms to ensure that the inputs provided by civil society groups including shadow reports are taken into consideration during the VNR sessions and are published.

finally, reform the VNR's voluntary nature. And country's VNR review process should be rooted in the human rights obligations of state, and a strengthened accountable framework within this agenda itself. And we call upon member states to use this upcoming HLPF reform process to show political will and bring about stronger accountability.

Thank you.