



HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM

IMPLEMENTATION AT THE REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL LEVELS

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Respected chair, and distinguished delegates.

The 2030 agenda for sustainable development is well into its implementation, and it is clear from the presentations made by panelists, that processes at sub-regional and regional levels are critical lynchpins in strengthening universal peace and achievement of the transformative vision of 2030 agenda for people, and the planet.

In the Asia Pacific region, we have witnessed ESCAP and the Asia Pacific Regional CSO Mechanism (APRCM) processes to foster cooperation, peer learning and sharing best practices among member states and stakeholders.

The Asia Pacific region has also seen progress, towards the development of the regional roadmap. The roadmap fosters regional cooperation, and effectiveness of national mechanisms, in key areas of data and statistics, technology, finance, policy coherence. However we need to see further work to address structural and systemic barriers battering the countries in the region.

Drawing from experiences thus far, including from the regions of Latin America and the Caribbean, we strongly affirm and reiterate that the successful implementation of the 2030 agenda will rely on regional and sub-regional bodies to :

- a. Stay committed and implement South-South collaboration, North-South collaboration, and international and regional cooperation;
- b. Mobilise sub-regional, regional and global support, to overcome shared regional challenges, identify new and emerging regional issues, and build cooperation at all levels, to realise the timely fulfillment of the 2030 agenda;
- c. Develop regional capacity strengthening platforms, on key areas pertaining to implementation of all aspects of the 2030 agenda, including VNRs, and opportunities for sharing of best practices and discussion on shared regional targets.

In the context of rising and emerging threats of extremism, fundamentalisms, conflicts climate change and related disasters, such localised and regional facilitation is increasingly critical at regional and sub-regional levels.

This can be fostered and sustained through cooperation frameworks amongst countries in the region; better cooperation amongst Member States on logistical matters such as issuance of timely visa for all Member States and stakeholders to attend regional meetings; cooperation of the Member States in political and financial areas; and addressing geopolitical competition and rivalry.

In conclusion, regional and sub-regional UN bodies have a robust and bold role to play, through inclusive processes, to realise the outcomes envisaged in Agenda 2030.

Good regional governance is at the heart of such sustainable development.

I thank you for your kind attention