

Thank you chair. I am speaking on behalf of the NGO Major Group as a citizen of Antigua and Barbuda; we are glad to see the commitment of the Government to the 2030 Agenda.

In our process there were 2 national consultations with limited numbers of civil society but there is need for wider outreach and ongoing engagement in local communities to hear more voices and get their inputs into decision making. This ties in with the Escazu Agreement which our government ratified in March 2020.

As we move forward we must strengthen our partnerships for collaborations and cooperation to ensure meaningful participation of rightsholder groups, particularly those most affected by social, environmental, development, disasters and climate risks in the elaboration of the VNR.

My question is as follows: What plans will be in place to follow-up the presentation of the VNR with wide stakeholder groups after the HLPF to ensure local ownership and buy in?

Please use this document to prepare your joint statement on your country.

NOTE: Written statements should not be longer than 300 words (better if 250, as this can be read in the 2-minute intervention, which is the given time limit). The normal reading speed is 120/140 words per minute (depending on the actual character length); statements can be delivered in official UN languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) in the same timeframe. STATEMENT (300 words):