

We appreciate your efforts to make policies to overcome the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and push for achieving a sustainable and prosperous future.

Noting significant improvement from the previous VNR in 2017, the progress is limited and leaves much space for improvement.

Greater and more inclusive civil society engagement to the VNR process is needed, while more stringent public outreach on SDGs to the wider public from the government is also crucial.

An NGO, Japan Civil Society Network on SDGs, which is a broad civil society network in Japan, published a spotlight report from a perspective of civil society highlighting “leaving no one behind”.

We request the government to gather and make public disaggregated data to uncover the severe and persisting inequalities based on gender, rich and poor, disability, race, indigenous identity, to challenge many existing issues symbolized in SDGs.

The future we want is sustainable, resilient, and just. Hence, we must prepare for crises that may come and make sure no one is left behind. **The government has to go beyond the existing approach and act more vigorously for the future.**

We would like to pose a few questions to the government in light of the revisions on the national implementation mechanism;

First, how do you ensure a more inclusive and participatory engagement mechanism on the 2030 agenda? **We request the government to ensure expanded spaces for decision-making. All stakeholders in their rights, especially those who are in vulnerable situations.**

Second, how do you make the 2030 agenda work for everyone? Instead of bureaucratically evaluating each plan, a multi-faceted evaluation can produce multi-faceted benefits. In the process of policy realization for the 2030 Agenda, **we request you to make efforts toward transformation toward the 2030 agenda.**