



A brief overview of the Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) at the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF)

<https://hlpf.un.org/2024>

Joop Theunissen
theunissen@un.org



**United
Nations**

Department of
Economic and
Social Affairs

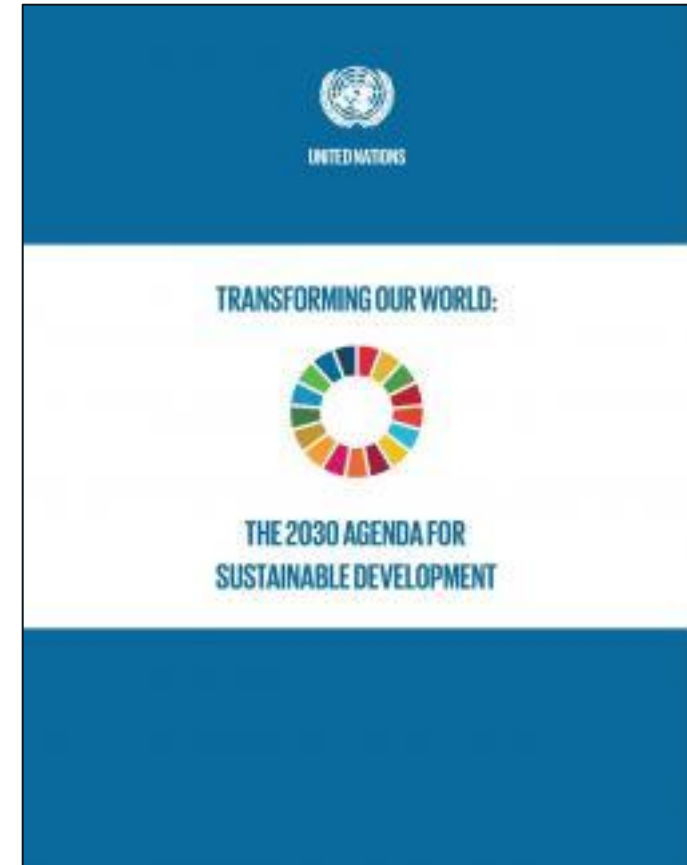
Nelya Rakhimova
nelyarakhimova@gmail.com



Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

Follow-up and review:

- ❖ Paragraphs 79: National level
- ❖ Paragraph 84: Global level



Source: <https://sdgs.un.org/2030agenda>

Principles of the VNRs

[Source: A/RES/70/1, para
74](#)

Voluntary

~ Encourage reporting and include developed and developing countries

State-led

~ Country driven reviews of progress at national and sub-national levels

Platform for partnerships

~ Including through the participation of major groups and other relevant stakeholders

Learning experience

~ Facilitate the sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned, part of a process

National circumstances

~ Reviews in accordance with national circumstances, policies and priorities, together with relevant partners

Open and transparent

~ Facilitates communication with all stakeholders

Basics of the 2024 HLPF

- 8 to 17 July 2024
VNRs expected on 12 July and 15 to 17 July
- Theme: "Reinforcing the 2030 Agenda and eradicating poverty in times of multiple crises: the effective delivery of sustainable, resilient and innovative solutions"
- SDGs under review: **Goal 1** on poverty, **Goal 2** on hunger and food, **Goal 13** on climate change, **Goal 16** on peaceful and inclusive societies, justice, and institutions, and **Goal 17** on means of implementation and partnerships.
but VNR reports should cover ALL of the SDGs
- In-person, all official sessions will be live broadcast

Status of the VNRs

After July 2024, 191 countries, and the EU, will have presented over 340 VNR reports during the HLPF:

2016 - 22 VNRs

2017 - 43 VNRs

2018 - 46 VNRs

2019 - 47 VNRs

2020 - 47 VNRs

2021 - 44 VNRs

2022 - 45 VNRs

2023 - 41 VNRs

2024 - 42 VNRs



41 VNR presentations in 2024

Africa (16 countries):

First report: South Sudan

Second report: Congo (Republic of the), Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Libya, Mauritania, Mauritius, South Africa

Third report: Chad, Kenya, Namibia, Uganda, Zimbabwe

Fourth report: Sierra Leone

Asia-Pacific (10 countries):

First report: Yemen

Second report: Micronesia (Federated States of), Oman, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Syrian Arab Republic, Vanuatu

Third report: Lao PDR, Nepal

Eastern Europe (4 countries):

Third report: Armenia, Estonia, Georgia

Fourth report: Azerbaijan

Latin America and the Caribbean (9 countries):

Second report: Belize, Brazil, Ecuador

Third report: Costa Rica, Honduras, Peru

Fourth report: Argentina, Columbia, Mexico

Western Europe (2 countries):

Second report: Austria

Third report: Spain

**Not official UN regions. Some countries are part of more than one region or UN regional commission.*

Modalities from 2023 (not decided yet for 2024)

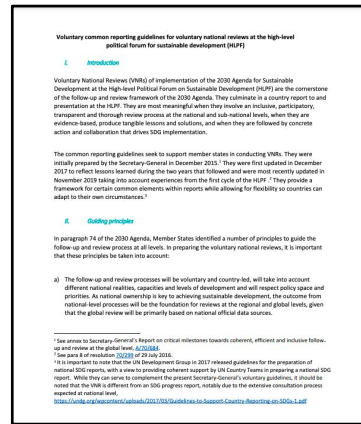
Modalities for 1st time presenters

- Countries presenting a VNR for the 1st time will have 15 minutes for their virtual presentation.
- Followed by a similar amount of time for questions from other countries and stakeholders.
- The 15-minute time allocation includes the use of audio-visual material, including videos.
- MGoS representatives can put a question to each of the countries presenting a VNR after each presentation. The MGoS VNR Task Group will outline the nomination process in further detail.

Modalities for 2nd / 3rd time presenters

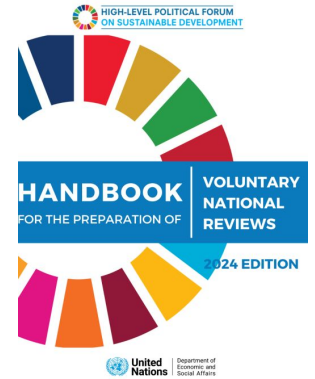
- Countries presenting a VNR for the 2nd / 3rd time will have 10 minutes for their virtual presentation in panel format.
- Followed by a similar amount of time for questions from other countries and stakeholders.
- The 10 minutes time allocation includes the use of audio-visual material, including videos.
- MGoS representatives can put a question to each of the countries presenting a VNR once the presentations of the panel are complete. The MGoS VNR Task Group will outline the nomination process in further detail.

Resources



Voluntary common reporting guidelines for VNRs

VNR Handbook 2023



Database of all VNR reports (333 entries):

<https://hlpf.un.org/countries>

Tools, lessons, best practices (260 entries):

<https://hlpf.un.org/tools>

VNR Synthesis Report 2023

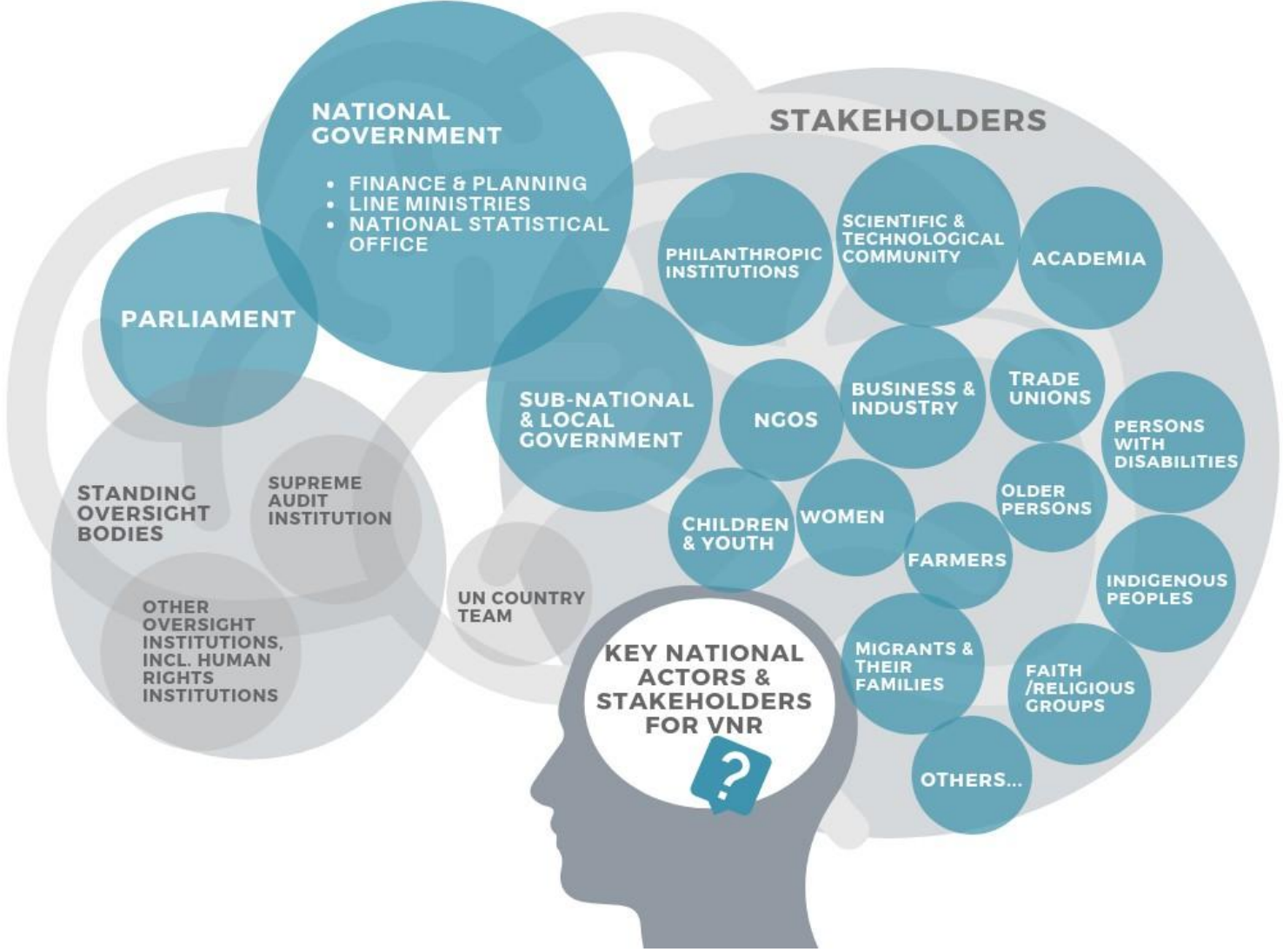


2023
Voluntary National Reviews
Synthesis Report



What is a 'Good Practice'? A framework to analyse the Quality of Stakeholder Engagement in implementation and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda

Who is engaged in the VNRs?



Major Groups & other Stakeholders

MGoS-CM Terms of Reference

Major Groups (9)	Stakeholder Groups (12)
<u>Business and Industry Major Group</u>	<u>Person with Disabilities Stakeholder Group</u>
<u>Major Group for Children and Youth</u>	<u>Volunteers Stakeholders Group</u>
<u>Farmers Major Group</u>	<u>Stakeholder Group on Ageing</u>
<u>Indigenous Peoples Major Group</u>	<u>Education and Academia Stakeholder Group</u>
<u>Local Authorities Major Group</u>	<u>Civil Society Financing for Development Group</u>
<u>Non-Governmental Organization Major Group</u>	<u>Sendai Group (Stakeholder Engagement Mechanism)</u>
<u>Scientific and Technological Community Major Group</u>	<u>Together 2030</u>
<u>Women's Major Group</u>	<u>LGBTI Stakeholder Group</u>
<u>Workers and Trade Unions Major Group</u>	Stakeholder Group for Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent
	<u>Asia Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism</u>
	Africa Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism
	ECE Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism

MGoS Self Organisation



- Self-organized space for Stakeholders to engage in HLPF through the MGoS HLPF Coordination Mechanism (CM)
- Ensure broad, open, transparent and inclusive participation in the HLPF. Based in human rights, gender equality, non-discrimination
- Has a Coordination Mechanism- with representatives of all groups to facilitate meaningful participation
- CM may create Tasks Groups for specific activities, they report directly to the CM and coordinate with Co-Chairs
- Contact the MGoS here: <https://www.mgos.org/>

UN GA
Resolution
67/290
ensures the
rights of MGoS
as follows:

To attend all official meetings of the Forum

To attend preparatory meetings of the Forum

To intervene in official meetings

To submit documents and present written and oral contributions

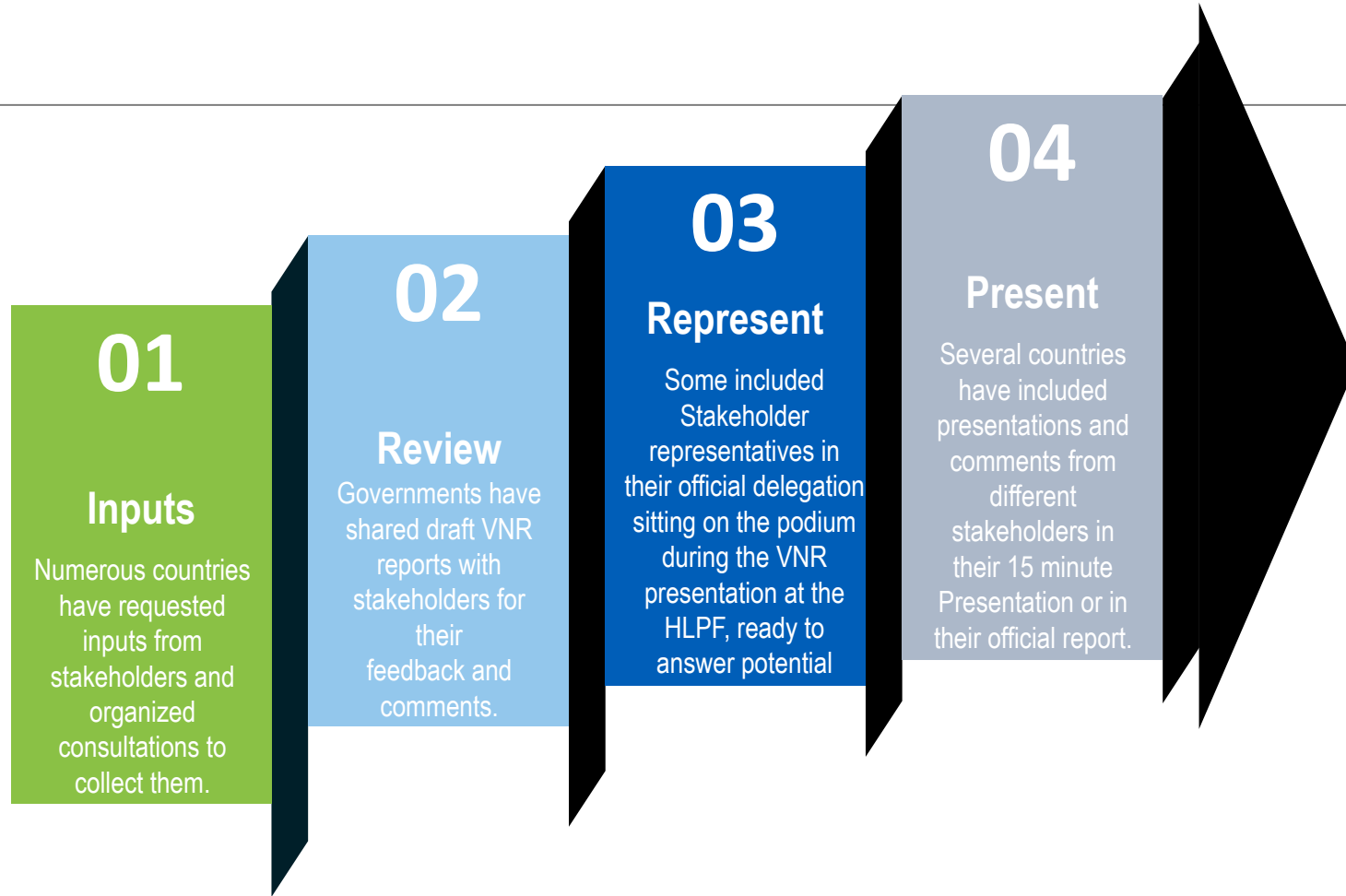
To make recommendations

To organize side events and round tables, in cooperation with Member States and the Secretariat

Principles for Stakeholder Involvement 2024

- Bring national issues highlighted by key actors and civil society within VNR countries to the HLPF
- All statements are collaboration between different groups, respecting HR and gender equality aspects and considering how structural barriers are approached
- Statements are delivered on behalf of those who are working together on the statement (not the entire MGoS)
- Input to country statements from transversal/cross-cutting and thematic viewpoints as well as interlinkages
- Statements incorporate a broad and diverse range of views from partners in the country

Stakeholder Engagement in VNR Process



Process for Stakeholder Engagement 2024

1. Call for expressions of interest from all stakeholders active in each country via online questionnaire DECEMBER 2023 – FEBRUARY 2024
2. Series of webinars in February:
 - Outlining the process
 - Connecting stakeholders in each VNR country
3. Connect active volunteers from each country and support them to work together as a group/country team (from Feb-March)
4. Host joint meetings of stakeholders with VNR countries at Regional SD Forums
5. Group to develop collaborative national dialogue across all stakeholders (March-May)
6. Each group to prepare independent assessment with statement and question to be presented at each VNR (May-June)
7. Each group selects a spokesperson to read the statement at the HLPF (July)

Collaborative Process for Stakeholder Participation

- Main aim is to prepare a joint statement and question from stakeholders to be presented at the HLPF in July 2024
- Remote participation and collaborative input in drafting MGoS statements for each VNR country supported by Task Group
- Engagement of key actors within VNR countries
- Connecting and engaging in dialogue with CSOs organisations prior to the HLPF (those that are engaged in national implementation processes and VNR preparation)
- Bring national issues highlighted by civil society at the grassroots level to the HLPF
- Statements at the HLPF are delivered by a representative of the national civil society chosen by the task group members
- Liaising with UN Secretariat on the process



United Nations

High-Level Political Forum
on Sustainable Development

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Overview Programme Preparation Outcome Documentation VNRS VNR Labs Other Events Exhibit Media Stakeholders Registration & ...

Further information

- ✓ MGoS Website: <https://www.mgos.org/>
- ✓ HLPF 2023 Website: <https://hlpf.un.org/2023>
- ✓ UN DESA & MGoS-CM Mailing List
- ✓ Preparatory Webinars

Q&

A



Thank you, we look forward to your participation!

Contact us:

UN DESA: Joop Theunissen, theunissen@un.org

MGoS VNR Task Group: Nelya Rakhimova nelyarakhimova@gmail.com ;
Oli Henman, oli.henman@action4sd.org



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Department of Economic and Social Affairs