

Talking points for the Statement by the delegation of the Russian Federation at the briefing on the SDG Political Declaration

Thanks for convening us today. We congratulate appointment of Ireland and Qatar as co-facilitators, you can count on us and reach out to our delegation. Russian Federation will engage actively and constructively aimed at arriving at brief, implementable and consensual document. We will submit substantive proposals in due course. At this stage let me share preliminary views, also reacting to the circulated concept note. Many of our views will converge to the Co-Facs and peer delegations wise suggestions already expressed.

The declaration 2019 is an example in terms of structure, but in terms of content we should build on it and build forward taking into consideration new emerging challenges. The LDC5 and Water Conference outcomes, FFD outcome document findings and UN reports including SDG reports and the GSDR can be examined to contribute. The Co-facs could also consider reaching out to Intergovernmental organizations including regional ones especially those putting sustainable development at the core of their strategic agenda. Inputs of major groups as formulated in the Agenda 21 document should also inform the deliberations not undermining the intergovernmental nature of negotiations.

Experience from last years suggests that it is not always the case that the longer a document the more effective it becomes. The declaration of 2019 addressed many issues in a holistic manner however it didn't focus on challenges but on the opportunities and solutions, achievements and lessons learned.

We would support reaffirming old vision based on inclusivity and solidarity and the balance of the three dimensions of sustainable development, while also identifying new drivers including resilience, science, digitalization, ethics, comprehensive development measurement. Financing will be in the centre underpinning commitments to be taken.

Also taking point from the Co-Facilitators message. At the shore let me express hope and call that the negotiation process should not be contaminated by political differences other than the balanced languages taken in the 2030 Agenda as our basis. Another strong conviction is that contentious and non-agreed languages, or languages coming from separate committees and processes should be avoided in order for the declaration and its negotiation process to unite and not divide us.

We couldn't agree more with the G77 and China suggestion to avoid overlapping negotiation processes already planned including with the FFD negotiation, so probably, the timeline could be reconsidered accordingly. We also believe this process should be given priority in the framework of GA work and time scheduling process for this year.

To conclude, we firmly believe that the Agenda 2030 implementation should stay in the centre of our joint efforts for the coming period supported and not overshadowed even by most ambitious initiatives such as the Summit of the Future process.

I thank you and look forward to our cooperation.