

## UK Statement

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Informal Meeting on SDG Summit Political Declaration Elements Paper

10:00-12:00, 16 March 2023, UN HQ ECOSOC Chamber [400 words]

Thank you to Qatar and Ireland for facilitating this important discussion on the SDG Summit Political Declaration Elements Paper.

We welcome the core principles set out in the paper, to agree a Political Declaration which is *“consensual, concise, action-oriented, transformative and ambitious, reaffirming the commitment towards a just, equitable, sustainable, inclusive and prosperous world by 2030”*.

We also welcome the focus on upholding the values of the UN Charter, human rights, and the integrity of the 2030 Agenda and the indivisible and interlinked nature of the SDGs.

We want to work with you and member states to identify which levers, enablers or ‘transformations’ - as proposed in the 2023 Global Sustainable Development Report - will accelerate progress the most towards the SDGs.

We know unlocking more financing for development is vital. We need innovative solutions and ambitious reforms of the international financial architecture to generate fiscal space in the short-term and allow investments in the long-run - so countries can tackle both poverty and climate change at the same time.

And we also need to focus on cross-cutting policy areas to collectively focus on which science and evidence suggest can speed up progress - to direct where this money is spent.

Areas like digitisation, data capacity, food systems, science and tech, good governance, renewable clean energy, and gender equality.

This is not about cherry-picking SDGs, it’s about clarifying key underpinning areas to focus action on to drive more rapid progress across and within the goals.

We think the SDG Summit will be a success if it can achieve the following outcomes:

1. renew excitement, momentum and political commitment for delivering Agenda 2030, and all 17 Global Goals in the SDG Framework as an interlinked indivisible whole
2. rebuild trust, partnership and international cooperation between countries
3. agree on what goals are on-track, off-track, and importantly where most progress has been made or is furthest behind – with strong focus on LDCs and SIDS
4. produce an action-oriented, evidence-based roadmap for how to accelerate progress across the goals, with a set of key ‘enablers’ to focus on

The UK’s new Integrated Review 2023 sets out our commitment to reinvigorate progress towards the SDGs, alleviate poverty, and address the root causes of instability.

We look forward to continuing to work with all of you over the coming months to ensure this year’s mid-term review of the SDGs leads to significant and transformational progress.