



High-Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development 17 July 2024

Malta Statement delivered by Her Excellency Ambassador Vanessa Frazier
Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations, New York

Excellencies

The 2030 Agenda remains our best roadmap to building a better world for current and future generations, while ensuring that no one is left behind. With only six years left towards 2030, the stakes for delivering the 17 SDGs cannot be more urgent.

In a highly interconnected global society, the triple planetary crises of climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss, exacerbated by instability and conflict, have delayed and in some cases, reversed gains in SDG implementation. We need to step-up our efforts.

It is crucial to maintain constant intergovernmental dialogue, while ensuring participation of all relevant stakeholders, including women, young persons, civil society, and the private sector.



Malta is strongly committed towards progressing the 2030 Agenda, having in place a well-established governance mechanism underpinned by a Sustainable Development Act. Malta's Sustainable Development Strategy for 2050 will drive forward our ambition of working together towards achieving a healthy and resilient environment, economy, and society for all.

In acknowledging the centrality of the HLPF, Malta is preparing to present its second Voluntary National Review next year. Our commitment is to engage in a whole-of-government exercise, while ensuring a broad, transparent and participatory stakeholder process.

The adverse impacts of climate change demand our urgent action. As an island nation, Malta is dedicated not only towards transitioning towards a more decarbonized economy but also in ensuring climate resilience.



Initiatives such as the setting up of the Climate Action Authority; the publication of the National Policy for the Deployment of Offshore Renewables; the preliminary market consultation on offshore floating photovoltaics; the support to businesses and households to invest in more sustainable systems; and the ongoing investment in the country's infrastructure are a testament to this commitment.

Allow me to also highlight the challenges faced by small island states and SIDS. As a strong partner, Malta is leading partnerships that seek capacity-building and technical expertise, including through our SIDS Scholarship Programme.

We must ensure that SIDS' vulnerabilities are acknowledged, and that sufficient international support is available. We welcome the historic agreement on a UN Multidimensional Vulnerability Index, and we use this occasion, to highlight Malta's recently presented 'Climate Vulnerability and Resilience Index' at the SIDS4 Conference.



In conclusion, I would like to recall that the implementation of the 2030 Agenda is a shared commitment and responsibility. The upcoming Summit of the Future should represent a catalyst through an ambitious and action-oriented outcome.

I thank you.