

**Draft Intervention by Malaysia**

**Intersessional Meeting of the Human Rights Council**

**on Human Rights and the 2030 Agenda**

**19 January 2023**

**Room XX, Palais des Nations**

Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Let me join others in thanking the Secretariat for organising today’s intersessional meeting.

2. Malaysia recognises the importance of the High-Level Political Forum (HPLF), which will take place in New York in July 2023. Indeed, the HPLF will be crucial to support the mid-term review of the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and preparations for the SDG Summit in September 2023. The HPLF and the Summit will be timely, especially when the world is facing daunting challenges, not only in the context of post-COVID-19 pandemic.

3. As rightly pointed out by many, our world is suffering from the impact of unprecedented emergencies caused by the pandemic, climate crisis, as well as new and ongoing conflicts, among others. These crises bring to light the significance of international cooperation and solidarity, while glaringly expose global incumbrances, in the likes of inequity, rising nationalism, environmental degradation, food insecurity and lack of solidarity.

3. The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2022 paints a worrying picture whereby **the world is lagging behind in its commitment to sustainable development goals, due to cascading and interlinked crises. Indeed,** we are in very different circumstances compared to when the 2030 Development Agenda was adopted in 2015. It is therefore our earnest hope that the intertwined crises could be appropriately addressed, so that we can rescue the SDGs and get them back on the right trajectory.

4. At this most difficult time, it is essential that the international community galvanises its efforts to resolve our common problems and achieve the SDG Agenda. To build back better, we need to strengthen the international development architecture, especially through the delivery of technical assistance and capacity building to countries in need. We should further strengthen the multilateral system, particularly the United Nations’ funds and programmes that are directly involved in achieving the SDGs. Technical bodies such as the WHO, FAO and UNDP must intensify and focus their efforts especially on the needs of developing and least developing countries.

5. Malaysia too is facing challenges to recover from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, we are resolved to enhance our commitment towards implementing and accelerating the progress of the SDGs, which have been embedded in our five-year development plan. We are currently laying out the Second Phase of the National SDG Road Map Phase II (2021-2025), with sustainable financing. Localising the SDGs is prioritised, to nurture community resilience and promote growth.

6. Finally, we would like to commend all UN-led efforts in fostering global cooperation in difficult times. In this vein, Malaysia reaffirms its continued support for efforts towards global development that champions a more peaceful, prosperous, sustainable and equitable world.

Thank you.

**GENEVA**

**19 January 2023**