

2 HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM

The High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) is the main United Nations platform on Sustainable Development. It has a central role in the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and replaces the former Commission on Sustainable Development.

It is mandated to:

- provide political leadership, guidance and recommendations on implementation and follow-up of the 2030 Agenda,
- track progress on implementation,
- spur coherent policies informed by evidence, science and country experiences,
- enhance the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development,
- address new and emerging issues and strengthen the science-policy interface.

It receives the input of Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs), Regional Review Process and Thematic reviews and adopts as outcome document an intergovernmental negotiated political declaration ([2016](#), [2017](#), [2018](#) political declarations).

Once a year the Forum meets under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council for eight days, including a three-day ministerial segment. Every four years for two days it meets at the level of Heads of State and Government under the auspices of the General Assembly, known as 'the summit for Sustainable Development'.

The [2019 HLPF under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council](#), will be held from 9 July to 18 July 2019; including the three-day ministerial meeting of the forum from 16 July to 18 July 2019. The theme will be "Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality". The set of goals to be reviewed in depth are the following: SDGs 4, 8, 10, 13, 16, 17.

The next [HLPF forum under the auspices of the General ASSEMBLY \(SDG Summit\)](#) will be held from 24 to 25 September, where heads of state will come together to reconfirm their commitment to the 2030 Agenda and announce new initiatives to accelerate its implementation.

HOW CAN CIVIL SOCIETY TAKE PART?

Civil society can participate both in the preparation process towards the HLPF and at the HLPF itself.

Opportunities for Stakeholder Engagement in preparation for the HLPF are the following:

- capacity building workshops for stakeholders' engagement at HLPF (national, sub regional, regional),
- participation in Regional Sustainable Development Forums and in regional civil society coordination mechanisms,
- participation in the preparatory process for thematic reviews (Expert Group Meetings, papers, etc.),
- providing input and comments to the Ministerial Declaration.

Civil Society is able to participate at the HLPF via following options:

- attending all official meetings of the forum,
- having access to all official information and documents,
- intervening in official meetings,
- submitting documents and present written and oral contributions,
- making recommendations and organizing side events and round tables in cooperation with Member States and the Secretariat ([A/RES/67/290](#)).

[Here](#) you can have a look at the Latvian example on the VNRs and HLPF processes which illustrates a strong CSO participation.

RESOURCES

[High-Level Political Forum 2019 under the Auspices of ECOSOC](#)

[Commission on Sustainable Development](#)

[SDG Summit 2019](#)

[Main Messages from 35 VNR Countries Outline SDG Actions and Plans](#)

[VNR 2018 Main Messages Available for 45 Countries](#)

[International Disability Alliance HLPF Bulletin](#)

[HLPF 2018 Communications Toolkit](#)

