

# PUBLIC PANEL DISCUSSION NATIONAL VOLUNTARY REVIEWS AT THE HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM: FIRST EXPERIENCES WITH A FOCUS ON THE HEALTH AND GENDER GOALS



**14<sup>th</sup> International Dialogue  
on Population and  
Sustainable Development**

## **PROGRAMME**

Berlin | 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2016

Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation  
and Development (BMZ)

Stresemannstraße 94, 10963 Berlin

### BACKGROUND



In July 2016, the first round of voluntary national reviews took place during the High Level Political Forum (HLPF) under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). In this, 22 countries from all world regions reported voluntarily on their efforts for implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in this first round. Germany was among these countries.

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development outlines principles for the follow-up and review processes. Amongst others, these demand that national processes feeding into the HLPF “will be open, inclusive, participatory and transparent for all people and will support reporting by all relevant stakeholders”, and that “they will be people-centred, gender-sensitive, respect human rights and have a particular focus on the poorest, most vulnerable and those furthest behind”.<sup>1</sup>

Germany and the other 21 countries undergoing the review at the first round of the HLPF reported on their progress in transposing the 17 SDGs to national contexts and in setting up or strengthening institutions to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The experience gained from this first HLPF can be seen as a test pilot for other countries engaged in this transition.

### OBJECTIVE



The panel discussion aims at reflecting on the national voluntary reviews during the HLPF in 2016, their role in the follow-up and review of the SDG implementation, and ways of living up to the principles outlined in the 2030 Agenda. While doing so, we will highlight first experiences and challenges in the process and the extent to which issues such as health and gender equality were covered. This will be done from the perspective of different stakeholder groups. Based on these reflections and lessons learned, the panel will discuss the possibilities of stakeholders to participate in and contribute to the voluntary national reviews in the coming years.

The following panel discussion will address these questions:

- What were the experiences with the process of the national voluntary reviews in 2016?
- How can the national voluntary reviews best be used to advance SDG implementation, esp. regarding health, gender and sexual and reproductive health and rights issues?
- What were challenges in preparing the report? What were lessons learned?
- What should governments, civil society and other stakeholders do differently for future reviews?

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<sup>1</sup> [www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E), para 74

# PROGRAMME

## PUBLIC PANEL DISCUSSION

### National voluntary reviews at the High Level Political Forum: First experiences with a focus on the health and gender goals

Venue: Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Stresemannstraße 94, 10963 Berlin

06:00 p.m.

#### Opening Remarks

**Thomas Silberhorn**, Parliamentary State Secretary  
Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany

06:20 p.m.

#### Panel Discussion

Moderated by **Monika Hoegen**, Journalist

Panellists:

**Carmen Barroso**, Co-Chair  
Independent Accountability Panel for the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health (IAP)

**Harriet Ludwig**, Deputy Head of Division, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; reducing poverty and inequality  
Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany

**Anita Nayar**, Director  
Regions Refocus, USA

**Juan Antonio Perez III**, Executive Director  
Commission on Population, Philippines

07:50 p.m.

#### Closing Remarks

**Tewodros Melesse**, Director General  
International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), United Kingdom

08:00 p.m.

#### Reception

The International Dialogue on Population and Sustainable Development underlines the interdisciplinary importance of sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and population dynamics as key factors in achieving international development goals such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The conference series is designed to facilitate the networking of national and international players and encourage the exchange of information and experience.

The International Dialogue is an annual, two-day conference taking place in Berlin, jointly organised by DSW (Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH, International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) and KfW Development Bank, in close cooperation with the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and Bayer Pharma AG.



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