

Informal Consultations on the draft ministerial declaration of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development for 2025

Thursday 6 March 2025, 10am

Statement by CANZ - Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Delivered by Caroline Eszes, First Secretary, New Zealand Permanent Mission to the United Nations

Thank you chair.

I am pleased to deliver this statement on behalf of CANZ: Canada, Australia and my own country New Zealand. As CANZ we are committed to implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and driving progress on the SDGs.

International conflicts and humanitarian responses have placed additional demands on the international community, but it is crucial that we do not lose focus.

As the 2030 Agenda states: Sustainable development cannot be realized without peace and security; and peace and security will be at risk without sustainable development.

We recognize that Member States cannot achieve the 2030 Agenda alone. We must rely on partnerships if we are to progress.

Building genuine partnerships; with other Member states, with civil society organizations, with business and industry, with academia, with diverse communities, and with faith-based organizations, based on respect, listening, and learning from each other is critical if we are to achieve the SDGs.

These partnerships ensure that groups at risk of marginalization, including Indigenous Peoples, women and girls in all their diversity, people with disabilities, and people living in rural and remote communities, have their voices heard.

Turning briefly to the other SDGs under review.

On SDG three, CANZ see **Good health** is both a means to achieving inclusive and sustainable development, and a critical sustainable development goal in its own right. Societies and economies cannot thrive without healthy populations, nor can they develop sustainably when there is inequality in health care delivery.

On SDG 5 – gender equality – all countries have work to do, including us. CANZ are committed to ensuring our social and financial structures lift women and girls out of poverty.

On **SDG 8**, we must build productive, sustainable and inclusive economies that deliver higher wellbeing and living standards for all our people.

And on **SDG 14**, CANZ recognize that livelihoods, economic and cultural well-being, and ecosystem integrity are inextricably tied to the health of our oceans.

As we turn our attention to the High Level Policial Forum, CANZ seek to ensure that the integrated, indivisible and interlinked nature of the SDGs is highlighted, and that the implementation of all SDGs is strengthened through partnerships, both domestically and globally.

CANZ look forward to discussions as we work to negotiate a Ministerial Declaration for HLPF 2025.

Thank you.