

22 October 2020

Excellency,

I wish to thank all the countries who expressed their interest in conducting a Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) at the 2021 High-level Political Forum on sustainable development (HLPF), under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council in 2021.

I would like to refer to my letter of 28 September 2020 in which I informed Member States on the forthcoming VNRs and non-exhaustive list of countries that will present a VNR in 2021, as well as extension of the deadline for accepting new proposals. Since that letter, a number of other countries have expressed their wish to present VNRs at the HLPF.

I am therefore pleased to inform you of the final list of countries as follows: Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Azerbaijan**, Bahamas*, Bhutan*, Bolivia, Cabo Verde*, Chad*, China*, Colombia**, Cuba, Cyprus*, Czech Republic*, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark*, Djibouti, Dominican Republic*, Egypt**, Germany*, Guatemala**, Indonesia**, Iraq*, Japan*, Lao People's Democratic Republic*, Madagascar*, Malaysia*, Marshall Islands, Mexico**, Myanmar, Namibia*, Nicaragua, Norway*, Pakistan*, Paraguay*, Qatar**, San Marino, Sierra Leone**, Slovakia*, Spain*, Sweden*, Thailand*, Tunisia*, Uruguay** and Zimbabwe* (countries with one asterisk * are second timers and those with two asterisks ** are third timers).

In accordance with past practice, countries presenting a VNR for the first time will be allocated 30 minutes each in the programme; countries presenting a VNR for the second and third time will be allocated 20 minutes each in a panel format.

I look forward to the VNR presentations at the 2021 HLPF, as we enter the sixth year of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in the Decade of Action and Delivery, and as we face the major impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic on progress towards the sustainable development goals.

I also look forward to working with all of you in fostering in-depth preparations leading to thorough and well-organized VNR presentations at the 2021 meeting of the HLPF. The list for the 2021 HLPF is hereby closed.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Munir Akram

President of ECOSOC

All Permanent Representatives and Observers to the United Nations New York