

National Statement GERMANY
UNECE Regional Forum on Sustainable Development 2025, High-Level Policy Segment, 02 April, 10.00 am – 01.00 pm, Palais des Nations, Building E, Room XIX

Mr. President,
Mr. Deputy Executive-Secretary,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

The 2030 Agenda is a milestone of multilateralism that unites actors at all levels for a better future. The UNECE SDG Progress Report 2025 underlines that we are not on track to achieve this promise. If the current path is followed, the region will only achieve 17 percent of the assessed SDG targets. Yet, the report also highlights how coordinated, integrated and targeted action can tackle challenges. We must urgently accelerate our efforts and the targets that show a negative trend must be addressed as a priority. The socio-economic transformations required by the 2030 Agenda are a necessity.

It is also worth reiterating that there can be no sustainable development without peace and no peace without sustainable development. We condemn Russia's brutal war of aggression against Ukraine that is a breach of the UN Charter and has repercussions for the UNECE area and worldwide.

The report also underlines the important role that the UN system plays to accelerate the implementation of the SDGs and to catalyze impact on the ground. The United Nations have come under increased scrutiny and the current funding situation looks dire. Yet, in times of multiple crises and geopolitical divides, we need cooperation and partnerships based on democratic principles more than ever. This is also true in the follow up to the Pact for the future of 2024 that was co-facilitated by Namibia and Germany and in which member states reconfirmed the Sustainable Development Goals as they did on the highest level with the SDG summit of 2023 in New York.

The updated German Sustainability Strategy takes a whole of society approach. Germany actively promotes multi-stakeholder dialogues and the participation of civil society at both national and international levels. Therefore, we finance the participation of youth and indigenous peoples' representatives at the HLPF. Furthermore, the German Sustainability Strategy promotes the integration of the three dimensions of sustainable development across six key areas of transformation, based on the Global Sustainable Development Report. Germany's strategy update includes specific measures to address spillover effects. Germany is determined to strengthen positive and to minimize negative spillover effects.

Germany will present its third Voluntary National Review at the HLPF in July this year. We aim at a short but substantial report, highlighting measures and learnings focusing on three basic principles: integrated implementation of the SDGs, as well as transparency and participation in reporting. The report is currently being finalized in a multi-stakeholder process.

Germany remains firmly committed to multilateralism and our joint efforts to implementing the 2030 Agenda as humankind's blueprint for achieving sustainable, just, resilient and prosperous economies and societies.

I thank you.