

Statement for Session 7: Delivering in Decade of Action for achievement of the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs: Next steps for the TFM and its partners

United Nations 6th Multi-stakeholder Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals

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We recognize the importance global solidarity plays in the delivery of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in this Decade of Action. Last year showed us our vulnerabilities, as well as our strengths to overcome the COVID-19 pandemic, which has also put our challenges into the spotlight.

There has been a significant rise in poverty, inequality, violence and access to technology. While some have been able to continue their education online, millions have suffered from unprecedented setbacks in learning, limiting a whole generation of children and young people from acquiring necessary skills and knowledge for their lives and countries' development.

This unprecedented situation has allowed us to reaffirm the urgent need to strengthen mechanisms to provide equal access to technologies for all, which currently prevents the participation of many in development processes and opportunities. We must accelerate and implement adequate coherent policies, participatory processes, tools, resources and financing to the Technology Facilitation Mechanism (TMF).

Significant progress has been made such as databases, platforms and infrastructure to collaborate, exchange ideas, share best practices and knowledge among all stakeholders. However, none of these will make sense if not open, available and accessible to all countries and all peoples.

Accessibility is key in paving the way forward to a sustainable development based on science, innovation and technology in which all sectors of society are highly involved in their design, implementation and monitoring.

Global solidarity and systematic approaches in partnerships need to be set in place and at the core of all efforts, including cooperating and communicative skills, tailored capacity building, and institutional monitoring frameworks at all levels.

A greater support for innovative initiatives coming from the grassroots and being pursued by Civil Society Organizations, volunteers, young people, entrepreneurs, bold thinkers and creators who want a livable planet and human rights for all peoples. A substantial vision in sustainability efforts is required to include the voices and ideas of those historically left behind.