



Co-facilitators, Excellencies and Colleagues,

On behalf of the APRCEM, we welcome the co-facilitators' ambition for an action oriented, bold and transformative declaration that is based on solidarity and shared responsibility. However, we hope that the emphasis will not only sound ambitious but also translate into the political will and leadership that can mobilize member states to prioritize critical considerations over consensus. We reiterate that a business-as-usual approach will only exacerbate the crises, leaving billions behind, mostly in the Global South.

We would also like to highlight that action-oriented, comprehensive and responsive policy action merits much more than pegging on humanity's resilience to withstand disasters; and also suggest a perspective shift in the Declaration to focus on actualizing the multilateral systems' ability to prevent such crises as well as ensure their effective redress.

We emphasize that the universality of the 2030 Agenda can only be reaffirmed when rights and especially responsibilities are universalized; ensuring that big corporations are held accountable for the history and continued retrogressive measures involving illicit financial flows, environmental degradation, extractivism, and the abuse of weak legal systems across the Global South. We also recommend the need to democratize our multilateral processes—by ensuring meaningful civil society inclusion, in particular to recognise the MGoS Coordination Mechanism—an official stakeholder in the 2030 Agenda process, in the Declaration.

We suggest stronger language on primacy of human dignity and women's human rights, and a stronger emphasis on policy coherence across the UN and its affiliate entities, especially the IMF, World Bank and WTO— to avoid going one step forward and two steps back in the decade of action and delivery. The means of implementation also need to be mobilized as a critical impetus to reverse the regressions across the 2030 Agenda.

And lastly, we demand a stronger emphasis on concrete policy actions to address these systemic barriers to realize Development Justice for all.

Thank you so much for this opportunity.

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